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The Best Christmas Present in the World

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY 1 :

Talk to your partner and name some festivals when we meet neighbours, relatives and friends and exchange gifts with them :-

a) _____



b) _____







ACTIVITY 2 :

A. Julie and Sara are good friends. They are not talking to each other now- a- days because they had a quarrel a few days back. Don't you think its festival time now and they need to patch up? Discuss what they should do on Christmas.

- 1. Visit each other.
- 2. Continue to ignore each other.
- 3. Enjoy the festival together.
- 4. Give gifts to each other.
- 5. Forget their differences.
- 6. Turn away the other when she comes to her house.

B. We celebrate many festivals throughout the year. Discuss in groups, which **feelings** are associated with all festivals. You can take help from the box below.

warmth	spending	g money	mutual res	spect love
eating deli	cacies	buying gifts	lister	ning to music
understanding	forgivene	ess	care	wearing new clothes

WHILE-READING

ACTIVITY 3 :

Part 1

1. This is a roll top desk



The author found a roll top desk too. In the boxes given above write words related to the condition of the roll top desk that the author found it in. You maytake help of paragraph 1 from the story.

2.Complete the following :

The author found a ______ in one of the drawers of the desk. The letter was written by ______on _____.It was received on _____.

3.Do you think the author did the right thing by reading the letter? Why / Why not?



Part II

As you read the lesson try to answer the following :

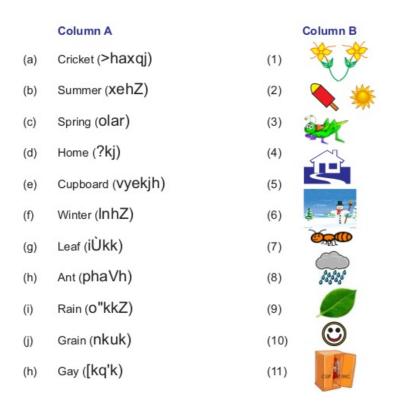
1. In the picture given above, ______ and _____ are playing football. They are playing in a 'No man's land.

- 2. What is a 'no man's land'? Discuss in your group.
- 3. Mark the following sentences as right (ü) or wrong (x):
 - i) The white flag was waved first by the British soldiers.
 - ii) The Germans came towards the British with eatables instead of rifles.
 - iii) Before coming to the war, Jim Macpherson played cello in orchestra and Hans Wolf was a school teacher.
 - iv) Hans Wolf had never been to England.
 - v) Soldiers from both sides sang carols at night.

Part - III

 1. The author went to find Mrs. Connie Macpherson at ______. (address) But her neighbour told that she was in a ______ at _____. Connie Macpherson was sitting alone on

	_ day because she had		family. The author opened the	
containing the lette	er written by	She seemed		
	_because she thought that sh	ne had the best Ch	ristmas present in the world.	
2. What is Connie'	s best Christmas present? W	by does the narrat	or call it the best Christmas prese	nt?
				-
POST-READIN				-
1. Do you think 'wa	ar' is the only solution to end			
2. Hans Wolf said and write in the sp			be other ways to avoid a war? Dis	cuss in your groups
				_
				_
	v sentences in the story whic		soldiers do not want a war. They v	– vant the war to end.
				_
				_
				_
				Unit 2
		POEM-	1	
	The A	nt and th	e Cricket	
PRE-READING				
ACTIVITY-1				
Match the words w	vith pictures:—			



ACTIVITY-2

Listen to the paragraph read aloud by your teacher and write answers of questions below:-

2. Some animals become less ______ during winters, This is called ______.

3. Name some countries, where it becomes very cold in winters.

4. Which animals store food for winters?

ACTIVITY - 3

Do you know these stories?

(A)



(B)

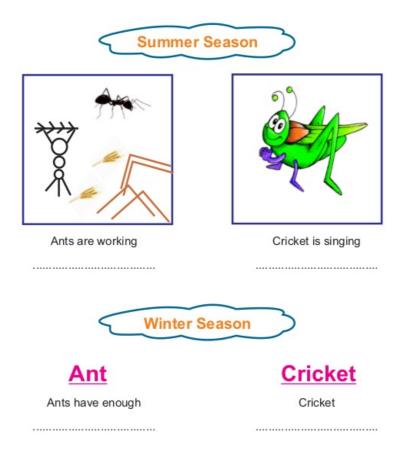


In the above stories animals talk like human beings and try to tell us something important about life. Such stories are called fables.

