

Block**2****TRAVEL AND TOURISM**

Block Introduction	3
---------------------------	----------

Unit 1

Planning A Holiday	5
---------------------------	----------

Unit 2

Hotels and Restaurants	21
-------------------------------	-----------

Unit 3

Mountaineering in India	33
--------------------------------	-----------

Unit 4

Assamese Enchantment	47
-----------------------------	-----------

EXPERT COMMITTEE

Dr. A.L.Khanna,
Formerly Reader
Rajdhani College, Delhi
University

Dr Rajnish Kumar Mishra
Special Centre for
Sanskrit Studies
JNU, New Delhi

Dr Richa Bajaj
Hindu College
University of Delhi

Ms. Vijaya Subramaniam
Formerly Vice-Principal,
Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, New
Delhi

Dr Payal Nagpal
Janki Devi College
University of Delhi

Prof. Yasmeen Lukmani
Formerly University of
Mumbai

Prof Balaji Ranganathan
Gujarat Central University
Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Prof Romika Batra
Indira Gandhi University
Meerpur, Rewari

Dr. A.L.Khanna,
Formerly Reader
Rajdhani College, Delhi
University

Dr Anand Prakash (Retd)
Formerly at Hans Raj College
University of Delhi

Dr Hema Raghavan (Retd)
Formerly at Gargi College
University of Delhi

Ms. Vijaya Subramaniam
Formerly Vice-Principal,
Sardar Patel Vidyalaya,
New Delhi

COURSE COORDINATOR

Prof. Anju Sahgal Gupta,
School of Humanities, IGNOU

BLOCK PREPARATION

Unit Writers

Dr. A. L Khanna
Rajdhani College,
Delhi University (Unit 1)

Ms. Shefali Ray
Formerly SCERT, Delhi (Unit 3)

Block Editor

Prof. Anju Sahgal Gupta
School of Humanities
IGNOU

Ms. Tara Chaddha
Formerly Reader, Shyama
Prasad Mukherjee College,
Delhi University, Unit (2)

Dr. Nirmala Bellare
Formerly Reader, SNTD
Women's University, Mumbai
(Unit 4)

Assisting and Proof Reading

Dr. Roseliz Francis

Secretarial Assistance

Ms. Premlata Lingwal, PA (SOH)

MATERIAL PRODUCTION

Sh. K.N. Mohanan
DR (P) MPDD
IGNOU, New Delhi

Sh. C. N. Pandey
S O (P) MPDD
IGNOU, New Delhi

Sh. Babulal Rewadia
S O (P) MPDD
IGNOU, New Delhi

July, 2019

© Indira Gandhi National Open University, 2019

ISBN : 978-93-88980-40-1

All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced in any form, by mimeograph or any other means, without permission in writing from the Indira Gandhi National Open University.

Further information on the Indira Gandhi National Open University courses may be obtained from the University's office at Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110 068 or the website of IGNOU www.ignou.ac.in

Printed and Published on behalf of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, by Registrar MPDD, IGNOU, New Delhi.

Laser Typeset by : Rajshree Computers, V-166A, Bhagwati Vihar, Near Sector-2, Dwarka, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059

Printed by : Chandra Prabhu Offset Printing Works Pvt. Ltd. C-40, Sector-8, Noida-201 301, U.P.

BLOCK 2 INTRODUCTION

All of us enjoy travelling and seeing new places and cultures. This helps us in understanding ourselves and others better, making for a more peaceful and empathetic world. Travel and tourism is part of our daily lives. **Block 2 'Travel and Tourism'** deals with this aspect of our lives in four Units.

Unit 1 - Planning a Holiday

Unit 2 - Hotels and Restaurants

Unit 3 - Mountaineering In India

Unit 4 - Assamese Enchantment

The objective of this block is to expose you to a variety of texts involving the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing which you are likely to encounter in real life situations.

We have given interesting activities in all language skills and a variety of exercises on vocabulary and grammar. These activities/exercises include fill in the blanks, sentence completion, matching and so on. If you sincerely and earnestly do all the activities not only will you write correctly but also gain confidence to communicate with fluency in English. We have given you answers to all the exercises/activities and audio for the speaking and listening skills.

Hope you benefit from this Block.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

- 1 *Luggage Through the Decades*: Adapted from an article in the newspaper The Hindu.
- 2 *Eating Veggies in an Interesting Way*: Adapted from the Green Evolution: The Times of India, October 20, 2012
- 3 Mountaineering in India: <http://www.lupindia.com/adventure/mountain.html>
- 4 River Rafting: By Rewati Rau, WE Travel, HT City, 16th Sept, 2005
- 5 Assamese Enchantment: *[Extracted and adapted from JETWINGS (May 2005), a monthly magazine of Jet Airways, published printed & edited by Nandini Verma at Spenta Multimedia, 4 Laxmi Industrial Estate, Hanuman Lane, Lower Parel, Mumbai.]*

The material (pictures and passages) we have used is purely for educational purposes. Every effort has been made to trace the copyright holders of material reproduced in this book. Should any infringement have occurred, the publishers and editors apologize and will be pleased to make the necessary corrections in future editions of this book. The units have been taken from BEGC-131, Block-2.

UNIT 1 PLANNING A HOLIDAY

Structure

- 1.0 Objectives
- 1.1 Warm Up
- 1.2 Reading Comprehension: Luggage through the Decades
- 1.3 Vocabulary
- 1.4 Listening
- 1.5 Speaking
- 1.6 Writing and Speaking
- 1.7 Writing
- 1.8 Grammar: Order of Adjectives
- 1.9 Let Us Sum Up
- 1.10 Answers

1.0 OBJECTIVES

Our aim in this Unit is to help you with the language skills which will enable you to plan a holiday with ease. In this Unit you will engage with:

- a reading passage which describes different types of baggage;
- vocabulary pertaining to colours and sizes of baggage;
- speaking skills to help you book tickets for your travel;
- writing skills to help you write emails for hotels reservations;
- listening skills about different types of holidays; and
- grammatical item pertaining to order of adjectives.

1.1 WARM UP

Holidays are important for our mental health. We need to get away from our daily routine, and unwind from the stresses of normal life. Whether we go on a short holiday or on a long holiday, we can have a good relaxed time if we **plan** our holidays. And usually, we will need to know some English to plan well, especially if we wish to go abroad. We will need to know how to get our work done, how to communicate with many types of people like agents, booking clerks and even strangers. This unit should help you to take part in holiday activities with ease.

Activity 1

- 1 Think of those aspects of a holiday for which we need to plan. What are all the things that you will need to consider? The first one is done for you.
 - i) Where to go?
 - ii)
 - iii)
 - iv)
 - v)
 - vi)

1.2 READING COMPREHENSION: LUGGAGE THROUGH THE DECADES

Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it

Travel with Style:

The early 1940s saw people setting out on a journey, carrying their possessions in oversized steel or brass trunks and wooden crates. While boarding a train it was a common sight to see passengers clutching their precious cloth bags and bundles of queer shapes and sizes and porters balancing gunny sacks and hardboard boxes which would burst any moment, if not for the strong ropes that bound them. In those days the Queen's men and the royal Sahibs were proud owners of sophisticated luggage cases. Independent India's elite had access to foreign goods and their travel cases wore an aristocratic look. With the second five-year plan advocating industrial expansion, good quality and durable goods were available to the Indian consumer. The voluminous steel trunks and unwieldy hardboard boxes gave way to stylish suitcases and compact travel bags. Come 90s, the era of liberalization threw open the doors to multinationals which saw an influx of foreign goods and technology.



Today, the markets are flooded with elegant, sleek and stylish travel suitcases of a variety of brands. Travel bags and accessories are no more mere carriers of clothes and your belongings. They are much more of a fashion statement. As is for branded apparels, sunglasses and footwear, your brand of travel bags define your taste.

The beginning stages saw hard shell suitcases which were strong but brittle, and rough use could make them prone to cracks and scratches. However, with the passage of time, technology improved which enabled an affordable price line catering to all segments of society.

Travelers now carry bags in colours they please, as multi-colours such as platinum, olive green, carbon black, pewter grey, driftwood, cadet blue, cherry red, brown, sky blue, tan, purple, and even yellow, though flamboyant, are in vogue. Innovative designs, colours and patterns adorn the various bags which are the cynosure of all eyes.

Duffels, backpacks, small sized to large sized travel suitcases, expandable totes, wheeled luggage, convertible packing cubes, garment bags, handbags, upright roller carry-ons, executive and computer bags and all other travel accessories comprise a lion's share of the economy.

Upright roller carry-ons	Duffels	Backpacks
		



(Adapted from an article in 'The Hindu')

Check Your Progress 1

- What sort of bags, according to the passage, were available to the average Indians in the past, and what kinds are popular today. Fill in the grid, using as many adjectives as possible.

1940s	oversized
1950s	
Today	

- What words would go together? Think of more adjectives.

Elegant, sleek, stylish,,,

Brittle,,

Strong,,

- Look at the paragraph 4, where all the colours are described. Order the colours according to the darkest on one side going to the lighter on the other. (Your list may be slightly different from ours.)
- List the bags in order of size. (Your list may be slightly different from ours.)
- Write a letter to your cousin who is going to Pune for higher studies. Advise her on what sort of bags she should take.

My advice is...

I would suggest/my suggestion is...

Say what sort of luggage/bags would be better for her purpose.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

1.3 VOCABULARY

Check Your Progress 2

- Pick out the words from the text which mean the same as the following:

Classy

Privileged

Long lasting/ tough
 Huge
 Unmanageable
 Small bags where a lot can be packed in
 Something non-essential but desirable which contributes to good effect
 Clothes
 Fragile
 Loud and flashy

2. Match the phrases in Column A with their meanings in Column B. Column B has an extra phrase.

i Gave way to	a are in fashion
ii Threw open the doors to	b to step aside for
iii Prone to	c evade the issue
iv Are in vogue	d large portion
v Cynosure of all eyes	e something that strongly attracts attention
vi A lion's share	f likely to happen
	g to allow something new to start

3. Here are some words and phrases generally associated with various modes of travel. Separate them and put them in appropriate columns in the table given below. (some of these words/phrases may be associated with more than one mode of transport.)

berth, boarding card, captain, cargo, charter-flight, check-in, compartment, conductor, conveyor belt, cruise, custom, departure lounge, disembark, dock, driver, duty free shop, fast lane, bypass, flight, immigration, intercity, landing, locomotive, overtake, parking, passport, pilot, platform, port, porter, set sail, take-off, terminal.

Plane	Ship	Train	Coach

4. A city in India offers a wide range of accommodation to tourist from five-star luxury hotels to highly economical and clean boarding houses. Some of the choices available are given below. Write what you know about each of them:

A guest house
 A railway retiring room
 Bed and breakfast
 Circuit houses
 Deluxe hotels

Motels	
Resorts	
Service apartments	
Youth hostel	

5. Answer the following questions:

i) Which of these places would you prefer to stay at? Why?

.....

.....

.....

ii) What do you think is the best thing about each one of these places?

.....

.....

.....

iii) If you don't have much money to spend on accommodation and food, which place would you consider the best?

Youth hostel because

.....

.....

iv) How is a deluxe hotel different from a resort?

.....

.....

.....

.....

1.4 LISTENING

Listen to the three passages and answer the questions given below. You may play the audio and listen to it as many times as you require. Please note that the text of the audio has been provided in the answers section.

Check Your Progress 3

Answer the questions on the passages you have heard.

1. The three passages are about:

Passage 1:

Passage 2:

Passage 3:

2. Basically, horse safaris are:

i) hunting with horses

ii) horse riding tours

iii) spotting wild animals

3. Snorkeling involves:

i) deep sea diving

ii) diving close to the shoreline

iii) diving for pearls

4. River rafting requires:

i) ability to swim

- ii) a love for outdoors
 - iii) superb physical conditioning
5. Fill in the blanks:
- i) Horse safaris can be done at
 - ii) Snorkeling can be done at
 - iii) River rafting can be done in

1.5 SPEAKING

Read this dialogue between a travel agent (A) and a customer (C). Practice it with the correct intonation.

