

 **Practice 21**

*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

My sister, Lia, had gone to Nepal last December for a community involvement project. She, along with nineteen other students, had volunteered to help in building schools in Nepal. They first went to the capital city of Nepal, Kathmandu. Following that, they went to the villages Nagarkot and Sarangkot, as well as the city of Pokhara. In these places, they had to cement bricks together to form the walls of the classrooms.

"It was such an eye-opening experience," recounted Lia when she returned home. "The children there do not have the facilities that we have here, but they are so motivated to learn."

"I'm glad that you went on this trip," said our mother. "What else have you learnt from the experience?"

"I've learnt not to take things for granted," added my sister. She told us that we were very fortunate to be able to turn on a switch and expect to have light in the dark of the night. I was inspired to follow in her footsteps and do volunteer work. For a start, I would volunteer in homes here. I would like to be part of a worthwhile cause.



Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the invitation. Would you be interested in attending the party?
Why/Why not?
 - Do you think every guest would dress up according to the theme?
Why/Why not?
- (b) How do you usually celebrate your birthday? Tell me about it.
 - If you could celebrate your birthday in the way you wanted, how would you celebrate it? Why?
- (c) When do you think is the best time of the year to have a birthday?
Why?
 - Whose birthday do you always remember? Why?

 **Practice 22**

*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

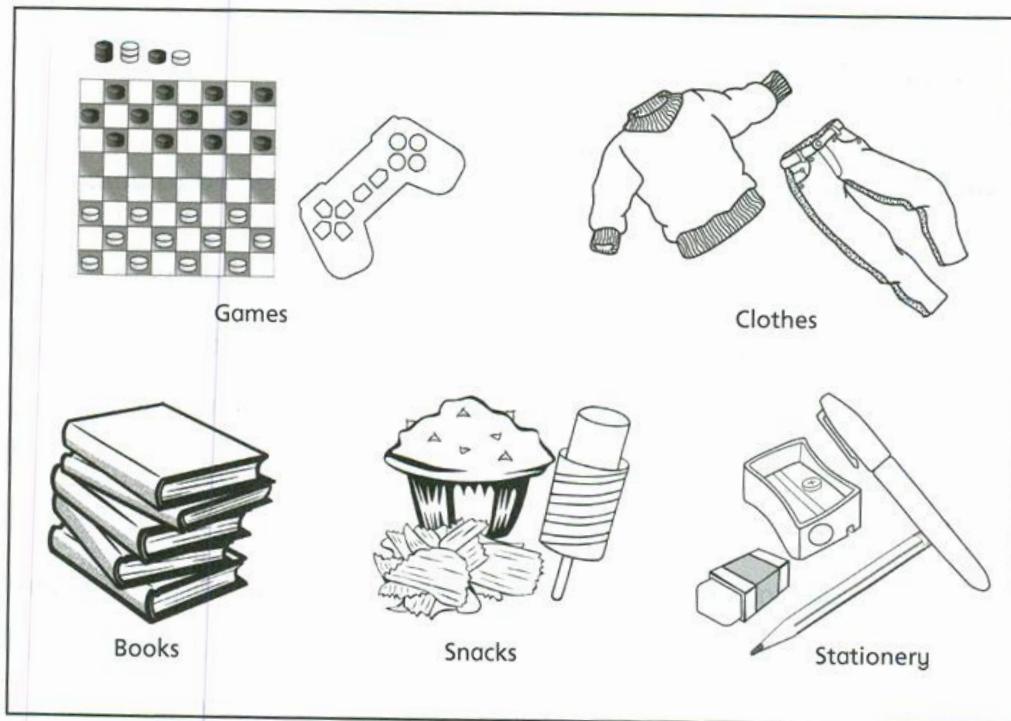
"Dad, can I buy something with the money I've saved?" Jon asked his father.

"Well, of course, son. But you should only do so if that item is beneficial and purposeful," his father replied.

"I would like to buy a new schoolbag. The one that I have currently is torn at its base and things are falling out of the bag," Jon explained. Jon started saving money four years ago. He would deposit all the money he had saved each week in his bank account at the end of every month.

That afternoon, his father accompanied him to the bank to withdraw some money for a new schoolbag. Jon felt good knowing that he had saved up a considerable amount of money. He was glad that his father had encouraged him to adopt the habit of saving money.

After buying a new schoolbag at the shopping centre, Jon treated his father to lunch. It was a simple gesture to express his gratitude to his father.

Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the picture. Which of these items do you spend most of your money on? Why?
 - What does your family spend on the most? Why?
- (b) Do you think you manage your pocket money well? Why/Why not?
 - What do you think happens when a person does not have a habit of saving money?
- (c) Imagine you have just won a competition that has a cash prize of a few thousand dollars. What would you do with the money? Why?
 - What do you think are some of the ways you can earn your own money?

 **Practice 23**

*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

My younger brother, Tim, had the habit of leaving his things lying around. He rarely placed his belongings where they should be kept. He had his digital camera, which our parents had given him as a birthday present, under his bed.

"Why is your camera under your bed? Why don't you return the camera to its case, Tim?" I asked, annoyed at his behaviour. "If you took care of it, the camera would serve its purpose for a longer period of time. Besides, that camera is very costly."