The poem "The Ant and the cricket' is taken from Aesop's fable.

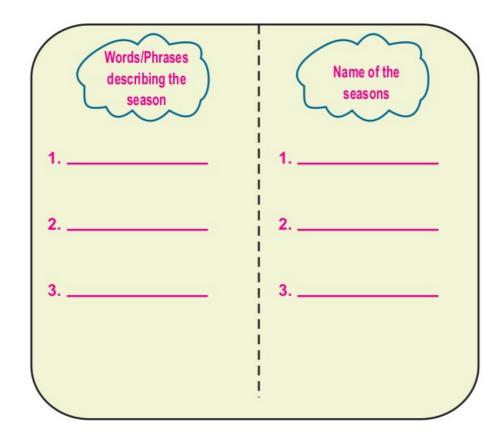
ACTIVITY - 4 A

Look at the pictures and write few lines describing them :



ACTIVITY - 4 B

Pick out the words from the poem which describe the seasons. Also write the names of the season.



Read the words carefully. Make pairs of opposite words (antonyms) using same colour for each pair. Use dictionary to consult meaning or you can discuss with your partner.



WHILE READING

ACTIVITY - 6 A

Read the following Stanza and answer the questions given below.

A silly young cricket, accustomed to sing.

Through the warm sunny months of gay summer and spring.

Began to complain when he found that, at home.

His cupboard was empty, and winter was come.

- Q1. What was the young cricket accustomed to?
- Q2. Which seasons of the year are referred to here?
- Q3. Why was the cupboard empty?
- Q4. Find the opposite of 'sad' from the extract.
- Q5. Name the poem.

Answers :

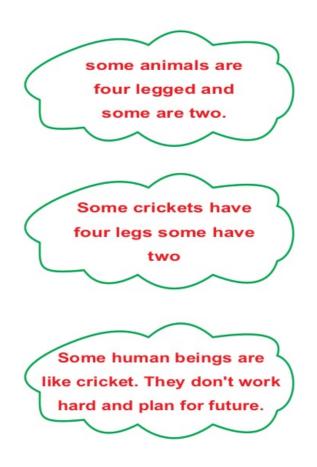
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

POST READING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY - 6 B

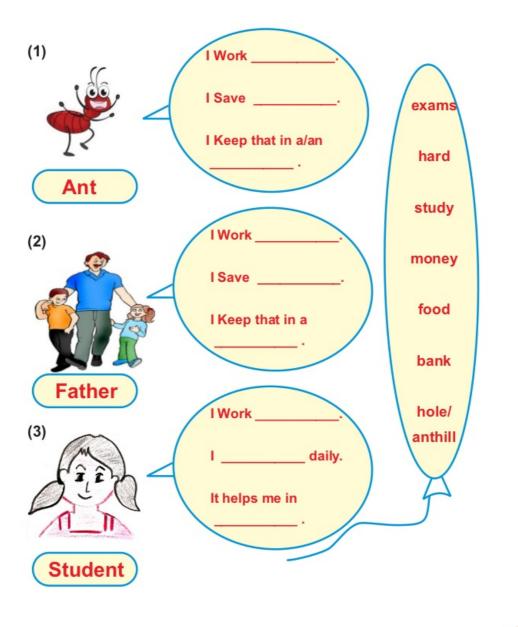
What does following expression mean? Select the most appropriate option:-

"Some crickets have four legs and some have two"



ACTIVITY-7

Fill in the blanks taking help from the words given in balloon:-





The Tsunami

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY - 1

1. Look at the pictures given below and try to guess what might have happened.





Do you think the pictures show the disaster caused by :

a) a tsunami

- b) an earthquake, or
- c) a flood?

ACTIVITY - 2

1. Match the natural calamities (natural disasters) in column A to their respective description in column B.

Column A

Column B

a. earthquake

high sea waves caused by an earthquake.

- b. flood
- severe shortage of rain.
- c. tsunami breaking of rocks down a slope.
- d. drought shaking of the surface of Earth.
- e. landslides overflow of water (river) onto land.