- C: Excuse me.
- A: Yes Sir, how may I help you?
- C: Could you give me some information please?
- A: Certainly Sir.
- C: I wish to visit the US some time in March this year. Can you give me some flight details and help me plan my itinerary?
- A: Sure, I will be happy to help you.
...First, where do you wish to go to in the US, Sir?
- C: Well, I would like to go to Seattle for a seminar. That will be for three days.
- A: Yes Sir. There is no direct flight to Seattle. You could go via Los Angeles or New York.
- C: Tell me which is cheaper.
- A: I think it is best to go via New York. You'd be travelling for 20 hours, direct from Chennai to New York. Then at New York, you'd have to take a domestic flight to Seattle. That will take 5 hours more. It will cost Rs. 60,000 + 27,000. Would you like that Sir?
- C: Sounds good. Could I take a train from New York to Seattle? I hear that the trip is a real pleasure. What do you suggest?
- A: You could, of course Sir. But we cannot make the bookings for you. We only deal with airline tickets.
- C: I see. Then I had better take a flight, I suppose. Do you think that is a better idea?
- A: You could return to New York by train Sir. By that time you would be more familiar with the situation around.
- C: Yes, I suppose so. Thank you.

Activity 1

1. Underline all the questions asked by the agent and by the customer. Write them down.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. *We tend to give orders and not make requests.* Most of the questions are **asking for information politely**. How would the same questions be asked without so much politeness? Rewrite the conversation using the less polite forms by customer.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. Imagine a conversation between you and a travel agent. Use the phrases and sentences you have underlined, in a conversation between you and the travel agent asking for and giving information about a flight from Delhi to Guwahati and write it here.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

1.6 WRITING AND SPEAKING

Activity 2

Complete the following dialogue. One of you acts as Travel Agent and the other as the Client. The Client wants to book his train from Delhi to Calcutta and back. These are his requirements. After you complete the dialogue check your answers. Practice saying this dialogue with your partner.

Departure date – December 23 (from Delhi to Kolkata)

Return date – December 31 (from Kolkata to Delhi)

Preferred train – Rajdhani Express

No. of passengers – 5 adults, one child

Travel agent : may I help you ?

Client : Good afternoon

Travel agent : Certainly sir. May I know your destination please ?

Client : It's from Delhi to Calcutta and back.

Travel agent :?

Client : I'd like to leave Delhi on Dec. 23 and return on Dec. 31.

Travel agent : ?

Client : There'll be six of us – 5 adults and one child.

Travel agent : ?

Client : Seven years.
Travel agent : ?
Client : Second A/C sleeper.
Travel agent : ?
Client : Rajdhani Express.
Travel agent : May I have the details of the passengers, please.
Client : Certainly. Here it is.
Travel agent : I'll just check about the availability.

1.7 WRITING

Activity 3

You and five of your friends have decided to visit Port Blair, the capital of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. After looking at the various kinds of accommodation available on Port Blair, you have decided to spend a week in December this year at Andaman Beach Resort, Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair. Here is the phone message left by you at the hotel:

Message from : Arun Srivastava, F9/3
Vasant Lok, New Delhi.
Date and Time : 5 November 11.30 a.m.
Mr. Srivastava wants to book three double rooms with A/C and attached bath for a group of six persons from 12.00 noon of Dec. 24 to 12 noon of Dec. 31. The group would prefer rooms facing the sea. Please quote price including the breakfast.

1. Imagine you are the Manager of the hotel Andaman Beach Resort. Write a letter / email confirming reservation of the accommodation.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

2. Draft a letter/email to Manager of the hotel Andaman Beach Resort confirming the reservation.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

- Decide what to say before you actually start writing.
- Use short sentences.
- Use a separate Para for each idea.
- Give the reader all the information he/she may require.
- Write politely.
- Avoid making mistakes in grammar and punctuation. Such mistakes may give a meaning other than what you intend.
- Check your letter thoroughly before you despatch it.
- Address a woman with Mrs., Miss or Ms.

1.8 GRAMMAR: ORDER OF ADJECTIVES

Adjectives are often placed in a certain order. Look at the following sentences

...oversized steel trunks

size quality

clutching their precious cloth bags

quality material

clutching their precious red cloth bags

quality colour material

The order in which adjectives are placed before a noun are shown in the following table:

Article	Adjective of size	Adjective of quality description	Adjective age showing	Adjective showing colour
A/an, the	Voluminous, compact, huge, large, small	Elegant, sleek, stylish	Old, ancient, new	platinum, olive green, brown, sky blue

Adjective showing shape	Adjective showing nationality	Adjective showing material
Oval, round, square, diamond	Indian, American, British, Australian	Steel, wooden, brass, cloth, shell

Check Your Progress 4

1 Look at the following sentences and pick the correct one from each set.

- i)
 - a) a soup small Japanese bowl
 - b) a small soup Japanese bowl
 - c) a small Japanese soup bowl
 - d) a Japanese small soup bowl
- ii)
 - a) a/an filthy silk old shirt
 - b) a/an silk filthy old shirt
 - c) a/an old silk filthy shirt
 - d) a/an filthy old silk shirt

2. Which is the correct order?

- i) a) a/an new exciting travel destination
b) a/an destination exciting new travel
c) a/an travel exciting destination new
d) a/an new destination travel exciting
- ii) a) a blue sailing beautiful boat
b) a blue beautiful sailing boat
c) a beautiful blue sailing boat
d) a sailing beautiful blue boat
- iii) a) a/an square wooden old table
b) a/an old wooden square table
c) a/an old square wooden table
d) a/an wooden old square table
- iv) a) a red big leather suitcase
b) a big red suitcase leather
c) a red big suitcase leather
d) A big red leather suitcase

3. Put the adjectives in the correct order where necessary:

- i) a thin long stick
- ii) a beautiful modern city
- iii) black luscious long hair
- iv) a French new melodious song
- v) a cotton new green dress
- vi) a/an American old film
- vii) a wooden comfortable chair
- viii) a bright lovely day
- ix) a/an ancient interesting tale
- x) a new brave world

4. Use at least two adjectives of different categories to describe each of the following nouns. Use the adjectives in the correct order.

A travel bag, a hand bag, shoes, a camera, a jacket, reading material, dark glasses/shades, a diary, sunscreen, towel.

1.9 LET US SUM UP

In this unit, we gave you practice in reading a passage on different types of luggage and attempted to increase your vocabulary by talking about different types of baggage in terms of their colour and types of adjectives related to their description. In the grammar section, we discussed the order of adjectives. In the speaking section we helped you with phrases to make travel bookings which is an essential aspect of planning for a holiday. In the writing section our language focus was on writing emails to make hotel bookings. The listening section gave you practice in listening to various types of adventure sports that are available at holiday resorts. If you have diligently attempted all the activities, you will be able to make your bookings and arrangements with ease.

1.10 ANSWERS

Check Your Progress 1

- | | | |
|----|-------|---|
| 1. | 1940s | Oversized, voluminous, unwieldy |
| | 1950s | Aristocratic, durable, stylish, compact |
| | Today | Elegant, sleek, stylish |
- Elegant, sleek, stylish, graceful, well-designed, chic
Brittle, fragile, easily broken, weak, delicate, breakable
Strong, tough, well-built, durable, hard, robust, stiff
 - Carbon black, olive green, cherry red, purple, brown, cadet blue, yellow, tan, pewter grey, driftwood, sky blue, platinum
 - Wheeled luggage, travel suitcase, upright roller carry-on, backpack, garment bag, executive bag, computer bag, tote and handbag.
 - Dearest Neetu,

Congrats! I heard you secured admission at the Symbiosis Institute of Mass Communication for its renowned Journalism course. I am so happy for you! I am sure you will continue to make our family proud with your achievements.

Since it is the first time you are going to be staying away from home for a long period, I have a few suggestions about the sort of luggage you need to take. Having lived away from home for the past 8 years let me warn you that you are literally going to live life out of a suitcase for a while. You might be tempted to take everything you own: clothes, books, shoes, bags, laptop etc. However, remember you cannot accommodate everything in a small hostel room. So take only the essentials.

My advice is that you take one medium or large sized upright roller carry-on suitcase. Pack any books that you intend to take in this as they tend to be quite heavy. The roller will help ease the weight. Place all clothes such as a few pairs of jeans, some t-shirts and shirts and all essential accessories such as belts in convertible packing tubes and arrange these in the suitcase. Make sure all clothes are ironed so that you can fit in more items.

Take a backpack in which you can place your laptop as well as folders containing your certificates and essential documents. You can carry the backpack to college when necessary.

An expandable tote is must have for a woman. You can put your PDAs such as mobile phone/ iPad etc. as well as your cosmetics bag in this. I am sending you one which has ample space and a number of pouches for keys and stationary etc. I hope you like it! You can take this to college every day.

Finally, a duffel bag is essential when in college. I suggest that you take a medium sized one and pack your footwear in this. You can also place your toiletries in this. This bag will come in handy for any overnight trips from college.

I hope these tips are useful. You have a good time in college. I hope to visit you in Pune sometime.

All the best!
Take care.
Love loads,
Shalini

Check Your Progress 2

1. Classy – Sophisticated

Privileged – Elite

Long lasting/ tough – Durable

Huge – Voluminous

Unmanageable – Unwieldy

Small bags where a lot can be packed in – Compact

Something non-essential but desirable which contributes to good effect –
Accessories

Clothes – Apparel

Fragile – Brittle

Loud and flashy – Flamboyant

2.

i	Gave way to	b	to step aside for
ii	Threw open the doors to	g	to allow something new to start
iii	Prone to	f	likely to happen
iv	Are in vogue	a	are in fashion
v	Cynosure of all eyes	e	something that strongly attracts attention
vi	A lion's share	d	large portion

3.

Plane	Ship	Train	Coach
Boarding card	Captain	Berth	Conductor
Passport	Cargo	Compartment	Driver
Pilot	Cruise	Platform	Fast lane
Take off	Disembark	Porter	Bypass
Terminal	Dock		Intercity
Charter flight	Immigration		Locomotive
Check-in	Passport		Overtake
Customs	Port		Parking
Departure lounge	Set sail		
Duty free shop			
Flight			
Immigration lounge			

4. A guest house – normally personalized treatment

A railway retiring room – a place to rest in case the train is late

Bed and breakfast – cheap and home-like atmosphere.

Circuit houses – cheap and specious, personalized treatment

Deluxe hotels – luxurious and comfortable

Motels – for one-night lodging

Resorts – luxurious with relaxing

Service apartments – fully furnished apartments providing hotel like amenities

Youth hostel – cheap and usually for students.

5. (i), (ii) and (iii) - Do them yourselves.

iv A deluxe hotel is an expensive hotel which offers several luxuries like spa, swimming pool, gym, etc.

A resort is a place used for relaxation or vacation. While this can be a single building such as a hotel, it also can be an entire island or a ship at sea. One of the most desirable aspects of a resort is that visitors are free from most daily responsibilities, which are usually taken care of by the facility's staff. Several activities are normally offered at resorts, including massages, swimming, meals, cosmetic treatments and live entertainment.

Listening text for audio passages: Horse Safaris, Snorkeling and River Rafting

Passage 1: Horse Safaris

Rajasthan is increasingly witnessing the metamorphosis of old forts, *havelis* and palaces into heritage hotels. One of these, Dera Dundlod, in the Shekawati region, offers horse safaris that are in a class by themselves. Kunwar Raghuvendra Singh of the erstwhile Dundlod family leads all safaris, which he claims to have pioneered. Cross-country riding, especially with a few fences thrown in, captures enthusiasts always. Horse-safaris can be arranged for durations of two to fifteen days, or even overnight if time is a constraint. Dundlod's well-groomed Marwari thoroughbreds do make horse sense.

Passage 2: Snorkeling

This is an ideal way to enjoy gentle exercise while admiring the beauties of the marine world and exploring reefs and rock close to the shoreline. Water enthusiasts could spend their entire holiday either on or under the water, enjoying snorkeling and a wide range of water-sports. Close to India are the resorts at Maldives and Mauritius, besides Havelock Island in the Andamans. Both places have professionally qualified instructors who cater to all levels of experience, whether you are a beginner or fully equipped to take the plunge. Other "must snorkel" destinations include the Great Barrier Reef, Seychelles, Lakshadweep, Thailand and Indonesia. Put your head below the surface of the water suffused with sunlight and you will enter a huge, natural aquarium where you can see corals of all shapes and sizes. Through these gardens of glowing coral, fish in amazing numbers can be seen. The unusual thing is that you can actually reach out and touch them.

Passage 3: River Rafting

This sport does not need superhuman physical conditioning – only a love for the outdoors and a respect for nature. The awesome might of the Himalayan rivers, the froth and the foam of the rushing waters have given the sport another name – white water rafting.

