Unit 6 · Getting Things Done

STUDY NOTES

WHAT THE BLE ASKS

- **CDC's grid tests skills, not units:** Reading 25 · Writing 20 · Grammar 5
- **Reading 1–2 (seen texts, 5 marks each):** the wedding customs; the three inventions
  - matching paragraphs
  - True / False / Not Given
  - answers from the text
- **Writing**
  - ten punctuation errors (5 marks)
  - guided writing, 5 marks: a **description**
  - free writing, 10 marks: a letter or an account of events
- **Grammar (5 marks):** blanks on **causative verbs** (*made him go / to go / going*) and **subject–verb agreement** (*Either … or … is / are*)

Reading I: Traditional Marriage Customs around the World

- **Kind:** short **informative article**; **each paragraph has one job**
- **P1, what marriage is:** the law **recognizes** it; society accepts it by **norms** and **rituals**; **spouses**; ancient societies: a **safe home** for **offspring**, and to hand down **property**

Country	Customs
India	goes on for **days**; **engagement**: exchange rings; **Mehendi**: bride's palms, wrists, feet decorated; **garlands** on the wedding day = bride's acceptance
Japan	bride's costume changed **several times**; **sake** = symbol of the union; **san-san-kudo**: three sips from each of three cups, then the parents; guests give money **wrapped** in an envelope; couple give small gifts
Jamaica	**whole community** plans it; people **review** the bride in the street, she may improve her looks; dancing; bride **serves** black cakes (dark fruits, rum)
Wales	man **carves** a wooden spoon for the bride; her family "kidnaps" her, groom's family finds her and gets her **rescued**

Reading II: Life Saving Inventions

- **Kind:** three short parts, each **problem → invention → how it helps**

Invention	Problem	What it is	Helps
Hippo-roller	heavy buckets, hours of walking, injuries	a drum that rolls, **90 liters**	more water, less time, fewer injuries
LifeStraw	**780 million** without safe water	plastic tube cleaning water as you drink	drink dirty water without getting ill
AidPod	no medicines in remote villages	triangular packet in a Coca-Cola crate	medicines go where drinks go

- **Hippo-roller:** women and children in Africa, **three to nine hours a day**, 20-liter buckets on heads → back and neck **injuries**; engineers **Pettie Petzer** and **Johan Jonker**; rolled, not lifted; more time for families and school
- **LifeStraw:** Swiss company **Vestergaard**; very light; cleans up to **1,000 liters** (the text's number); used after the **Haiti earthquake**, the **floods in Pakistan and Thailand**
- **AidPod: Simon Berry**, British **social entrepreneur**, traveling in **Zambia**: Coca-Cola in the remotest villages, but no medicines; one child in five dying before five; packet fits between the bottles; testing several designs

Key words

recognize: accept officially as real or legal.
ritual: actions always done the same way.
spouse: a husband or wife.
offspring: a person's child or children.
engagement: a formal promise to marry.
garland: a ring of flowers for the neck.
symbol / symbolize: what stands for something / to stand for.
review: look at closely, to judge or improve.
carve: cut wood or stone into a shape.
rescue: save from danger.
injury: harm to the body.
deliver: take goods to the people they are for.
tube: long, hollow, round piece of plastic, metal or glass.
replace: change something old for a new one.
crate: a strong box for bottles or goods.
remote: far from towns and people.
social entrepreneur: someone who starts a project to solve a problem in society.

Grammar: causative verbs

- somebody **causes** something, usually through another person

Pattern	Means	Example
make + person + base	forced	*The coach made us run ten laps.*
have + person + base	arranged	*Karma had the tailor shorten his kurta.*
let + person + base	allowed	*Dad lets us stay up on Fulpati.*
get + person + **to** + verb	persuaded	*Ritu got her brother to carry the cylinder.*
have / get + thing + **p.p.**	job done to the thing	*We had the roof mended.*

- **ask:** does the next word do the job, or is the job done **to** it?
- tense goes on the causative verb only: *She had the tailor sew it. She doesn't let us sew it.*
- **no *to*** after *make, let, have*; ***get* needs *to***
- **passive:** *to* comes back: *We were made to stand.*
- *Pasang cut the tree down.* (himself) / *Pasang had the tree cut down.* (someone else)

Grammar: subject–verb agreement

- *is, was, has*: singular; *are, were, have*: plural; find the **real subject**

Subject	Verb	Example
and	plural	*My aunt and my uncle live in Dharan.*
both	plural	*Both of the buses are late.*
either … or, neither … nor	agrees with the **nearer**	*Neither the manager nor the cooks are here.*
with, along with, including, as well as	ignore them	*The groom, with his brothers, is on the way.*
of phrase	noun before *of*	*A box of mangoes costs Rs. 800.*
a lot of	noun after it	*A lot of mangoes are ripe.*
-ing subject	singular	*Planning a wedding takes months.*
sums	singular	*Four plus four makes eight.*
pair words	plural	*My spectacles are broken.*
a team, a group	singular	*A group of tourists is waiting.*
one amount	singular	*Ten kilometers is a long walk.*

- years going by: plural: *Ten years have passed.*

Writing: describing a ceremony

- **present simple** (same every time); causatives fit: *The bride has her hands decorated…*
- **Opening:** which culture; why it matters
- **Before the day:** what is prepared
- **The day:** main rituals in order:
  - *First…*
  - *Then…*
  - *After that…*
- **Meaning:** what a color, object, action *symbolizes*
- **Feast and music:** who comes, what they eat
- **Closing:** how it ends; what you think

Writing: paraphrasing

- **same meaning, facts, length; different words and sentences**; how you answer a reading question without copying
- **Read** till you understand, **cover** it → **note** the ideas → **write** without looking → **check**: nothing added, nothing left out
- change the **sentences** too; names and exact facts stay; no ideas of your own

The sounds of -s and -es

Word before ends in	Ending	Examples
/s/, /z/, /ʃ/, /ʒ/, /tʃ/, /dʒ/	**/ɪz/**, extra beat	*buses, dishes, watches*
other voiceless: /p/, /t/, /k/, /f/, /θ/	**/s/**	*shops, books, cliffs*
other voiced, every vowel	**/z/**	*rivers, trees, cows*

- the last **sound** decides, not the letter: *brides* = one beat
- same rule: plurals, *he walks*, *Karma's*

British and American words

- British / **American**:
  - aerial / **antenna**
  - autumn / **fall**
  - biscuit / **cookie**
  - chemist's / **drugstore**
  - chips / **french fries**
  - film / **movie**
  - garden / **yard**
  - handbag / **purse**
  - rubbish / **trash**
  - holiday / **vacation**
  - lift / **elevator**
  - lorry / **truck**
  - paraffin / **kerosene**
  - pavement / **sidewalk**
  - petrol / **gasoline**
  - postbox / **mailbox**
  - queue / **line**
  - shop / **store**
  - sweet / **candy**
  - tap / **faucet**
  - trousers / **pants**
  - football / **soccer**
- crossroads / **intersection**
- **first floor:** British one floor up; American at street level

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ She made me to dance.
✓ She made me **dance**.

✗ He let them to leave.
✓ He let them **leave**.

✗ I got my brother help me.
✓ I got my brother **to help** me.

✗ We were made stand.
✓ We were made **to** stand.

✗ We had the roof mend.
✓ We had the roof **mended**.

✗ Either the cooks or the manager are here.
✓ …the manager **is** here.

✗ A box of mangoes cost Rs. 800.
✓ A box of mangoes **costs** Rs. 800.

✗ My spectacles is broken.
✓ My spectacles **are** broken.