ACTIVITY - 3

1. Look at the picture given below. What does it tell?



2. We know that natural disasters cannot be predicted. Therefore, we need to be prepared for these all the time. Discuss in the class and complete the table by filling in what should be done in case of the following natural disasters :

Disaster	Its effects	What we should do
Earthquake	Buildings collapse/fall	Find cover/ move to open ground.
Tsunami	Huge waves of water hit the land and settlements.	
Drought	·	· <u>····································</u>
Cyclone /Hurricane		
Flood		

3.. Do you know what a ' **First Aid Kit**' is? Discuss in the class its need and importance. With the help of your Science teacher prepare a list of things that we should have in a First Aid Kit.



List of things in a First Aid Kit

а.	
b.	
d	
f.	

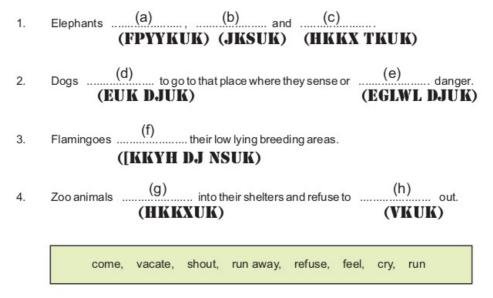
WHILE READING

ACTIVITY - 4

We have read that animals, unlike humans, can sense a natural calamity beforehand because fo their unique sixth sense. By observing their behaviour we can be forewarned about occurrence of any likely natural disaster.

Based on your reading, complete the following information about animals' reaction/behaviour just before a natural disaster.

Fill in the underlined blanks with appropriate verbs given in the box below:-



Which form of the verb has been used in the sentences above?

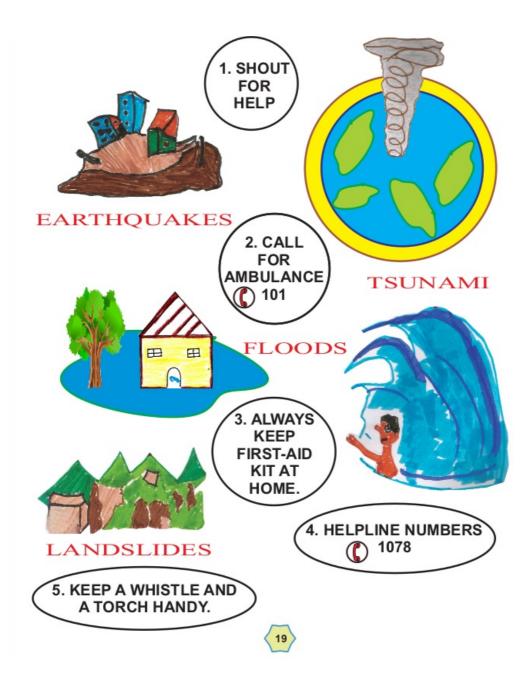
Yes, the first form of verb. We use first form of verb in sentences of present indefinite tense.

When a verb denotes a work which is done as a habit or regularly, 'Present Indefinite' tense is used.

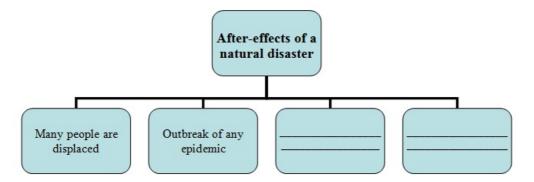
POST READING

ACTIVITY - 5

1. How to be prepared for a disaster.



2. Any natural disaster is often followed by a series of after-effects. Discuss in the class and write the most likely aftereffects of a natural disaster.



POST READING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY - 6

1. Change the voice

1. a) Active Voice : A wave uprooted the tree.

b) Passive Voice : The tree was uprooted by a wave.

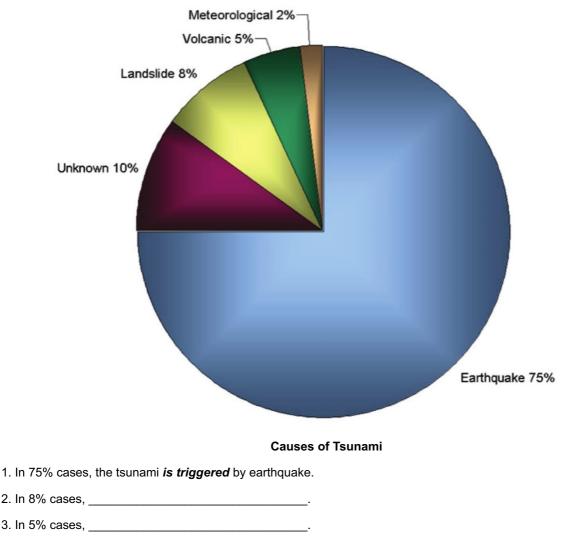
- a) Active Voice : A massive earthquake triggered the Tsunami.
 b) Passive Voice : The Tsunami _____ by a massive earthquake.
- a) Active Voice : Tsunami waves killed more than 1,50,000 people.
 b) Passive Voice : More than 1,50,000 people ______ by Tsunami waves.