Your first encounter with the river is the beginning of an addiction. There are first time apprehensions: "Must I know how to swim?" It is not a necessity as long as you don't fear water. You are provided a life jacket that will keep you afloat even if you fall overboard. And remember to carry only light essentials, as the entire gear is carried aboard the raft. How deep is the river? About chest high to a duck, is the answer!

Check Your Progress 3

1. Passage 1: Horse safaris
Passage 2: Snorkeling
Passage 3: River Rafting
2. ii) horse riding tours
3. ii) diving close to the shoreline
4. ii) a love for outdoors
5. i) Horse safaris can be done at Dera Dundlod, in the Shekawati region of Rajasthan
ii) Snorkeling can be done at Maldives and Mauritius and Havelock Island in the Andamans
iii) River rafting can be done in the Himalayan rivers

Activity 1

1. Do it yourself.
2. Do it yourself.
3. This is a sample answer.

Dialogue between the travel agent and you.

- TA:** Good Morning. Aries Travels. How can I help you?
- C:** Good Morning. I need to book a flight ticket from Delhi to Guwahati for the 13th of February. Can you tell me if any seats are available in the Economy Class?
- TA:** Yes Ma'am. Please wait while I check.
- C:** Ok. Oh and I would prefer a flight which leaves after 1 p.m.
- TA:** Sure Ma'am. There is a seat available on the Spice Jet flight to Guwahati which leaves at 15.10 from Delhi.
- C:** Are there any stopovers?
- TA:** No Ma'am. It is a direct flight to Guwahati. The duration of the flight is 2 hrs 15 minutes. It will land in Guwahati at 17:25.
- C:** Ah ok. That is convenient. How much is the ticket fare?
- TA:** Ma'am this is a non refundable ticket for Rs. 6,895. This fare is inclusive of a paid meal.
- C:** Ok. That would be fine. Can you book one ticket in the name of Mrs. Shilpa Mathur?
- TA:** Sure Ma'am. How would you like to pay? Cash or card?
- C:** I will pay cash.
- TA:** Ok .What is your meal preference: Veg or Non-veg?
- C:** I'll have a Veg meal. Thank you.
- TA:** Ok Ma'am.
- C:** What is the baggage allowance on this airline?
- TA:** The allowance is 15 kilos per passenger. Your Economy seat has been reserved on the flight SG-874 for the 13th of February which departs at 15.10. Please report 2 hours before the time of departure. Here is your ticket.

C: Ok. Thank you.

TA: You are welcome. Have a pleasant stay in Guwahati.

Activity 2

Travel agent: **How** may I help you?

Client: Good afternoon. **I want to purchase train tickets.**

Travel agent: Certainly sir. **May I know your destination please?**

Client: It's from Delhi to Calcutta and back.

Travel agent: **What is the date of your departure and when would you like to return?**

Client: I'd like to leave Delhi on Dec. 23 and return on Dec. 31.

Travel agent: **How many tickets do you want to purchase?**

Client: There'll be six of us – 5 adults and one child.

Travel agent: **How old is the child?**

Client: Seven years.

Travel agent: **Which class?**

Client: Second A/C sleeper.

Travel agent: **Which train would you like to board?**

Client: Rajdhani Express.

Travel agent: May I have the details of the passengers, please.

Client: Certainly. Here it is.

Travel agent: **All right.** I'll just check about the availability.

Activity 3

These are sampler letters. Yours could be different.

1. Andaman Beach Resort
Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair
Tel. 6321463

Date: xx/xx/xxxx

Mr. Arun Srivastava
F 9/3, Vasant Lok
New Delhi

Dear Mr. Srivastava

Thank you very much for your telephonic message. I am writing to you to say that we can reserve three double rooms with A/c from Dec. 24 (12.00 noon) – Dec. 31 (12.00 noon) All the three rooms have a sea view and are on the second floor of the resort.

The cost of each room would be Rs 3200/-per night including taxes and service charges. Breakfast for each person would cost Rs. 150/- extra.

I would be grateful if you could confirm this booking by email by the end of this month, along with a draft of Rs 33,600/- as 50% advance payment of tariff for the accommodation.

I must thank you for taking interest in our resort. We look forward to welcoming you and your group on Dec. 24 and assure you of all attention and care.

I enclose two brochures describing our resort and its facilities. If you have any questions, we would be pleased to answer them.

Sincerely

(A.H. Thomas)
Manager

2. Date: xx/xx/xxxx

Mr. A.H. Thomas
Manager
Andaman Beach Resort
Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair.

Dear Mr. Thomas

Thank you very much for your letter of Nov 7, booking our accommodation in your hotel as per our requirements. As desired by you, I am enclosing a draft of Rs.33,600/- an advance payment of tariff for the accommodation. I must also thank you for sending me information brochures giving more details about the facilities available at your hotel.

Looking forward to having an exciting holiday in Port Blair and a comfortable stay in your hotel.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Arun Srivastava
F 9/3, Vasant Lok
New Delhi

Check Your Progress 4

1. i-c) A small Japanese soup bowl
ii-d) A filthy old silk shirt
2. i. a) A new exciting travel destination,
ii. c) A beautiful blue sailing boat
iii. c) An old wooden square table
iv. d) A big red leather suitcase
3. i. A long thin stick
ii. A beautiful modern city
iii. Long black luscious hair
iv. A new melodious French song
v. A new green cotton dress
vi. An old American film
vii. A comfortable wooden chair
viii. A lovely bright day
ix. An interesting ancient tale
x. A brave new world

UNIT 2 HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

Structure

- 2.0 Objectives
- 2.1 Warm Up
- 2.2 Reading: Eating Veggies in an Interesting Way
- 2.3 Vocabulary
- 2.4 Grammar: Modals
- 2.5 Speaking
- 2.6 Listening
- 2.7 Writing
- 2.8 Let Us Sum Up
- 2.9 Answers

2.0 OBJECTIVES

The hospitality industry, which encompasses hotels and restaurants, is one of the fast expanding industries the world over. India is no exception. This unit aims at:

- introducing you to the latest trends in the hospitality industry;
- familiarizing you with the etiquette observed in the hotel and restaurant culture;
- introducing you to the stock phrases used in the hotel industry for various purposes viz check-in, check-out, calling for variety of services, etc.;
- acquainting you with the vocabulary used in connection with hotels and restaurants, particularly in the context of eating out; and
- enabling you comprehend texts regarding hospitality industry – tourism, hotels and the like.

2.1 WARM UP

Activity 1

1. How frequently do you eat out?
.....
2. When one goes to a hill station or any other place away from home does one stay in a restaurant or a hotel?
.....
3. What is the difference between a hotel and a restaurant?
.....

2.2 READING: EATING VEGGIES IN AN INTERESTING WAY

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

For about six weeks each year, a Bangalore restaurant creates a menu it calls 'veggie chic'. It is an appropriate name because the special menu features vegetables – including a few totally unexotic ones – that have been given chic

makeovers. The menu, not only includes dishes like an avocado and mint gazpacho and ratatouille – stuffed grilled Portobello mushrooms, but also a carrot and fennel soufflé, cauliflower and roast garlic risotto and a beet and honey caramel-centred sponge cake.

The restaurant owner says the idea was to take vegetarian food to the next level. ‘We also wanted to show people that gourmet vegetarian food is not just about so-called ‘exotic’ ingredients, and that even the humble eggplant and pumpkin can be given a new value’. The ‘veggie chic’ menu was a hit – the restaurant initially planned to run it for two weeks and had to extend it to six to meet demand.

Other Indian restaurants, especially those serving up Western cuisines, are also moving beyond the usual pasta-pizza routine and creating exciting choices on the green-dotted side of the menu.

While not eschewing meat, many other chefs across the world are letting vegetables be the stars of a meal rather than being relegated to appetizers and side dishes.

However, persuading vegetarians to pay prices that are at par with those on the non-veg side of the menu is a tricky job. “For meat eaters, it’s very easy to quote pricing relevant to the meat you are serving, but for vegetarians, one has to be creative with the use of ingredients to justify pricing. This limits your usage of products – some restaurants feel only stuff like exotic cheeses and international products like couscous and polenta can justify fine-dining prices.” Some restaurants have tried to move away from this trend by using everyday veggies like jackfruit, bael and raw papaya creatively. The surprise element is of elevating seemingly “common” produce into a gourmet experience.

Fine dining restaurants have the bandwidth to take more risks. “Mid-range restaurants tend to play it safe as their menus are larger (encompassing multi-cuisine), which therefore requires the stocking of ingredients that can be used across all cuisines. Fine-diners have smaller menus, are usually cuisine-specific and therefore, have the room to play around with ingredients.

Surprisingly, given Indian cuisine’s dependence on vegetarian dishes, it has shown the highest reluctance to innovate with vegetables, preferring to stay with the tried-and-tasted dals, a few greens like spinach and the inevitable paneer dishes. Yet, a few restaurants and hotels chains are beginning to change this.

(Adapted from The Green Evolution: The Times of India, October 20, 2012)

Glossary

Avocado		Avocado refers to the fruit (botanically a large berry that contains a single seed).
Gazpacho		It is usually a tomato-based, vegetable soup, traditionally served cold. It is widely consumed in Spanish cuisine.

Ratatouille		It is a traditional French Provençal stewed vegetable dish.
Portobello		A large mature mushroom with an open flat cap.
Risotto		Risotto is a class of Italian rice dishes cooked in broth to a creamy consistency. The broth may be meat, fish, or vegetable-based.
Caramel		Sugar or syrup heated until it turns brown, used as a flavouring or colouring for food or drink.
Couscous		A type of North African semolina in granules made from crushed durum wheat.
Polenta		Maize flour as used in Italian cookery; cornmeal.
Soufflé		A light, spongy baked dish made typically by adding egg yolks to stiffly beaten egg whites.
Eggplant		Brinjal

Check Your Progress 1

Answer the questions given below:

1. Why do you think the menu is called ‘veggie chic’?
.....
2. Mention any three “unexotic vegetables” mentioned in the paragraph.
.....
3. What does the restaurant owner mean when he says “The idea was to take vegetarian food to the next level.”
.....
.....
.....
4. Why does the writer call eggplant and pumpkin “humble”?
.....
.....
5. Why do you think the vegetarians do not like to pay as much as non-vegetarians for the food they order in restaurants?
.....
.....
6. What is the difference between fine-dining restaurants and mid-range restaurant?
.....
.....
.....
7. Why do you think Indian vegetarian food has shown so little innovation so far?
.....
.....
.....
- 8 Find words from the text which mean the same as the following:
 - i) Stylish
 - ii) Introduced from abroad; unusual
 - iii) Good, interesting food
 - iv) Was successful
 - v) Vegetarian side of the menu
 - vi) Avoiding
 - vii) Place at an inferior position
 - viii) Raising the standard
 - ix) Introduce new ideas
 - x) Tried and tasted

2.3 VOCABULARY

Let us look at some more words which are used in the hotel and restaurant parlance.

Activity 2

1. Give one word for the following groups of words
- i) ice cream, pudding, pie, fruit salad
 - ii) milk, wine, tea, coffee
 - iii) water melon, pomegranate, apricot, peaches
 - iv) pumpkin, gourd, ladyfingers, spinach
 - v) walnut, cashew, pistachio, fig
2. Pick the odd word out from the following groups of words:
- i) inn, hotel, restaurant, motel
 - ii) wine, fruity, whisky, beer
 - iii) almonds, walnuts, groundnuts, grapes
 - iv) valet, waiter, bell boy, manager
 - v) lemon juice, orange squash, tomato soup, cola
3. Look at the clues and write the missing words in the spaces. The circled letters in each item should be the same. One is done for you.

i) The advantage of a meal as compared to a sit down one is that the former needs much less space.

B

U

F

F

E

T

ii) Manju takes great interest in cooking and eating. She is a real

iii) Whenever I feel like eating out I go to the South Indian near my house.

iv) Hot chocolate is my favourite

v) A hotel must provide good room.....

vi) If you decide to have an meal, you can order dish by dish.

vii) Bread and is my favourite breakfast.

viii) Usually the time in hotels is 12 noon.

