Grade 8 English, Explained

Unit 2 · Asking for Permission

HARDER PRACTICE QUESTIONS · ANSWER KEY

Full marks 48

Give the marks for the points in the marking scheme; an answer in other words that says the same is right.

1 Too casual, too formal

MARKING SCHEME — V · 4

- ✓ i. *Any chance of…?* is casual: **Excuse me, would it be possible to take a photo here?**
- ✓ ii. *May I have your permission…* is too formal for a friend: **Can I borrow your eraser?**
- ✓ iii. *No way* is strong and rude: **I'm sorry, you can't sit there. That chair is broken.**
- ✓ iv. *Sure* is casual for an older person: **Of course.** or **Yes, certainly.**

2 Reading: an unseen story

a. **c.** a jacket out of an old coat — LC · 1

"a thick brown jacket, cut from her father's old coat".

b. MARKING SCHEME — R · 1

- ✓ **c, b, d, a.**

c. MARKING SCHEME — V · 1

- ✓ He was suddenly worried or afraid: he "had never carried anything heavier than his school bag", and the water is heavy.

d. MARKING SCHEME — I · 1

- ✓ She was afraid that her mother would say no, so she wanted to ask in the best, most polite way.

e. MARKING SCHEME — I · 2

- ✓ Her mother worked all night to make a warm jacket for the camp.
- ✓ Her mother said "The hill is cold at night", which shows she expected Diya to be there.

f. MARKING SCHEME — E · 2

- ✓ The note was funny only to someone who knew the family and what the jacket and the bucket meant: it was a private message of love, not really a joke.
- ✓ Her mother shows love through what she does, not through soft words; though writing was hard for her, she wrote to reassure Diya that all was well at home.

3 Make the question

MARKING SCHEME — R · 5

- ✓ i. **Does Abdul have** a return ticket? **Yes, he does.** (*has* is the only verb, so add *does*)
- ✓ ii. **Has Abdul bought** a return ticket? **Yes, he has.**
- ✓ iii. **Were there** two empty berths? **Yes, there were.**
- ✓ iv. **Did the announcement frighten** the children? **Yes, it did.**
- ✓ v. **Should Karishma see** the doctor? **Yes, she should.**

4 What was the question?

MARKING SCHEME — R · 4

- ✓ i. **Does she live in Biratnagar?** (any question with *does she* that fits)
- ✓ ii. **Did they leave early?** (or any question with *did they*)
- ✓ iii. **Have you found your pen?** (or any question with *have you* that fits a lost thing)
- ✓ iv. **Was it crowded?** (or any question with *was it* that fits a full train)

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5 Mind the verb

MARKING SCHEME R · 4

- ✓ i. *open*: *Do you mind if I…* takes the present.
- ✓ ii. *left*: *Would it be all right if…* takes the past form.
- ✓ iii. *bring*: *could* takes the base form.
- ✓ iv. *No, not at all*: *mind* means "object", so *no* means "I don't object"; *Yes, I would* would be a refusal.

6 How does -ed sound?

MARKING SCHEME V · 4

- ✓ /t/: *asked, vanished* (base ends in the voiceless /k/, /ʃ/).
- ✓ /t/: *stopped* (voiceless /p/); /d/: *settled* (voiced /l/).
- ✓ /d/: *refused* (the base ends in the voiced /z/).
- ✓ /ɪd/: *insisted, handed, departed* (the base ends in /t/ or /d/, so there is an extra syllable).

7 Punctuation

MARKING SCHEME R · 5

- ✓ *Last*, *Friday* (capitals).
- ✓ *Sonam*, and the comma after *me*.
- ✓ The opening quotation marks before *Can*, and the question mark after *camera*.
- ✓ The closing quotation marks, and *Chitwan*.
- ✓ *hasn't* (apostrophe), and the final full stop. The whole paragraph: Last Friday my cousin Sonam asked me, "Can I use your camera?" I said yes, but he dropped it in the river at Chitwan. He hasn't told his mother yet.

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8 Writing: two emails

ANSWER E · 7

To: wardsecretary@example.com
Subject: Asking for permission to use the hall

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am the class captain of Grade 8 at Bhairab Secondary School. We are planning a science fair for parents. Would it be all right if we used your meeting hall on Saturday, 14 Poush, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.?

I look forward to your reply.

With warm regards,
Reshma Thapa

To: reshma@example.com
Subject: Re: Asking for permission to use the hall

Dear Reshma,

Thank you for your email about the science fair. I'm afraid the hall won't be free on 14 Poush, because of a health camp. However, you are welcome to use it on the following Saturday, provided that you leave it clean.

Best wishes for your fair.

Narayan Karki
Ward Secretary

MARKING SCHEME

- ✓ First email: *To*, a clear subject line and a polite greeting.
- ✓ It says who the writer is and why.
- ✓ The exact request (place, day, time) with the right form (*Would it be all right if we used…*).
- ✓ Second email: *Re:* before the same subject, and a greeting with the writer's name.
- ✓ Thanks, then the answer early and clearly (a polite refusal, with a reason).
- ✓ Another way offered, with any condition.
- ✓ A closing, name and position in each email, and about the right length.

9 For and against

ANSWER E · 4

I agree that a Grade 8 student should be allowed to travel alone. A student who is thirteen or fourteen must start to take care of himself or herself, and a journey teaches this better than any lesson. Some people say that the road is dangerous and that strangers can't be trusted. That is true, but the family can choose a day bus, ask the driver for help and call on the way.

MARKING SCHEME

- ✓ A clear view.
- ✓ A sound reason.
- ✓ The best argument against it, stated fairly.
- ✓ A reply that answers that argument, with linking words.

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10 Think

ANSWER E · 3

The boy discovers, when he opens the letter, that his father has been sitting in the next compartment all along: he was never really alone, and his father trusted him and cared for him at the same time. The old man in the poem discovers, too late, that he should have started by changing himself. I would rather make the old man's discovery now, because the boy's discovery is a comfort, but the old man's can still change how I live, and I have my whole life to use it.

MARKING SCHEME

- ✓ The boy's discovery (his father was in the next compartment all along).
- ✓ The old man's discovery (he should have begun by changing himself; it's too late).
- ✓ A clear choice, with a reason.

Marks by level	Literal comprehension	Reorganization	Inference	Evaluation and reflection	Vocabulary	**Total**
Marks	1	19	3	16	9	**48**

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