Are there any similarities in (a) part of the above sentences?

How are (b) part of sentences similar?

How are (a) and (b) parts different?

2.The pie chart given below tells the various causes that trigger tsunami. Look at the chart and write sentences about how tsunami is triggered. One example has been done for you.

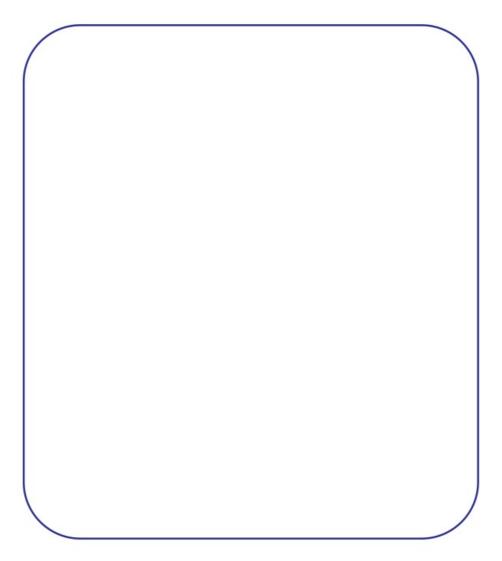


4. In 2% cases, _____.

5. Only 10% cases of tsunami are triggered by unknown factors.

ACTIVITY - 7

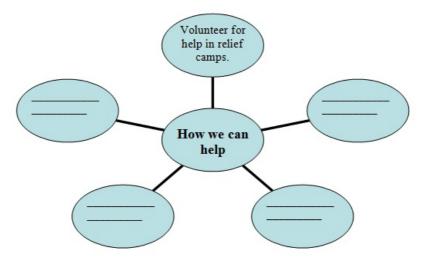
Paste a picture of any natural disaster and describe it in 50 words.



[You can take the help of a newspaper]

ACTIVITY - 8

How can we extend our help to those affected by a natural disaster? Discuss in the class and write in the web chart given below.



ACTIVITY - 9

You study various subjects (like Languages - Hindi, English, Sanskrit, Science, Social Science, Mathematics, Home Science, Physical Education, Music, Drawing, Computers etc.) in school. Every subject teaches us something which can be used in our daily life like Geography lesson helped Tilly in recognising (igpkuuk) signs of Tsunami. Write which subjects help you understand the following :

a) I know which food is healthy for me.

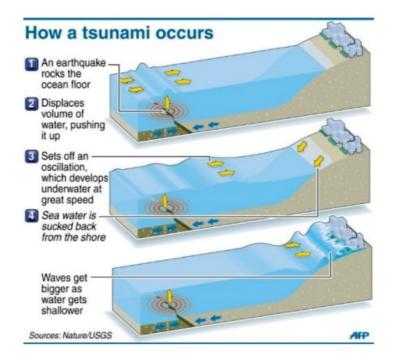
- b) I know why water evaporates.
- c) I know why cotton is grown in Gujrat.
- d) I can calculate my percentage from the marks I get in different examinations.
- e) I can understand the announcement made on railway platform / metro sitation.
- f) I can make new colours with colours available.
- g) I can take out information from internet for doing projects.
- h) I understand the process of electing a Prime-Minister.
- I) I could explain to my younger sister how India got freedom.
- j) I know why plants and trees are important.
- k) I play kho-kho with rules.

ACTIVITY - 10

Interdisciplinary/ Integrated Activity

(Integrating Geography, Geometry and Mathematics)

Look at the picture given below. Now with the help of your Geography teacher discuss how Tsunami occurs. Form groups of 4 and collect data about the 4 deadliest tsunamis in the recent past. Present the collected data in bar graphs/ pie charts and display it in the class.