4. Given below are some words. Put them in the appropriate columns:
- hotel, fast food joint, coffee bar, café, lounge, inn, resort, motel, restaurant, canteen, snack-bar

Place where one gets room and food	Place where one gets food only
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	

5. Fill in the blanks choosing words from the given list. The first one is done for you. A word may be used more than once, if necessary.

segment, dollop, lump, hunk, bar, scoop, slice, peg, cube,

- i) A slice of bread.
 - ii) Aof cheese.
 - iii) Aof ice cream.
 - iv) A.....of cake.
 - v) Aof whisky.
 - vi) Aof ice.
 - vii) Aof chocolate.
 - viii) Aof jam.
 - ix) Aof orange.
 - x) Aof butter.
 - xi) Aof sugar.
 - xii) Aof crooks.
 - xiii) Aof experts.
 - xiv) An of ants.
 - xv) Aof birds.
6. Given below are some words. Write them under the headings to which they belong:

cupcakes, peas mushroom, cheese balls, spring rolls, sandwiches, chocolate fudge, apple tart, patties, hot chocolate, cheese tomato, lemonade, fruit cream, patties, caramel custard, éclairs, beer, coffee, tea, butter chicken, mutton curry, hamburger, mixed vegetables, strawberry mousse

Desserts	Beverages	Curries	Snacks

2.4 GRAMMAR: MODALS

Ravi goes to a restaurant with his wife, Veenu and their daughter. Given below is conversation between Ravi and the waiter who takes orders for meals, etc.

Waiter: Good afternoon, sir. Let me take you to your table.

Ravi: Could I have a look at the menu?

Waiter: Yes sir, here it is. What would you like to have?

Ravi: While I go through the menu, may I have a fresh lime with soda and sugar to start with? The child could have a chocolate ice cream.

Waiter: Okay Sir, one fresh lime with soda and sugar and one chocolate ice cream. What can I get for you ma'am?

Veenu: An orange juice for me, please.

(The waiter leaves.)

- Ravi: I think its uncle Rajat sitting in that corner. We must ask him to join us. We ought to give him due regard. After all he is a senior member of our clan.
- Veenu: Good idea! But I'm afraid he might feel out of place. I think we should let him enjoy his privacy.
- Waiter: Here is fresh lime, orange juice and ice cream please. Are you ready with the order, sir?
- Ravi: Thanks. We'll order the food after a little while.
- Waiter: Okay, sir.

You must have noticed that the modals (**could, would, may, can, must, ought to, might, should**) have been used along with other main verbs, i.e. **have, like, get, ask, give, feel, and let**.

Modals are a special kind of auxiliary (helping) verbs and are used only with other verbs. Modals enable us to make suggestions, requests, inquiries and express wishes and intentions; they enable us to express ability, attitudes, possibilities, obligations and politeness to indicate our feelings.

Most of the modals can be used to indicate different things and different attitudes depending on the situation.

Look at different uses of some of the common modals, viz, can, could, may, might and would. Request, permission, offer and invitation:

1. **Making requests:**

- Can you do me a favour?
- Could I have a cup of tea?
- May I have a glass of water?

2. **Seeking permission:**

- Can I borrow your pen for a moment, please?
- Could I use your telephone?
- May I have a look at the file, please?

3. **Making suggestions and giving advice:**

- Could I get you some milk powder for the baby?
- These are the two dishes you might like to try.

4. **Offering to do things:**

Minu: Can I help you in baking the cake?

Anju: That is very nice of you.

5. **Indicating possibility:** When you say something may or might happen, it means that it will possibly happen but it is not certain.

- The recipe I am trying may turn out to be a hit.
- The hotel might remain closed for a week for renovation.

6. **Expressing obligation:**

- When we say that someone must do something, we think it is very important for her/him to do it.
The hotel staff must behave politely.
- We use should to say it is a good idea and it is important for something to be done and that it would be wrong not to do it.
 - One should not lead a sedentary life.
 - I don't think you should be so lax in your work.

Note: Should is not as strong as must.

- a) You should stop smoking. (it would be a good idea)
 - b) You must stop smoking. (it is necessary that you stop smoking)
- C. The use of ought to is to suggest a moral binding.
- a) We ought to respect our elders.
 - b) A guest ought to be treated with respect.

Check Your Progress 2

Fill in the blanks in the following sentences choosing the most appropriate word from the ones given in the brackets:

- i) I think that room service in this hotelbe more efficient. (should, need, ought to)
- ii) The hotel management keep a check on the quality of the food served. (ought to, might, could)
- iii) The waiters have complete knowledge of the menu. (must, should, can)
- iv)I have lemon tea with ice? (could, should, might)
- v) Youtry this recipe if you like. (may, should, ought to)
- vi)I make the payment with my credit card? (can, might, would)
- vii)you like to try our Sunday special? (would, could, should)
- viii)I take your order, please. (might, may, should)
- ix)I make a suggestion? (must, can, should)
- x)I wipe this for you? (might, must, can)
- xi) Wealways look after our guest well. (may, could, should)
- xii) The table be cleaned properly after a guest leaves. (should, must, would)

2.5 SPEAKING

Activity 3

Complete the following dialogue by supplying the missing parts. Then practice it with your friend at the study center.

Receptionist: Good morning sir, may I help you?

Guest: ¹ _____, could I have a room for two days please?

R: Yes please, we have a room. How many persons are you?

G: It's my wife, our baby and me.

R: So you need a double room, sir!

G: Yes, madam.

R: We have three types of rooms - ordinary, deluxe and super deluxe.
² _____, sir?

G: I would prefer a super deluxe, please. Could you show me the tariff chart?(R gives him the chart)

R: ³ _____

G: So the super deluxe costs Rs. 5000/- a day.

R: Yes sir, taxes and service charges are additional. Do you want me to book it for you?

G: ⁴ _____. Give me the key please and what is the room number?

R: Here is the registration form. Kindly fill it in. The bellboy will take your luggage and show you the room sir. There is a mini bar in your room. You will be billed for the items you consume from the mini bar.

G: Thank you,

R: ⁵ _____, sir.

Listen to a dialogue and answer the questions given below. You may play the audio and listen to it as many times as you require. Please note that the text of the audio has been provided in the answers section.

1. From where is the telephone operator speaking?
.....
2. Who is the caller and from where is he speaking?
.....
3. Who is Mr. Majhi?
.....
4. When is Mr. Majhi arriving in Delhi?
.....
5. Where is Mr. Majhi coming from?
.....
6. How long will Mr. Majhi stay in Delhi?
.....
7. Will Mr. Majhi require a single or a double room?
.....
8. At what time does the flight from Singapore arrive in Delhi?
.....
9. Who will arrange transport for Mr. Majhi from the airport?
.....
10. What is the flight No. by which Mr. Majhi is coming to Delhi?
.....
11. Who will settle the hotel bill?
.....

2.7 WRITING

Activity 5

Your friend, Payal is visiting Delhi and has written to you to suggest a reasonably good hotel to stay for a week. Write a letter to her suggesting hotel Clark Regency. You may touch upon the following features to support your suggestion.

- Central location
- Reasonable tariff
- Good ambience
- Prompt room service
- Wide range of meals

2.8 LET US SUM UP

In this unit, we have given you exercises and activities pertaining to hotels and restaurants. The 'vocabulary' activities for instance will help you acquire the relevant language pertaining to the hospitality industry. Similarly, the 'grammar' section will give you information and practice in the use of modals, especially when you have to place orders, ask for information, etc. in restaurants and hotels. The listening and speaking sections give examples of dialogues which you could use when you visit restaurants and hotels. In short, this Unit gives you the language to communicate effectively whenever you go to a hotel or restaurant.

2.9 ANSWERS

Activity 1

1. Do it yourself.
2. Hotel
3. **Hotel:** An establishment providing accommodation, meals, and other services for travellers and tourists, by the night.

Restaurant: A place where people pay to sit and eat meals that are cooked and served on the premises.

Check Your Progress 1

1. Because it features vegetables not frequently eaten. Those which are frequently eaten are made in interesting ways.
2. Carrot, egg plant, pumpkin
3. To make vegetarian food as part of gourmet, fine-dining experience.
4. Because they are commonly used in most Indian households.
5. Because they think vegetables cost less than meat products.
6. Fine dining restaurants are generally highly priced restaurants. The waiters are usually highly trained and wear more formal attire. These restaurants have certain rules of dining which guests are usually expected to follow, and this may include a dress-code as well. The décor of such restaurants is rather stylish. These restaurants serve gourmet meals with specified dedicated meal courses. The food served is visually appealing using higher quality ingredients.
The mid-level restaurants are moderately priced. The atmosphere in these restaurants is friendly and informal. The appearance is neat and clean without being stylish. The food is wholesome consisting of normal ingredients.
7. Because until about two decades ago several Indians have not been exposed to cuisines from across the globe. These days because of increasing international travel, cooking shows on television, internet sites, etc. there is greater exposure. Many specialty restaurants have opened in India. These serve Italian, French, Greek, Japanese, Thai, Mediterranean, etc. dishes. Vegetables dishes also form part of the menu.
8. i) chic, ii) exotic, iii) gourmet, iv) was a hit, v) green-dotted side, vi) eschewing, vii) relegated, viii) elevating, ix) innovate, x) commonly used

Activity 2

1. i) desserts, ii) beverages, iii) fruit, iv) vegetables, v) dry fruits
2. i) restaurant, ii) fruity, iii) grapes, iv) manager, v) tomato soup
3. i) buffet, ii) foodie, iii) restaurant, iv) beverage, v) service, vi) ala carte, vii) omlette, viii- checkout

4. **Place where one gets room & food**
 hotel
 inn
 resort
 motel
- Place where one gets food only**
 fast food joint
 coffee bar
 café
 lounge
 restaurant
 canteen
 snack bar

5. i) A **slice** of bread.
 ii) A **hunk** of cheese.
 iii) A **scoop** of ice cream.
 iv) A **slice** of cake.
 v) A **peg** of whisky.
 vi) A **cube** of ice.
 vii) A **bar** of chocolate.
 viii) A **dollop** of jam.
 ix) A **segment** of orange.
 x) A **lump** of butter.
 xi) A **cube** of sugar.
 xii) A **bunch** of crooks.
 xiii) A **panel** of experts.
 xiv) An **army** of ants.
 xv) A **flock** of birds.

<u>Desserts</u>	<u>Beverages</u>	<u>Curries</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
ice cream	lemonade	butter chicken	cheese balls
chocolate fudge	beer	mutton curry	spring rolls
eclairs	coffee	peas mushroom	sandwiches
apple tart	tea	mixed vegetables	hamburger
fruit cream	hot chocolate	cheese tomato	patties
strawberry mousse			

Check Your Progress 2

- i) should, ii) ought to, iii) must, iv) Could, v) may, vi) Can, vii) Would, viii) May, ix) can, x) can, xi) should, xii) must

2.6 LISTENING (Text for the audio)

Receptionist: Good morning. This is Hotel Regency, Delhi. May I help you sir?

Caller: Good morning. This is Sumit Kapoor of BHEL calling from Bhopal. Our M. D., Mr. Subhashis Majhi is coming to Delhi. We want to book a room for him at your hotel. He is arriving in New Delhi on 2nd January from Singapore.

Receptionist: Yes Mr. Kapoor, how long will Mr. Majhi stay?

Caller: He will be at your hotel for four days.

Receptionist: Very well sir, would he require a single or a double room, or a suite sir?

Caller: Mr. Majhi would prefer a single room please.

Receptionist:	What time would Mr. Majhi arrive, sir? Does he need the booking from the morning or the afternoon?
Caller:	His flight arrives from Singapore at 8.00 a.m. and he should be at the hotel by 10. The booking may be from morning hours please.
Receptionist:	Well sir, we have booked a single room for Mr. Majhi from the morning of 2 nd January for four days. Would Mr. Majhi settle the bill directly or shall we send it to BHEL for its settlement as we have done in the past? Also would Mr. Majhi like to be picked up from the airport?
Caller:	Yes please. You may kindly arrange to send him transport at the airport. He is arriving from Singapore by flight IA 440. You may kindly send the bill to BHEL, Bhopal for its settlement.
Receptionist:	Sir, we have noted your instructions. Thank you Mr. Kapoor. Have a good day.

Activity 3

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Good morning | 2. What type would you like |
| 3. Here is the chart, sir. | 4. I'll take it. |
| 5. Have a good day | |

Activity 4

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Hotel Regency, Delhi | 2. Sumit Kapoor, Bhopal |
| 3. MD of BHEL | 4. January 2 nd |
| 5. Singapore | 6. Four days |
| 7. Single | 8. 8 O' clock |
| 9. Hotel Regency, Delhi | 10. IA 440 |
| 11. BHEL | |

Activity 5

Dear Payal,

Good to know that you are coming to Delhi. You could always stay with us but I can understand that since this is an official visit you would like to stay at a hotel. You must promise me that you'll visit us at least once.