Geography Lesson

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY - 1

- (a) Arrange the following units of distance in increasing order:
 - Centimeter miles meter feet inches kilometers
- (b) In pairs, discuss the things you would be able to see when you look down from :
 - 1. ground floor:
 - 2. first floor:
 - 3. tenth floor:
 - 4. an aeroplane:

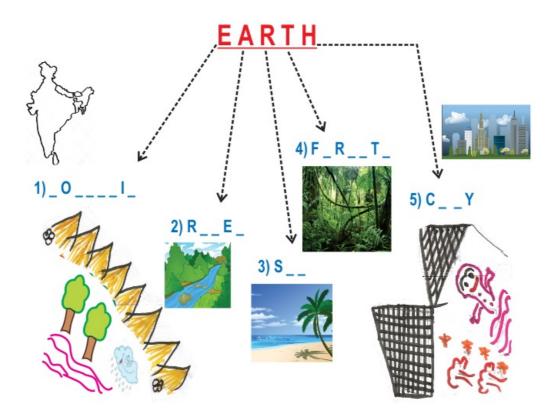
(c) Look at the four pictures of a same city given below. Does the city look the similar in all the four pictures? What difference do you notice?



WHILE READING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY - 2

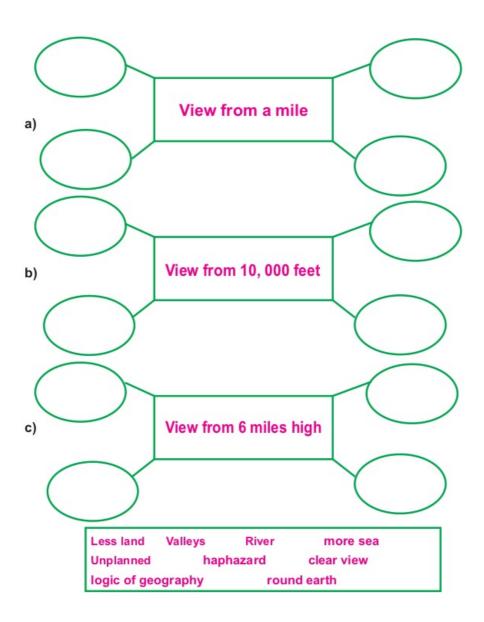
. If we see from a height, we can see the following things on Earth. You can take the help of the poem to complete the given words.



WHILE READING

ACTIVITY - 3

Q2. Read the poem and fill in the boxes using the appropriate words given below.



POST-READING ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY - 4

a)Match the words in column A with their meanings in column B :

Column A	Column B
1) Sprang	a) Deep land between Mountain
2) Scaled	b) Unplanned
3) Logic	c) described with words or gestures
4) Delineated	d) That cannot be avoided
5) Haphazard	e) Jumped
6) Inevitability	f) reason
7) Valley	g) measured

POST READING

ACTIVITY - 5

a).or cross (×)

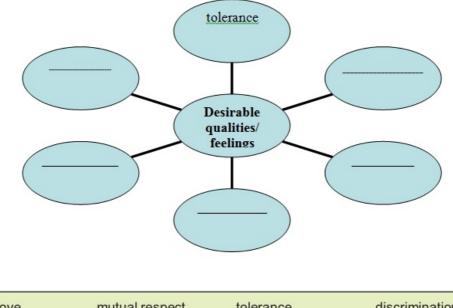
- 1. When we are at the ground the city looks planned.
- 2. When the jet springs into the sky the city looks stylish.
- When we rise to ten thousand feet we can see why the valleys are populated.
- 4. Land and water attract mankind, it is the logic of geography.
- 5. When we rise to a height of six miles the earth appears flat.
- 6. When we rise to a height of six miles we can see that the earth

has more land than sea.

b). According to the poet, our basic necessities are

ACTIVITY - 6

To co-exist in harmony with our family and society, we ought to have a few qualities/ feelings. From the box given below, pick out the desirable qualities and write them in the web chart given below.



Love	mutual respect	tolerance	discrimination
patience	hatred	understanding	intolerance
co-operation	empathy	greed	insensitivity

ACTIVITY - 7

What do you think the poet wants to convey through the poem 'Geography Lesson'? You may tick more than one option.

- 1. Geography is a very important subject.
- 2. The earth is beautiful.
- 3. Boundaries are important.

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-	_

- 4. It's fun to see the earth from an aeroplane.
- 5. Man has unnecessarily created boundaries.
- 6. Humans are all the same in every country/ continent.
- 7. Every man has the same basic necessities.
- 8. Cities are not planned in a proper manner.