Well, I did some research and the hotel that seemed to be suitable in all respects is Hotel Clark. It is situated in the centre of the city, quite close to your place of work. In fact, it is walking distance from your office. The rooms are fairly large and very clean. They have Wi-Fi facility which you particularly wanted. The hotel has a reputation for really good cuisine, and their Chinese food is something to die for. I know because I have sampled it myself. What's more there is a swimming pool, gym and spa if you feel like it. The room tariff is Rs 4000/ with breakfast per day, which is as per your budget. You could make your bookings on-line.

Hope all are in good cheer in your home. My hugs to them.

Much love,

Anvita

-

UNIT 3 MOUNTAINEERING IN INDIA

Structure

- 3.0 Objectives
- 3.1 Warm Up
- 3.2 Reading Comprehension: Mountaineering in India
- 3.3 Vocabulary
- 3.4 Grammar: Non-Finite Verbs, Gerunds and Participles
- 3.5 Listening: River Rafting
- 3.6 Speaking and Writing
- 3.7 Suggested Readings
- 3.8 Let Us Sum Up
- 3.9 Answers



3.0 OBJECTIVES

This unit will help us to:

- read an expository piece and understand its main points;
- comprehend new lexical items using cues from the text;
- make inferences from the text;
- evaluate a situation and provide personal opinion;
- look for patterns and generalize;
- utilize the information gleaned from the text in real life; and
- make notes from a passage containing information .

3.1 WARM UP

Activity 1

- 1 Given below are the names of a few sports. Classify them according to the descriptions given. You may put one sport in more than one category. You can consult a dictionary to know the meanings of the sports that are new for you.

water-skiing	trekking	table-tennis	bull-fighting
basket ball	hang gliding	bungee jumping	boxing
wrestling	motor racing	kayaking	scuba diving
rock climbing	cricket	skateboarding	boat racing

- i) Water sports
-
- ii) Out door sports
-

- iii) Extreme sports
-
- iv) Dangerous sports
-
- v) Adventure sports
-
- vi) Indoor sports
-

2. Names three sports which were originally Indian.

.....

3. Should dangerous sports be banned? Discuss with your study partner.

3.2 READING COMPREHENSION: MOUNTAINEERING IN INDIA



Back packing, scuba diving, bungee jumping, para-gliding and mountaineering are all adventure sports. Amongst them mountaineering offers the ultimate challenge, the trial by fire, for the spirit, the mind and the body. Each mountaineering expedition is fraught with danger, loneliness, hardship and uncertainty due to the vagaries of weather. And most of all mountaineering expeditions are not short trips but may last over months.

One can say that in trying to reach the pinnacle, one can discover the essence of one's being, having undergone various tests of endurance, courage and physical strength. Mountaineering can be romantic too and this romance of heights can be had in the mountains of Ladakh, the Nun-Kun Massif, the Zaskar group, Arunachal Pradesh and the central Himalayas. One can find some of the most daunting and challenging peaks in the world here, ranging from Nanda Devi (7800m), Kamet (7750m) and Dhaulagiri (7088m). Climbing rocks is a challenging task; some climbers call it a vertical dance while others see it as the ultimate way to test oneself. Standing on the summit is only part of the total enjoyment and satisfaction that one achieves from mountaineering – and more so in the Indian Himalayas.

For most people the Himalayan peaks are not climbable, the mountains are inaccessible ridden with howling winds, freezing cold and terrible disasters. But for the adventurous, one can be in love with these mountains if one has the basic skills and attitude.

Mountaineering can generally be taken up in one of the two ways - either by trekking for a few years and then slowly graduating to climbing or undergoing a course in mountaineering at one



of the climbing institutes such as the Directorate of Mountaineering and Allied Sports Association, Manali's Distt. Kullu, Himachal Pradesh or the Indian Mountaineering Federation.

These institutes offer different courses, some of which, however, have an age restriction. The Adventure Courses are open to people of any age and gender while the ones that are more advanced, like the Basic Mountaineering Course are open only to people between 18-40 years of age. For those who wish to go on mountaineering expeditions, undergoing training is absolutely essential. After which one can choose the peaks one wishes to climb or conquer.

In Himachal Pradesh, the land of Hill rajas and Warriors, the peaks around Manali form an interesting exercise for the beginners to go into the Beaskund region only two days away from Manali. Here are the lower peaks of Hanuman Tibba 5932m, Manali and Shitidhar peaks, which stand at the source of the Beas. Across the Rohtang pass into the Lahaul area are several interesting clusters of peaks that rise up to 6500m and offer the climber a choice in technically difficult peaks, easy snow clad peaks or even rocky peaks.

In Uttarakhand, one of the most popular areas for climbers is the Gangotri valley at the head of the source of the Ganges where challenging mountains like Shivling 6542m, and Meru 6540 m stand. Here are also peaks like the Kedarnath 6937m and Bhagirathi 6853m, with their lovely valley floors flush with greens, primroses and anemones.

The best season to climb in India is from May to October. If one is daring enough, one can go in the winter months when ice and glaciers abound. It is important to remember that foreign expeditions have to book a peak along with a peak fee. The Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF) is the country's apex body that helps in organizing or sponsoring mountaineering expeditions. It also functions as a clearing house for foreign expeditions and deputes a liaison officer to accompany foreign climbers. All requests have to be forwarded to IMF for clearance. It is advisable to give at least a six- months notice before embarking on an expedition. All emergencies and accidents are looked after by the liaison officer, who helps to coordinate rescue by the Indian Air Force.

Are you ready for the great Himalayan adventure? Howling gales and roaring avalanches may haunt you in your dreams long after the expedition is over. But men who lived their dreams tell a different tale: a tale of abiding passion for the most unusual adventure.

Below is some practical advice for new climbers.

If you are going on a mountaineering trip for the first time, it is good to keep a few things in mind. Here are a few tips for beginners.

1. Take along a comfortable pair of shoes. *Break them in* for a couple of weeks before the course.
2. Take along everything specified in the brochure though the blankets are not important as they are provided.
3. You do not need any special equipment. All the technical stuff is handled by the Institute that is organizing or sponsoring your trip.
4. Buy a pair of cheap canvas shoes and get the rubber from an inner tube (of a bicycle?) attached as a sole. This is a great help in rock climbing. Professional



shoes are available from standard companies but if you only need them for three days there is no point buying new ones for three days.

5. Always check all your equipment when you get it from the Institute and before using it.

Source: <http://www.lupindia.com/adventure/mountain.html>

Check Your Progress 1

1. Read the passage and complete the table.

Mountaineering

Sl. No.	Main point	Details
i)	Requirements	Love for adventure and mountains, strength and will power, training in mountaineering
ii)	Major mountain peaks where one can go	Uttarakhand- Himachal Pradesh-
iii)	When to go	
iv)	Whom to contact	
v)	What to take	
vi)	What course to undertake	
vii)	If beginner, what to keep in mind	

2. Read the sentences from the passage and say what they mean in the context of the passage. Choose the best alternative and tick it.
 - i) *Mountaineering is the ultimate challenge, the trial by fire, for the spirit, the mind and the body. (Paragraph 1)*
 - a) Mountaineering is very expensive and everyone cannot bring himself/herself to spend so much so easily.
 - b) In order to do mountaineering well one has to learn to live by the fire and drink spirits to keep mind and body healthy.
 - c) Mountaineering is a tough test of physical, mental and emotional endurance and resilience.
 - ii) *Standing on the summit is only part of the total enjoyment and satisfaction that one achieves from mountaineering - and more so in the Indian Himalayas. (Paragraph 2)*
 - a) Standing on the summit of Indian Himalayas is only part of the total enjoyment because a huge monetary award accompanies successful completion of the journey.
 - b) Standing on the summit of Indian Himalayas is only part of the enjoyment because the rest comes from the new found love for the mountains and the feeling that one has conquered the difficult mountains.
 - c) Standing on the summit of Indian Himalayas is only part of the enjoyment because the main enjoyment comes from the chance one gets to climb the mountains in other countries.
 - iii) *It is advisable to give at least a six-month's notice before embarking on an expedition. (Paragraph 8)*

- THE PE
UNIVE

Activity 2

- 37

- iv) It was difficult to climb the cliff as it was almost due to the difficult terrain and harsh weather. (Paragraph 3)
- v) Congratulations on your from a scooter to a car. (Paragraph 4)
- vi) From Dalhousie one can see the peaks of the Dhauladhar range. (Paragraph 6)
- vii) This office is the..... for applications for different colleges of the university. (Paragraph 8)
- viii) Her English teacher at college created in her an passion for books. Today her personal library is something worth seeing. (Paragraph 9)
2. We use the word *expedition* for an organized journey with a purpose especially to find out more about the place.

Similarly there are different words used for different kinds of journeys according to the purpose and manner of undertaking the journey. Match *name of the journey* with its description.

1 Pilgrimage	a) A walk through the streets by persons in a large group in order to protest about something.
2 Excursion	b) A trip on a ship or a boat taken for pleasure.
3 Tour	c) Journey to a holy place for religious reasons.
4 March	d) A long journey involving travel by ship or in a spacecraft.
5 Hike	e) A short journey made for pleasure, especially one that has been organized for a group.
6 Cruise	f) A journey made for pleasure during which several different towns, countries etc. are visited.
7 Voyage	g) A long walk, especially in the countryside or wilderness.

3. Look at this sentence from the passage.

*It is **advisable** to give at least a six- month's notice before embarking on an expedition.*

The word advisable has been made by adding 'able' to the verb 'advise' to make an adjective.

We, however, do not always spell an adjective having the suffix 'able' at the end with an 'a'. Look at the word 'destructible' for instance. It has an 'i' in place of 'a'.

Make adjectives from the following words using the suffix 'able' and write them in the space given. Remember to make other necessary changes in spelling.

- i) pay
- ii) move
- iii) digest
- iv) dispose

- v) eat
- vi) access
- vii) measure
- viii) debate

3.4 GRAMMAR: NON-FINITE VERBS, GERUNDS AND PARTICIPLES

Activity 3

- Look at this sentence from the passage:

Climbing rocks is a most challenging task....

Here the word ‘climbing’ is made from the verb ‘climb’. It functions in the sentence as a noun, as a name of a certain activity. This Verb-Noun is called a Gerund, which behaves just like a noun and can be the subject or the object of a sentence. It can also be used after a preposition.

Pick a few more gerunds from the passage.

.....,,,,,

- Read the paragraph given below and rewrite the underlined sentences using gerunds in place of the verbs. You would need to make suitable changes in the sentences as well.

I wished to try my hand at mountaineering I tried my best to gather information from various sources. It was not easy to get all the information at one instance. After I wrote umpteen letters to the IMF and sent many e-mails to the Institute at Manali, I received the brochures for the courses and the other necessary papers. As soon as I received the required information I got cracking.

I got hold of the tourism brochures of Himachal Pradesh and had discussions with the officials there. I also had an occasion to meet a mountaineer at their office. To meet such an adventurous person was thrilling for me. Moreover I could ask frankly whether to undertake such an expedition was worthwhile for a person of my physical strength and constitution. He looked at me from head to toe once and said that I should use my creative talents in painting pictures and writing books.

- Now look at these sentences from the passage.

Howling gales and roaring avalanches may haunt you in your dreams long after the expedition is over. But men who have lived their dreams tell a different tale: a tale of abiding passion for the most unusual adventure.

You will notice here that the underlined words do not function as nouns. They are serving the function of adjectives and are placed just before the nouns they are qualifying.

These words are called Present Participles. Similarly we have Past Participles like the ones in the sentence given below.

Take along everything specified in the brochure though blankets are not important as they are provided. Here the word ‘specified’ means the ‘specified equipment’.

Locate a few more Participles from the passage and write them here along with the nouns they are qualifying.

.....,,,
.....,,

4. Complete the following sentences with participles using the basic verb given in the brackets.
- 'There are no marks allocated for neatness in the answers,' announced the teacher. (write)
 - Doctors were finding it difficult to cope with so many passengers after the train accident. (injure)
 - Many people from India went to the African countries to start businesses. Soon they had atrade and decided to settle there. (flourish)
 - The news of the Youth Festival in the university reached all colleges in no time. (excite)
 - The guests were impressed with the pretty decorations and the neatly furniture. (arrange)
 - One of theprinciples of life is to be straightforward and honest. (abide)
5. Make gerunds using the verbs given in the box below. Complete the sentences using appropriate gerunds.

survive	restore	place	lead	turn	map
---------	---------	-------	------	------	-----

-a geographical area that is hilly can be a difficult job.
- My course includes a study of metals, art forms and styles andartifacts.
- I never thought ofthis vase under the window. Thank you for suggesting it.
- We enjoyed our art class.the potter's wheel was the most interesting part.
-a second heart attack is difficult for most patients.
- Have you ever tried a group of enthusiastic youngsters during a project? The experience is interesting but it can be maddening as well.