ACTIVITY - 8

Based on your discussion of Activity 6 & 7, write a short paragraph on the topic 'The World is One Big Home/ Family'. You may take hints from the box below.

all brothers & sisters same needs & habits celebrations happiness sharing and caring harmony growth & development peace



Reading Section

READING SECTION

READ THE PASSAGES FOR PRACTICE.

Passage 1

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

The stories of *Panchatantra* have been the most popular Moral Stories for generations. It is surprising that it originated thousands of years ago. *Panchatantra* is considered to be the best collection of stories in the world as ancient tales. It is believed that there was a kind king in south India. He had five sons who had not learned the ways of royal life and administration. Many tutors had failed to teach them. Then a Brahmin named *Vishnusharman* was brought to the king's notice. He presented himself in the king's court and took away his sons to teach them. He made them learn five books with a variety of tales. Through these books he imparted to them the art of intelligent living. Thus the art of story telling became a means of educating children as well as grown ups. Till date *Panchatantra* has travelled from its place of origin, India, throughout the world without losing its charm.

1. Panchatantra tales are ancient because they_

a)are the most popular

b) are the best collection of stories

c) originated thousands of years ago

d) are very surprising

2.	It was necessar	v for the	kina's s	sons to	learn
<u> </u>	n mao moooooan	, 101 010	i i i g o i	50110 10	10 ann

		, ,				
	a) royal life ar	nd administratio	on b) royal life and ed	ducation		
	c) royal sports	S				
	d) royal style	Vishnusharman	took away the princes fo	r		
	a) giving them	n books	b) teaching them	c) story telling	d) making them kings	
4. (One can learn th	ne art of	from	the Panchatantra tales.		
	a) moral beha	aviour	b) travelling	c) story telling	d) intelligent living	
5. 1	5. The word in the passage that means the opposite of 'end' is					
	a) ago	b) charm	c) origin	d) ancient		

Passage 2

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

Kiwi is a bird found only in New Zealand. It is the national symbol of that country. It feeds on worms, insects, leaves and berries. It is a flightless bird and therefore, faces danger from the dogs. The eggs of a Kiwi are quite huge compared to its own size and weight. The huge egg comprises of sixty percent yolk. The eggs develop for three to four days inside the female Kiwi's body before it is laid. This time period, too, is quite long as compared to other birds. Generally, a female kiwi lays two eggs.

1. What is the national symbol of New Zealand?

2. What does the Kiwi eat?

3. Why does it face danger from dogs?

4. How many days does the Kiwi take to lay its eggs?

5. Which words in the passage are opposites of a) tiny b) short

Passage 3

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

Ants are social insects. Many ant species go out of their nest in groups in search of food. Once an abundant source of food is found by a scout ant, it returns to the nest with a sample of food. While returning to the nest, it presses its abdomen to the ground and with its sting makes a very thin line. In this way the worker draws an invisible chemical line from the source of food to the nest. As soon as it returns to the nest, it contacts a couple of workers. It makes quick movements on the line for short distances. This excited movement attracts the attention of more workers and they start following the scout, which leads to the food.

1. The scout ant returns to the nest with

a) A bag of food	b) A sample of food	c) A grain of food	d) none of these
2. While returning, the ant			
a) presses its abdomen	b) brushes its abdomen	c) presses its sting	d) lies on the ground

3. To inform about food to the other ants the scout ant

4. The worker ants follow the scout for

a) work	b) food	c) time	d) distance
---	--------	---------	---------	---	------------

5. The word that means something which cannot be seen

a) attracts b) excited c) sting d) invisible

Passage 4

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

There are many causes for fever. When the incident is frequent and wide spread such fever is called Common fever. Shivering, headache and body ache are some of the common symptoms. After a bout of shivering the person sweats and the fever comes down. This entire episode repeats itself daily or on alternate days.

Viral fever lasting two days or some time even a week are quite common in the tropics, especially when the season changes. Typhoid is a common fever particularly in summer. It is a result of unhygienic sanitary conditions, and is caused especially by drinking unclean water or eating unclean food. Any fever, moderate to high, lasting more than five days should be suspected of being typhoid. Loss of appetite, pain in the abdomen, skin rash, constipation or diarrhea are other symptoms of fever.