3.5 LISTENING: RIVER RAFTING

Listen to this talk on river rafting and say whether the sentences given below are true or false according to the text. Read the statements below before you listen to the recording.

Check Your Progress 2

- A river-rafting trip offers a safe and cosy vacation.
- The velocity of the river water is great.



- iii) In difficult moments it is best to stop paddling and allow the river to take you with it.
- iv) River rafting trips not only offer excitement but delightful scenery as well.
- v) Since there is no electricity in the camps one has to make do with lanterns.
- vi) It is difficult to do anything the day after a hectic river rafting trip as one feels very tired the next day.

3.6 SPEAKING AND WRITING

Have a discussion with your study partner on the topic 'Should dangerous sports be banned?' Before you have the discussion; write down both points of views (*in favour* as well as *against*) as well as your personal opinion on the matter.

Some points for consideration:

1. Dangers and high chances of accidents
2. Need for specialized skill
3. Can leave one injured and handicapped for life
4. Can end in death
5. Injury and emergencies not necessarily caused by player's error but due to other reasons like sudden change in weather, encounters with dangerous animals and so on.
6. Players push themselves to the maximum which may not be good for health



Other views:

- i) It is true that there are dangers in sports like boxing, rugby, bull-fighting, scuba diving, sky diving, bungee jumping, river rafting etc.
- ii) But sports, competition, and games are natural to humans.
- iii) Sport therefore is not just a physical phenomenon but a mental and social one.
- iv) Need discipline and respect for the rules - valuable lessons in any society.
- v) Regulations need to be made and proper training should be essential.
- vi) Sports to be undertaken in the presence of trained and experienced persons.
- vii) On the other hand even safe sports like golf or jogging can lead to pain or injury.

You could use sentences like these in your discussion:

In my opinion.....

That is right, but consider the fact that.....

What I would suggest is.....

Well, I disagree at this point.....

Do you really feel/think....?

I guess you are right. We must/must not.....



.....

.....

.....

Copyright details

1. For Mountaineering, Reading Text, *Source Adventure Tourism*, Love of the mountains
<http://www.lupindia.com/adventure/mountain.html>
2. **For Listening text, A Spot of Adventure**, By Rewati Rau, WE Travel, HT City, 16 September 2005
3. Ideas for speaking activities from ‘Should Dangerous Sports be Banned’, www.writefix.com/argument/sportsdontban.htm

In this Unit, we discussed the topic of mountaineering in India, an adventure sport which is quite popular. From the reading and vocabulary activities, you were able to read an expository piece and answer questions on it. You could also make inferences from the text. The vocabulary exercises enabled you to understand lexical items related to mountaineering. The Gerund and Present and Past Participle were taught to you and you were given practice in using them. There was a listening text on river rafting followed by a speaking activity which concentrated on how to debate.

Activity 1

42

Check Your Progress 1

1. Completed table:

Sl. No.	Main point	Details
i)	Requirements	Love for adventure and mountains, strength and will power, training in mountaineering
ii)	Major mountain peaks where one can go	Uttarakhand 1. Gangotri valley at the head of the source of the Ganges, mountains like Shivling 6542m and Meru 6540 m. 2. Peaks like the Kedarnath 6937m and Bhagirathi 6853m, Himachal Pradesh 1. Beaskund region only two days away from Manali offer the lower peaks of Hanuman Tibba 5932m, Manali and Shitidhar peaks, which stand at the source of the Beas. 2. Across the Rohtang pass into the Lahaul area are several interesting clusters of peaks that rise up to 6500m.
iii)	When to go	May to October
iv)	Whom to contact	Indian Mountaineering Federation Directorate of Mountaineering and Allied Sports Association, Manali's Distt. Kullu, Himachal Pradesh
v)	What to take	Equipment for personal use like clothes and shoes. Everything specified in the brochure
vi)	What course to undertake	Adventure Course Basic Mountaineering Course
vii)	If beginner, what to keep in mind	1. Taking a comfortable pair of shoes. <i>Breaking them in</i> for a couple of weeks before the course. 2. Take along everything specified in the brochure except blankets. 3. Buy a pair of cheap canvas shoes and get the rubber from an inner tube (of a bicycle?) attached as a sole. 4. Check all your equipment when you get it from the Institute and before using it.

- 2
 - i) c) Mountaineering is a tough test of physical, mental and emotional endurance and resilience.
 - ii) b) Standing on the summit of Indian Himalaya's is only part of the enjoyment because the rest come from the new found love for the mountains and the feeling that one has conquered the difficult mountains.
 - iii) b) It is advisable to give a six-month's notice because the Federation needs a lot of preparation and there may be many people, including foreigners, applying for the trip.

- iv) a) people who follow their passion have interesting stories to relate.
 v) b) Wear them for a couple of weeks before the course so that they don't pinch and bite.
3. a) Do a bit of reading up. Obtain information.
 b) Consult the IMF and the Mountaineering Institute
 c) Consult the family doctor and have a health check up.
 d) Get enrolled in the general 'Adventure Course'
 e) Go through the brochures regarding mountaineering trips.
 f) Write to IMF giving information about your training
 g) If selected then obtain the specified gear.
 h) Go on the expedition!

Activity 2

1. i- ultimate, ii- pinnacle, iii- fraught, iv- inaccessible, v- graduating,
 vi- snow clad, vii- clearing house, viii- abiding

2. 1 Pilgrimage	c) Journey to a holy place for religious reasons.
2 Excursion	e) A short journey made for pleasure, especially one that has been organized for a group.
3 Tour	f) A journey made for pleasure during which several different towns, countries etc. are visited.
4 March	a) A walk through the streets by persons in a large group in order to protest about something.
5 Hike	g) A long walk, especially in the countryside or wilderness.
6 Cruise	b) A trip on a ship or a boat taken for pleasure.
7 Voyage	d) A long journey involving travel by ship or in a spacecraft.

3. i) payable
 ii) movable
 iii) digestible
 iv) disposable
 v) eatable
 vi) accessible
 vii) measurable
 viii) debatable

Activity 3

1. Some more gerunds from the passage- **climbing** rocks, **standing** on the summit, **trekking**, **graduating**, **undergoing**, **organizing** and **sponsoring**.

2. **Wishing to try my hand** at mountaineering I tried my best to gather information from various sources. **Getting all the information at one instance** was not easy. **After writing umpteen letters to the IMF and sending many e-mails to the Institute at Manali**, I received the brochures for the courses and the other necessary papers. **Receiving the required information** I lost no time and got cracking.

I got hold of the tourism brochures of Himachal Pradesh and had discussions with the officials there. I also had an occasion to meet a mountaineer at their office. **Meeting such an adventurous person** was thrilling for me. Moreover, I could ask frankly whether **undertaking such an expedition** was worthwhile for a person of my physical strength and constitution. **Looking at me from head to toe** once, he said, that I should use my creative talents in painting pictures and writing books.

3. Participles from the passage: **daunting** peaks, **challenging** tasks, **freezing** cold, **climbing** institutes, **howling** gales and **roaring** avalanches.
4. i) written
ii) injured
iii) flourishing
iv) exciting
v) arranged
vi) abiding
5. i) Mapping, ii) restoring, iii) placing, iv) Turning,
v) Surviving, vi) leading

3.5 RIVER RAFTING (Listening Text)

Adventure through and through. That's river rafting for you. It is truly one of these sports that are meant strictly for brave hearts. If you are the kind who likes a nice and 'cosy and safe' vacation then this is not for you.

River rafting, also known as white river rafting, is best enjoyed in a group. The rafters, equipped with oars, life jackets, and helmets sit on the edge of the raft, with the instructor at the helm, quite literally. Someone gives the raft a push and off you go.

If you are a first-timer, be prepared for the velocity of the river - you can be sure you've seen nothing like it before. And the first rapid that comes your way will literally steal away your breath. Make sure you hold on to that rope for dear life! But mind you, no matter how shaken and stirred you are, don't stop paddling.

The river rafting trips on Ganga in Uttarakhand are very popular. Apart from the proximity to Delhi, the beauty of the rafting camps is another tempting factor. Just an hour's drive from Rishikesh up to Shivpuri, spectacular scenery greets you, the youthful Ganga meandering through densely covered slopes of the outer Himalayas.

If you are not looking out for adventure you can just wallow in the beauty of the camps. These are usually without electricity and modern facilities. This is probably the closest you will ever get to nature. By the time you are back

from the rafting trip, the tents are lit up with a line of lanterns. The night is truly magical. Sometimes, the distant cries of wild animals makes it a little eerie though.

After a particularly tiring day in the water, you wake up next morning feeling strangely fresh and perky. If you have the energy you can always enjoy other adventure sports like rock climbing and hiking.

(By Rewati Rau, WE Travel, HT City, 16 September, 2005)

Check Your Progress 2

- i) A river-rafting trip offers a safe and cosy vacation. **(F)**
- ii) The velocity of the river water is great. **(T)**
- iii) In difficult moments it is best to stop paddling and allow the river to take you with it. **(F)**
- iv) River rafting trips not only offer excitement but delightful scenery as well. **(T)**
- v) Since there is no electricity in the camps one has to make do with lanterns. **(T)**
- vi) It is difficult to do anything the day after a hectic river rafting trip as one feels very tired the next day. **(F)**

UNIT 4 ASSAMESE ENCHANTMENT

Structure

- 4.0 Objectives
- 4.1 Reading Comprehension: Assamese Enchantment
- 4.2 Vocabulary
- 4.3 Grammar: Use of Tenses
- 4.4 Writing: Report Writing and Composition Writing
- 4.5 Listening and Speaking: A Poem – Downhill on a Bicycle
- 4.6 Let Us Sum Up
- 4.7 Suggested Reading
- 4.8 Answers

4.0 OBJECTIVES

Our aim in this unit is to help you to:

- read and appreciate travel features;
- add to your understanding of words, adjective formation and use;
- understand better the use of some commonly used tenses especially when writing about travel;
- learn the use of the passive voice in report writing;
- write a short composition;
- learn to skim and scan advertisements and other similar material;
- listen appreciatively to the reading of a short simple poem and imitate the reading in terms of pronunciation and expression; and
- listen to and learn with additional practice, to converse using appropriate fluency strategies.

4.1 READING COMPREHENSION: ASSAMESE ENCHANTMENT

Here is an adapted article by Rajen Makharia from an airlines magazine. Read it carefully before you answer briefly the questions that follow.

It was not very long ago that we had embarked on a motor safari to the Northeast of India. We had planned to visit Assam, one of the ‘seven sister’ states. As there were only three of us we had no trouble accommodating our large amount of luggage. From Guwahati we set out towards the tea growing areas of Upper Assam. After crossing the Brahmaputra, we headed towards Jorhat, which is the gateway to Upper Assam. The first thing we did was to go to the Tourist Office in the town to enquire about the ferry timings and make reservations in the Circuit House in Majuli.



Ferried to Majuli

Majuli is the largest riverine island in the world (886sq. km.). It has been proposed as the 21st UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the north, River Subansiri (a tributary of the Brahmaputra) and in the south, River Brahmaputra separate the island from the mainland. In order to reach the island one has to take a ferry from the ghat on the mainland. Besides passengers and small vehicles such as bicycles and scooters,

big to medium-sized cars are also hauled over by the motorized barges. Majuli is blessed by the beauty and serenity of country life. Its biodiversity creates an ideal breeding ground for birds. Various species of migratory birds are found here, such as the pelican, the Siberian Crane, and the Adjutant Stork.



In order to take the late afternoon ferry, we drove 15 km. to Nimatighat along a narrow road. The last stretch was over soft and wet river sand. Finally, we hauled the car onto a barge over two narrow, strategically placed planks. It required expert maneuvering to keep the car from plunging into the river. No more than one or two vehicles are loaded onto each barge. The cruise to Majuli takes about 45 minutes, give or take 15 minutes, depending on the wind force. We had the local people, mostly fishermen, farm workers and shopkeepers, to keep us company.