1. List three symptoms of Common fever.

2. How does this fever come down?

3. When does Viral fever mostly occur?

4. What causes Thyphoid?

5. Which words in the passage mean a) repeated often b)dirty

Passage 5

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

India being a vast country with a huge population has many and different kinds of needs. It is difficult for the government to meet all their needs. Therefore, some responsible, willing, motivated citizens are allowed by the government to set up welfare organizations. These organizations are called NGOs (Non-government Organizations). An NGO is any 'not for profit' charitable citizens group organized at local, national or global level. They are task oriented, like minded citizens who work for the social and economic welfare of the poor as well as the backward. Most NGOs work on education, rural or urban development, etc. They either work independently or with the help of the government or from private companies as sponsorships or donations. Some of the well known NGOs are Red Cross Society, CRY (Child Relief & You), Help Age India (for the elderly), Prayas (for the under privileged), World Wildlife Fund (WWF) for nature.

1. What are NGOs?

2. What do the NGOs work on?

4. Find antonyms of these words from the passage-1)small 2)loss

5. Make a sentence of your own with India



Grammar Section

TENSES

SIMPLE PRESENT

I <u>play</u> chess with my friends. (Action that happens usually, almost everyday, very often)

Ravi, Alam and Jaspreet are friends.

Ravi <u>likes</u> chocolates. Alam <u>loves</u> cakes. Jaspreet <u>prefers</u> banana shake. They <u>go</u> to the market together to buy their favourite items.

Now fill in the blanks with suitable forms of verbs. (In simple present tense)

1. Tejus ______ (drink) milk every morning.

2. Ronald ______ (keep) his notebooks neatly on the table.

- 3. Geetika_____ (watch) her favourite programme on TV at 7 pm daily.
- 4. Mrs. Gupta ______ (travel) to different cities for work.
- 5. Policemen _____ (guard) our city well.
- 6. All the children _____ (enjoy) annual picnics.

SIMPLE PAST

I <u>played</u> chess with my friends yesterday. (Action that happened in the past and is over) The Hare and the Tortoise were friends. They <u>planned</u> a race. The tortoise <u>walked</u> slowly but the Hare <u>ran</u> fast in the race. However, in the end the Tortoise <u>won</u> the race.

Now fill in the blanks with suitable forms of verbs.

- 1. Yesterday, my friend_____ (come) to my house to complete her home work.
- 2. Last year, we ______ (go) for picnic to Humayun's tomb.
- 3. Delhi ______ (become) the capital in 1912.
- 4. The Principal ______ (give) a speech on our Annual Day.
- 5. I ______ (write) an application to the Principal for leave for a week.
- 6. India _____ (defeat) Australia in a T20 Cricket match.

SIMPLE FUTURE

I shall play chess with my friends in the games period tomorrow. (Action likely to happen later/ in the future)

Renuka will assist Harish in presenting the programme. The function will begin at around 10 am.

Now fill in the blanks with suitable forms of verbs.

- 1. Tomorrow, the train _____ (leave) from platform no. 2.
- 2. Shikha _____ (decorate) her house when the family shifts to the new house.
- 3. Tejinder _____ (announce) the release of the film next Friday.
- 4. The local boxer_____(face) World no. 2 in the match in the evening.
- 5. Our family _____(visit) the village temple this summer.

CONTINUOUS TENSE

PRESENT CONTINUOUS

I am playing chess with my friends now.

It is raining outside. Cold winds are blowing and everybody in the room is feeling cold. We are planning to switch on the room heater.

Now fill in the blanks with suitable forms of verbs.

1. I can see from the window that all the students _____ (sit) on their desks.

- 2. The stadium is noisy as the crowd ______ (shout) to cheer the players.
- 3. We _____ (leave) for Mumbai tomorrow by train.
- 4. Switch on the TV. The Prime Minister _____ (make) an announcement tonight.
- 5. My mom ______ (sleeping) now. When she gets up I will prepare tea for her.

PAST CONTINUOUS

I was playing chess with my friends yesterday.

I was going to the market when I fell down. A car was coming at high speed. To avoid

getting hurt I jumped on the divider. My parents were returning from office and they saw me there. Thank Goodness! I got first aid in time.

Now fill in the blanks with suitable forms of verbs.

- 1. The doctor ______ (operate) upon the patient when he heard a loud bang on the door.
- 2. We were stuck in the middle of the road as the snow ______ (fall) heavily.
- 3. The teacher _____ (explain) the experiment when the Principal came into the class.
- 4. The cyclist met with an accident when he _____ (jump) the red light.