Majuli and its Monasteries and Museums

Majuli is famous for its 22 ancient Vaishnavite Hindu monasteries or *satras*, which also serve as centers for preservation of priceless relics and Assamese art. There are nearly 600 *satras* in Assam, of which 65 had been in Majuli. Today, only 22 remain – the others shifted to safer places, due to devastation caused by floods and erosion

by the Brahmaputra. Notable among the 22 are the Auniati Satra, Dakshinpat Satra, Garamur Satra, Kamalabari Satra and Bhogpur Satra. In the middle of each *satra* is a *namghara* or temple.

The Shamaguri Satra is famous for its masks. We were fortunate to meet the master mask-maker himself. The masks that we saw, made from straw and painted in prominent colours, mostly represented demons. They are enough to scare the wits out of anyone, if seen in a different context and place. Most masks are used during dance performances.

During the monsoons, Majuli transforms into a vast sheet of watery wasteland. The locals are virtually trapped on the island, as the ferries stop operating. They have to depend on bamboo rafts for transport.

Visit to Sibsagar

The next day we took the first ferry out of Majuli and after crossing Jorhat, an hour's drive along the highway brought us to Sibsagar (earlier known as Rangpur). Sibsagar, a leading tea and oil producing district, is 369 km from Guwahati, the erstwhile capital of the Ahom dynasty, which ruled Assam for over 600 years. The kings earned the name Ahom meaning 'unequaled' due to their valour.

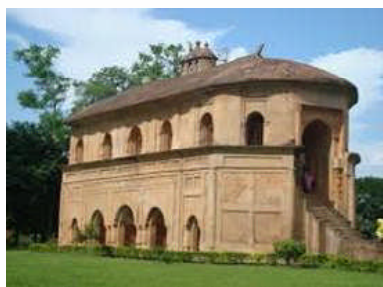
A visit to Sibsagar is not complete without a visit to Shivaldol, the Shiva temple, which is said to have the highest dome (dole) amongst Shiva temples in India. The temple was built in 1734 by Madambika, wife of King Siva Singha of the Ahoms. There are two other temples – Vishnudol and Devidol within the same temple complex, constructed by the same king. These temples stand next to the Sibsagar tank, which is considered to be an engineering feat, as the water level in the tank is higher than the level of the town around it.



Another noteworthy monument in Sibsagar is a seven-storied castle with three stories below the ground that are connected to the Dikhow river and the Gargaon Palace by way of tunnels. The floors above are known as Kareng Ghar and those

underground as Talatal Ghar. It is Assam's *bhulbhulaiya* – a maze like the one found in the Bara Imambara in Lucknow. The Talatal Ghar has helped many a royal escape from trouble to the Dikhow.

Rudra Singh, the greatest of the Ahom kings, got a tank dug, which was about twice the size of the one at Sibsagar, at a place called Rangpur, five km from Sibsagar. Known as the Joysagar tank, it spreads over 318 acres and is said to be the biggest man-made lake in the country. Historical records reveal that the tank was constructed in 45 days. Another interesting fact about this tank is that the Siberian migratory ducks come all the way here during the winter months. On the banks of this tank four temples, dedicated to various gods and goddesses, stand. These temples are architectural marvels and could withstand the devastating earthquake of 1988 in spite of being 400 years old.



Near the Joysagar tank is the two storied oval-shaped Rang Ghar pavilion said to be the oldest amphitheatre in Asia. The Ahom kings were entertained here during the Bihu festival, when they witnessed traditional Bihu dances and watched elephant fights. These fights are still an annual event. Several other interesting ruins of temples and stone and brick bridges surround this

pavilion. In this earthquake-prone area, these buildings prove the excellence of 18th century mortar. Most of the roads and bridges in Upper Assam are said to have been built by the Ahom kings.

After our worthwhile albeit short trip-stop at Sibsagar, we headed towards Dibrugarh, which lies on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra. Memories of Majuli and Sibsagar, however, would stay with us, long after we left Assam.

[Extracted and adapted from JETWINGS (May 2005), a monthly magazine of Jet Airways, published printed & edited by Nandini Verma at Spenta Multimedia, 4 Laxmi Industrial Estate, Hanuman Lane, Lower Parel, Mumbai.]

Check Your Progress 1

1. The article specifically describes a visit to
 - i) The 'seven sister' states
 - ii) Assam
 - iii) Northeast India
 - iv) Majuli and Sibsagar
2. Which of the following are included among the 'seven sister' states:
 - i) Assam
 - ii) Andamans
 - iii) Meghalaya
 - iv) Arunachal Pradesh
 - v) Orissa
 - vi) Manipur
 - vii) Tripura
 - viii) Daman
 - ix) Nagaland
 - x) Mizoram

3. Match each name in Column 1 with its appropriate feature/description in Column 2.

Column 1

Column 2

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| i) Jorhat | A. a destination for migratory birds. |
| ii) <i>Satras</i> | B. location of the capital of the Ahom dynasty. |
| iii) Shamaguri Satra | C. built by a queen of ancient Assam. |
| iv) Sibsagar Tank | D. an escape route for a king in distress. |
| v) Majuli | E. gateway to Upper Assam. |
| vi) Shivadol | F. famous for its masks. |
| vii) Talatal Ghar | G. prove the excellence of 18 th century mortar. |
| viii) Guwahati | H. centers of priceless relics and Assamese art. |
| ix) Bihu Festival | I. the oldest amphitheatre in Asia. |
| x) Rang Ghar | J. biggest man made lake in the country. |
| xi) Ruins of temples and bridges | K. entertainment for the Ahom kings. |
| xii) Joysagar Tank | L. considered an engineering feat. |

4. Why is Majuli described as a riverine island?

.....

.....

.....

.....

5. What were the motorized barges used for?

.....

.....

.....

.....

6. Why are only 22 of the 65 *satras* of Majuli remaining?

.....

.....

.....

.....

7. Which three temples are situated near the Sibsagar Tank? Mention two features in which they differ from other temples of their kind in the country.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

8. What is compared to the ‘*bhulbhulaiya*’ of Bara Imambara in Lucknow? Why?

.....

.....

.....

9. Which temples are called architectural marvels and why?

.....

.....

.....

4.2 VOCABULARY

Check Your Progress 2

Indicate the appropriate meanings of the underlined words in the following phrases/sentences from the text by choosing from the alternatives that follow:

1. Loading the cars required expert maneuvering
 - i) patient handling
 - ii) careful driving
 - iii) skilful moving
 - iv) planned management
2. It was not very long ago that we had embarked on a motor safari
 - i) enter into
 - ii) set out on
 - iii) come across
 - iv) move into
3. The locals were virtually trapped on the island
 - i) actually
 - ii) almost
 - iii) finally
 - iv) temporarily
4. The biodiversity of Majuli refers to
 - i) beautiful serene countryside
 - ii) natural healthy forest area
 - iii) wide variety of plant and animal species
 - iv) calm and cool climatic conditions
5. The temples proved the excellence of 18th century mortar
 - i) architecture of earlier times
 - ii) buildings built with motors and machines
 - iii) bricks of earlier times
 - iv) a mixture of sand, cement and water used

Formation of Adjectives/Participles

You will note that some verb-adjectives or participles are formed by adding ‘-ing’ or ‘-ed’ to verbs, as in ‘*dancing* dolls’ or ‘*tired* horse’. Other adjectives, formed from nouns, have specific endings (called ‘suffixes’ like -al, -ized, -ine, -clad, etc.) added to nouns.

For example:

1. ‘strategy’ can be turned into an adjective by adding ‘-al’ i.e., ‘strategical’ meaning ‘involving strategy’.
2. ‘handed down culturally from ancient times’ refers to ‘tradition’ and a adjective is formed by adding the suffix ‘-al’ i.e., ‘traditional’

Check Your Progress 3

1. Find adjectives in the text conveying the following meanings. To help you, the relevant suffix is indicated in brackets. The first example is done for you.
 - i) handed down culturally from ancient times (-al) = ‘traditional’
 - ii) surrounded by the water of rivers (-ine)
 - iii) which cannot be valued or priced (-ess)
 - iv) moving from one (climatic) zone/ area to another (-ory)
 - v) famous or worth noting (-worthy)
 - vi) worked by a motor (-ized)
 - vii) wearing *dhotis* (-clad)
 - viii) in earlier times (-while)
2. You will note that the adjectives that convey the above ideas have specific endings (called ‘suffixes’ like -ized, -ine, -clad etc.) added to nouns used in the given phrases or other nouns conveying the same meaning.

Can you think of other adjectives with the same suffixes (in the same order as provided in the earlier exercise)? The following words are provided as clues:

Move – can be moved = mobilized

Vocation (work) – related to vocation = vocational

- i) Iodine
 - ii) Cow
 - iii) Motion
 - iv) Sea
 - v) Emotion
 - vi) Sari
 - vii) Worth
3. Use a suitable adjective from your answers to 1 and 2 to complete the following sentences:
 - i) A man tucked up his *lungi* and swiftly climbed up the tall coconut tree.
 - ii) The gypsies lead a life according to the availability of food or earnings.
 - iii) Today salt is available to make up the iodine deficiency in a large section of the Indian population.

- iv) He was the..... managing director of a company but is now
- v) The ship could not sail out today as it was found not
- vi) The dog show was interesting with a large number of exhibits and the tricks of the Alsatian received loud applause.
- vii) This vocation is very common and Why don't you choose something different?
- viii) Your service to the community is and there are no words to acknowledge it.
- ix) My expense on a plane journey was as my visit to my parents could be with my sister's.
- x) He stood in the field in fear as he saw theherd coming towards him, but the cows were only in a playful mood.

4.3 GRAMMAR: USE OF TENSES

You are already aware of the different tenses commonly used in the English language. You generally find different forms of (mainly) the past tense used in expository/ informative passages and different forms of (largely) the present tense used in conversations and commentaries. However, in the reading passage, you may have noted the use of different forms of both past and present tenses. Their use may be briefly summed up as follows:

- A. **The Past Indefinite (or Simple Past) and the Past Perfect tenses** have been used for describing actions of the past i.e., how the people in the story and their things were transported on their journey in Assam and what they saw. Examples:

We had planned to visit Assam

We had no trouble accommodating our luggage.

We visited the *namghara*.

Sometimes, both tenses are used in the same sentence. Example:

It was not long ago that we had embarked on a motor safari.

The Past Perfect is used for a completed action that occurs before another past action and the Past Indefinite or Simple Past refers to past action.

The Simple Past in this passage is used for giving historical information.
Example:

Rudra Singh got a tank dug.

- B. **The Present Indefinite (or Simple Present) tense** is used for habitual actions or statements of perennial truth (statements which are always true). It is used in the reading passage to describe the sites visited in Assam and their characteristic features. Examples:

Jorhat is the gateway to Upper Assam.

As a rule, the Past and Present tenses should not get used in the same sentence but the Present Indefinite may be combined with the Past Indefinite in the same sentence to indicate both the kinds of information stated above (i.e., a past action and a perennial or permanent truth). Examples:

An hour's drive brought us to Sibsagar, which is a leading tea and oil producing district.

C. The Present Perfect tense has a double function:

- 1) **It is used to indicate an action covering a period of time which may or may not be specifically indicated in the sentence.** Example:
She has been a good friend of mine (for the last ten years)
- 2) **It may also be used to indicate an action (even of the past) but which has relevance to the present.** Examples:
She has not read the newspaper.
Ram has promised to do the job.

The Present Perfect Tense can also be combined with the Present Indefinite or the Past Indefinite when necessary. Examples from the reading text are:

The Talatal Ghar was connected by a maze of tunnels to Dikhow and has helped many a king to escape.

The 400 years old temples have withstood the devastating earthquake of 1988.

Check Your Progress 4

In the following summary of the reading passage use the correct tense forms of the verbs (numbered for convenience) given in brackets:

We(1. take) the ferry to Majuli from the mainland and (2. be) there in about 45 minutes. A scenic and biodiverse Majuli, they (3. say), (4. be) visited by migratory birds in winter. Majuli (5. be) also famous for its monasteries or '*satras*'. Today only 22 of these *satras* (6. remain) as several (7. be) shifted to safer places to prevent devastation from floods. Each *satra* (8. have) a temple, which (9. echo) with the singing and clashing cymbals of the devotees. The masks of Shamaguri Satra (10. be) used during dance performances. The monsoons (11. transform) Majuli into a watery wasteland.

Sibsagar, about 369 km. from Guwahati, (12. be) once the capital of the Ahom dynasty which (13. rule) Assam for 600 years. Among its famous temples (14. be) the Shivadol temple which (15. boast) of the highest dome amongst Shiva temples in India. The maze-like tunnels from Talatal Ghar to Dhikow (16. help) the escape of many a king in distress. The site for the Joysagar tank (17. be) chosen by a method that (18. locate) a hidden spring. History (19. tell) us that it (20. be) constructed in 45 days. Miraculous for a time when there (21. be) neither sophisticated machines nor electricity. Here too the Siberian cranes (22. come) all the way during the winter months. The ancient temples on its banks (23. be) architectural marvels for they (24. survive) the devastating floods and earthquakes. Nearby, also, (25. stand) the oldest amphitheatre in Asia, the Rang Ghar, where traditional Bihu dances and elephant fights (26. entertain) the Ahom kings. The festival still (27. continue) as an annual event. The ruins of temples and bridges around this pavilion (28. bear) proof of the excellence of 18th century mortar. Memories of Majuli and Sibsaagar (29. stay) with us long after we (30. leave) Assam.

4.4 WRITING: REPORT WRITING AND COMPOSITION WRITING

4.4.1 Report Writing

Different kinds of writing have different kinds of tone and formality. For example, a report or an official letter should have a more formal tone than, say, a story, essay or a letter to a friend. There are some ways in which language achieves this tone of formality. One of these is the **appropriate use of the active and passive voice**. You have learnt before about the mutual conversion of Active and Passive Voice. Let us look at the Voice from a slightly different perspective.

As you might be aware, the Active[v] Voice makes us focus our attention on the ‘actor’ or ‘doer’ of an action as shown in the underlined portions in the examples below:

1. Ram ate an apple
2. I posted the letter on 14th February.

Such a focus is useful particularly in narratives and conversation where heroes and heroines are important. When, however, you change the sentences to the passive form, the attention focuses not on the ‘actor’ or ‘doer’ but on the ‘action’ or the person or thing ‘done to’ as in the passive form of the above examples:

1. The apple was eaten by Ram
2. The letter was posted by me on 14th February.

Because of this change of focus, the Passive voice becomes useful in formal writing. Thus, when you complain to the Courier Company about a lost letter, it is important to focus on the object/ action of complaint (the loss of the letter) and to give them details of Reference number/Docket number (e.g., when and to whom, etc.). It is also more polite to say that ‘The letter was lost in transit’ and not an accusing, ‘You have lost the letter’. The Courier Company Executive would not have even seen the letter because the loss may have occurred in transit where it is handled by several other people.

Now, let us try a piece of formal writing based on your reading of the passage given below. It is interesting to see how the travel story ‘Assamese Enchantment’ makes predominant use of the Active Voice in the first three paragraphs, where the author describes his personal experiences. However, in the paragraphs giving us details of Majuli and Sibsagar, the Passive Voice is often used

Check Your Progress 5

Imagine you had travelled to Assam and had to write an educational report for your teacher describing the features and highlights of Majuli and Sibsagar.

1. Complete the following sentences in your report of Majuli by providing the completed forms of the verbs in brackets (numbered for convenience) using the Passive voice and other suitable tense.

Majuli is an island washed by the two rivers, the Subansiri and the Brahmaputra. It is (i- bless) with scenic beauty and migratory birds like the pelican and Siberian Crane (ii- attract) by its biodiversity. Majuli is famous for its monasteries or ‘*satras*’ where priceless ancient relics and Assamese art (iii- preserve). Forty-three of the original 65 *satras* (iv- shift) to safer places because the area (v- devastate) by frequent

floods and earthquakes. In the temples within the *satras*, hymns invoking Lord Krishna (vi- sing) everyday at prayer-time. Masks (vii- make) and (viii- use) for dance performances at the Shamaguri Satra. During the monsoons, people (ix- trap) on the island as Majuli (x- transform) into a watery wasteland.

- 2 . Write a similar report of not more than 12 –15 sentences about Sibsagar using the suitable tense and the Passive voice wherever possible. You may use the clues given below:
- Location of Sibsagar
 - Oil and tea production
 - Situation of the 3 temples
 - Their construction by kings and queens
 - Architectural marvels
 - Sibsagar Tank – an engineering feat
 - Talatal Ghar – maze of tunnels – an escape route
 - Joysagar Tank – Rudra Singh – largest manmade lake – constructed in 45 days
 - Migratory ducks
 - Bihu Festival
 - Excellence of 18th century mortar

THE PEOPLE'S
UNIVERSITY

4.4.2 Composition Writing

Now write a short composition of 2-3 paragraphs on your own, about a memorable trip you have made to a historical place. Take care to use the appropriate voice and tense. You may use the following points to guide you:

- Interesting experiences in the travel and transportation

[illegible]

Pre-listening Task:

1. Can you ride a bicycle or have you seen someone ride it? How do you/ they ride it?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

- The story of a man and his bicycle
- The story of a boy throwing his bicycle down the hill
- The thrill of riding a bicycle downhill.
- The dangers of riding a bicycle downhill.

Check Your Progress 6

1 Look at the following questions before you listen to the poem and answer them after you have listened to it.

i) Who is speaking in the poem? What was s/he doing?

.....

ii) Do you remember some words which describe her/ his ride or her/ his feelings?

.....

iii) Do you remember some of the rhyming words used?

.....

Now look at the poem transcribed below for you (with lines numbered for convenience) and without using a dictionary, answer the questions that follow

Downhill on a Bicycle

With lifted feet, hands still,	1
I am poised, and down the hill	2
Part, with heedful mind	3
The air goes by in a wind.	4
Swifter and yet more swift	5
Till the heart with a mighty lift	6
Makes the lungs laugh, the throat cry...	7
'O bird, see, see, bird, I fly!'	8
Is this, is this your joy?	9
O bird, then I, though a boy,	10
For a golden moment share	11
Your feathery life in air.	12



(by H C Beeching - From a C.B.S.E. textbook)

Now repeat the poem line by line in the time allowed to you after each line, taking care to imitate the pronunciation, pauses, expression and intonation, as closely as possible. (Do this a couple of times).

Check Your Progress 7

1. Do you think the boy is afraid he might fall off the bicycle? Yes/ No/ Slightly?

.....

2. What does 'poised' mean? (Choose from the alternatives below):

- i) Scared
- ii) Lifted
- iii) Slipping
- iv) Balanced

3. 'Part, with heedful mind' suggests a mind which is:
 - i) Careful
 - ii) Fearful
 - iii) Hopeful
 - iv) Restless
4. What is the difference between *air* and *wind*? (L. 4)

.....
5. Who/ what is moving swiftly: the wind or the cyclist?

.....
6. Which words suggest the speed is increasing?

.....
7. To interpret the meaning of lines 6 and 7 indicate:
the multiple (more than one) meanings of the underlined words:
till the heart with a mighty lift
Makes the lungs laugh, the throat cry

.....

.....
8. Can you put the various meanings together to bring out a blend of meanings?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....
9. What indicates the thrill, the pride and happiness of the little boy?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....
10. Why does the boy feel this special sense of pride?

.....

.....
11. Whose is a feathery life?

.....
12. What two meanings of 'feather' are indicated?

.....

.....
13. Why is the word 'feathery' preferred to 'flying' or winged' or 'happy' to describe the bird's life?

.....

.....

4.6 LET US SUM UP

In this unit we have given you practice in:

- reading and understanding a passage about travel,
- using tenses appropriately in a passage,
- guessing word meanings and forming and using adjectives with some specific suffixes,
- using the passive voice for certain types of composition,
- writing a short composition parallel to the reading passage,
- learning to skim and scan for reading and everyday purposes,
- listening to and saying and practicing the sounds of spoken English in poetry; and
- matching sound and meaning in poetry.

4.7 SUGGESTED READING

Travel books and travel articles in newspapers and travel and airline magazines.

4.8 ANSWERS

Check Your Progress 1

1. Majuli and Sibsagar
2. Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram
3. i-E, ii-H, iii-F, iv-L, v-A, vi-C, vii-D, viii-B, ix-K, x-I, xi- G, xii-J
4. Majuli is described as a riverine island because it is separated from the mainland in the north by the River Subansiri and in the south by the River Brahmaputra.
5. For hauling/ lifting/ transporting small vehicles like bicycles, scooters and big and medium-sized cars and people from the mainland to the island of Majuli.
6. Only 22 of the 65 *satras* of Majuli are remaining because other *satras* were shifted to safer places from the devastation of floods and erosion caused by the River Brahmaputra.
7. The Shivadol, the Vishnudol and the Devidol temples.
 - i) These temples stand next to the Sibsagar tank, which is considered to be an engineering feat, as the water level in the tank is higher than the level of the town around it.
 - ii) The Shivadol has the highest dome among the Shiva temples in India
8. The tunnels connecting the Talatal Ghar to the Dikhow River and the Gargaon Palace; because they are like the maze of Bara Imambara of Lucknow.

9. The four temples built on the bank of Joysagar tank, dedicated to various gods and goddesses are architectural marvels as they could withstand the devastating earthquake of 1988 in spite of being 400 years old.

Check Your Progress 2

1. iii) skilful moving
2. ii) set out on
3. ii) almost
4. iii) wide variety of plant and animal species
5. iv) a mixture of sand, cement and water used

Check Your Progress 3

1. i) traditional
ii) riverine
iii) priceless
iv) migratory
v) noteworthy
vi) motorized
vii) dhoti-clad
viii) erstwhile
2. i) iodized, synchronized
ii) canine, bovine
iii) motionless, jobless
iv) seaworthy, praiseworthy
v) vocational, emotional
vi) sari-clad, lungi-clad
vii) worthwhile, worthless
3. i) lungi-clad
ii) migratory
iii) iodized
iv) erstwhile, jobless
v) seaworthy
vi) canine
vii) traditional
viii) priceless
ix) worthwhile, synchronized.
x) motionless, bovine

Check Your Progress 4

1-took, 2-were, 3-said, 4-is, 5-is, 6-remain/ have remained, 7-were shifted/ have been shifted, 8- has, 9-echos, 10-are, 11-transform, 12-was, 13-ruled, 14-is, 15-boasts, 16-(have) helped, 17-was, 18-locates, 19-tells, 20-was, 21-were, 22-come, 23-are, 24-have survived, 25-stands, 26-entertained, 27-continues, 28-bear, 29-will stay, 30-leave/ have left.

Check Your Progress 5

1. i - blessed, ii - are attracted, iii – has been/is preserved, iv - were shifted v - was devastated, vi - were sung, vii - are made, viii – used, ix - are trapped, x -transforms
2. Do it yourself

Text for Listening: Downhill on a Bicycle

by H C Beeching

With lifted feet, hands still,
I am poised, and down the hill
Part, with heedful mind:
The air goes by in a wind.
Swifter and yet more swift
Till the heart with a mighty lift
Makes the lungs laugh, the throat cry...
'O bird, see, see, bird, I fly!'
Is this, is this your joy?
O bird, then I, though a boy,
For a golden moment share
Your feathery life in air.

Check Your Progress 6

1. A boy. Riding a bicycle.
2. His ride: swift, fly, and his feelings: heedful, laugh, joy, cry.
3. Still – hill, swift-lift, cry-fly, joy-boy, share-air, etc.

Check Your Progress 7

1. No
2. balanced
3. careful
4. The air is more or less still, the wind is moving air.

5. The cyclist
6. 'and yet more swift'
7. mighty = strong, heavy, glorious
lift = raise a weight (as of fear), a feeling of lightness i.e., the thrill of going up (as in a lift).
cry = scream from excitement, cry out of fear
8. [The heart makes a strong, brave effort to cope with the weight or tension of fear. It also brings a glorious feeling of lightness and thrill as of flying. The lungs simultaneously exhale in an effort to laugh with excitement and scream with fear.]
9. Lines 6, 7 to reflect the fear, thrill and excitement the boy feels.
The talking to the bird (inverted commas), the excited breaking pauses (at commas), the repetitions, and the exclamation mark and the defiant questioning ('Is this, is this your joy?') convey the thrill, the pride, and the happiness of the little boy. 'See', 'bird', and 'is this?' reflects the childish excitement of the boy created by the feeling that he too could fly like the bird.
10. Because even without wings he can fly.
11. The bird's.
12. The feathers in the wings of the bird; the lightness of the feathers which help the bird to fly.]
13. Because it suggests a feeling of lightness which gives the thrill of flying to the bicycle rider.