5. The soldiers _____ (march) in the Parade Ground.

FUTURE CONTINUOUS

I shall be playing chess with my friends around 4 o' clock tomorrow.

There is a match in the evening. Two teams <u>will be fighting</u> for the trophy. Mr. Ali <u>will be working</u> as referee. Ms. Pooja and Mr. Ashish <u>will be covering</u> the event for the media.

Now fill in the blanks with suitable forms of verbs.

- 1. My cousin _____ (attend) the function on my behalf tomorrow.
- 2. The school ______ (organize) Grand Parents' Day next Monday.
- 3. All the participants ______ (get) refreshment after the programme.
- 4. The workers ______(paint) the wall in two days. So don't worry, the work will get

completed in time.

5. Get ready! The Chief Guest _____ (arrive) in a short while.



Writing Skills

Letter Writing/ Application

1. Ruchi studies in 8A in Govt. Girls Sr. Sec. School, Civil Lines, New Delhi. She has written an application to the principal of her school asking her to arrange extra classes in English and Mathematics. Read the application and complete it using the phrases given in the box below.

____ April, 201____

The Principal

_____(School)

_____ (Address)

Sir/ Madam,

Subject: Application for _____

With due respect, I would like to state that I am the class representative of VIII A (Nishtha group). My class is finding it of difficult English and Mathematics. Although the teachers to help us, we feel that extra

_____the basic concepts first. Therefore, on behalf of the students of my class, I would classes ____ like to request you ____ _____in the above mentioned subjects so that ______ for our exams.

Yours faithfully

are doing their best, are needed to understand, to cope with the vast syllabus, arranging extra classes, to kindly arrange for extra classes, we may prepare better

2. Ramit has written a letter to his father, who has been posted in another town, about his Sports Day Celebration. Complete the letter by filling the blanks with words/ phrases given in the box below.

____ (date)

123, Ranjit Colony

New Delhi

Dear ____

What an exciting week it has been! I can't wait to tell you about ______ in my school last week. I participated in long jump, slow-cycling and 200mtr race and won a medal in all three! Can you believe that! I was _____! I got a Gold in race, and a Bronze in both, long jump and slow-cycling. Everyone present there . Principal Sir honoured me with ______ while Mother and my friends cheered for me in the crowd. I wish you were there _____. I hope you will be back before the end of next month when our school celebrates its Annual Day. I will be participating in a Skit and hope that _____ my act sitting in the audience.

Rest all is good here. Hope to see you soon.

Your loving son

appreciated my efforts	the medals	
to see my performance	you will be able to see	
on cloud nine	the Sports Day Celebration	

3. Supriya has written a letter to her friend Renu, telling about her hometown Delhi. Complete the letter by filling the blanks with appropriate words.

_____ (date)

A/12B, New Colony

New Delhi

Dear _____

Hope you are in good ______. In your last letter, you had said that you wanted to know about my ______.

I live in Delhi, the capital and heart of India. It is an ancient city. It was earlier called

'Indraprastha'. It has several beautiful ______ that describe its rich history and heritage. The city boasts of wide roads with green plants on both sides. It has a huge rail and metro network. It is famous for its spicy street _____ and shopping ______.

Unfortunately, it is also the most _____ city in the world. The air is polluted with toxic gases and fumes of _____ and _____.

I shall tell you more about Delhi in my next letter. In fact, you may even plan to visit me during your next vacation.

Your loving friend

PARAGRAPH WRITING

1. Given below is a paragraph about 'a natural disaster'. Complete it by filling the blanks with suitable words from the box.

A natural disaster is a natural phenomena caused by nature. Floods, drought, earthquake, tsunami, landslides, volcanic eruptions, cyclones and hurricanes are some major natural disasters that ______ a huge loss of ______ and _____ across the globe every year. These disasters strike without a ______ and often leave behind them a trail of massive ______. Hundreds of people are displaced, precious lives lost and valuable crops destroyed.

Many scientists believe that the ______ of these natural calamities has increased over the last few years. This may be because of global warming, pollution and deforestation. They believe that if these activities are not ______ soon, the earth might witness even more disastrous calamities in ______.

It is true that most of the natural disasters can not be _____. We can not stop these from occurring. However, we can minimize the extent of damage by being prepared. We

should take part in disaster management _____ and educate people about these.

life	warning	frequency	controlled	drills
cause	property	predicted	destruction	future