"Fine!" snapped Tim. He got onto all fours and stretched his hand underneath the bed to retrieve the camera. When the camera was successfully retrieved, Tim took one look at it and gasped. "Oh dear! The screen is cracked!" he shouted in dismay.

Our parents found out about the cracked camera screen a few days later. That year, for Tim's birthday, they did not get him any gift at all. Tim knew that he had to learn to value his belongings and not take them for granted.



Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the picture. Can you do your work with your desk like this? Why/Why not?
 - Do you take good care of your belongings? Why/Why not?
- (b) Do you think you are a person who is organised? Why/Why not?
 - Who in your family is the most organised? Tell me about this person.
- (c) What are some of the advantages of being an organised person?
 - What advice would you give your friends who are disorganised?

 **Practice 24**

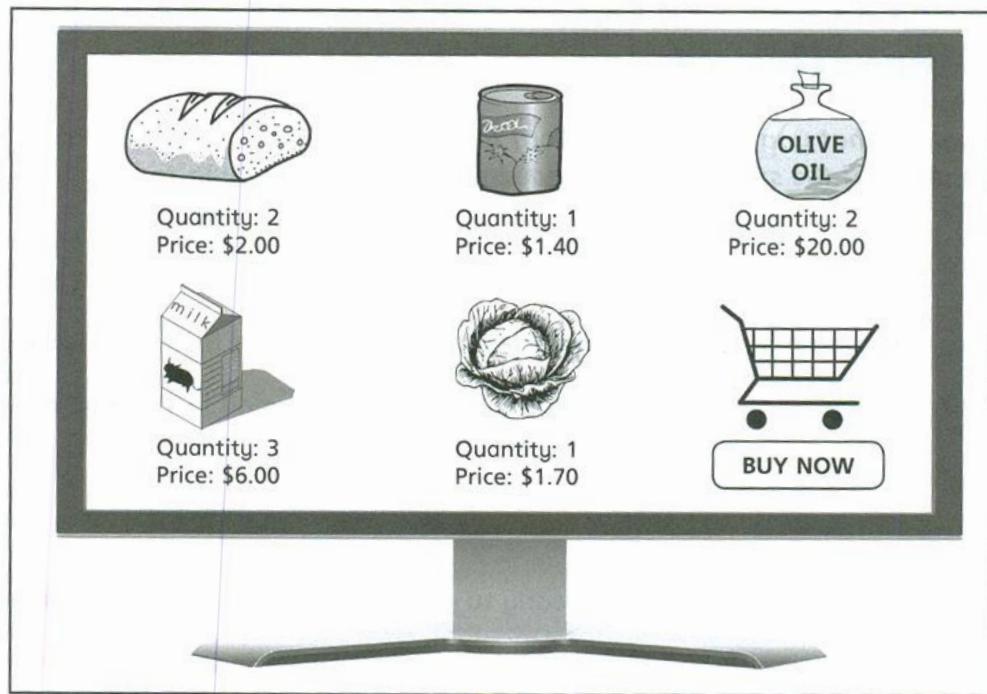
*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

I had always looked forward to going to the supermarket with my family when I was younger. I loved walking down the aisles and seeing the products stacked neatly on the shelves. As my mother grabbed the staples such as rice and dried beans, I would head for the junk food section to get my favourite chocolates.

Whenever I walked past the frozen food section, I would not be able to resist temptation. "Please, Dad, can I get three tubs of ice cream? One for you, one for Mum and one for me!" I would plead with my father.

My father had never said no to my ice cream requests. "All right, you may get three tubs, but your mother and I also get to pick our flavours," he would say.

These days, my family has adopted the practice of grocery shopping online. With just a convenient click of a button, whatever groceries we needed would reach our doorstep in a few days. I have noticed that many of our neighbours use this service too. It saves time and energy, but sometimes I do miss shopping for groceries with my family.



Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the picture. Would you and your family use this online grocery shopping service? Why/Why not?
 - Do you shop for groceries with your family? Why/Why not?
- (b) Besides groceries, what other items can be purchased online?
 - Would you buy these things online if you could? Why/Why not?
- (c) Is every online store reliable? Why/Why not?
 - What advice would you give someone who is buying something online?

 **Practice 25**

*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

The first time I tried to cook was when I was seven. I thought I would surprise my mother on her birthday by cooking a meal for her. I decided to make fried rice. All I had to do was add the rice to the oil in the wok and fry it with eggs.

On that day, I woke up very early to prepare the meal. I did everything as quietly as I could so as not to wake my mother. I carried the heavy wok to the stove with a bit of a struggle. Then, I started the fire the way I had always seen my mother do so and added some oil into the wok. Next, I poured two bowls of uncooked rice into the wok and waited.

"Why isn't the rice getting cooked?" I thought as I stirred it around with a spatula. "Rice usually looks fluffy."

Just then, my mother entered the kitchen. "What are you doing?" she cried. She rushed to the stove and switched it off. "Casey, you shouldn't be cooking without any adult supervision!"



Bake & Cook Co.

presents

COOKING AND BAKING CLASSES

Savoury Cooking:

Learn how to cook these dishes:

- Fried Garlic Fish Platter
- Beef Bolognese Pasta
- Chilli Crab
- Macaroni and Cheese

Price: \$10

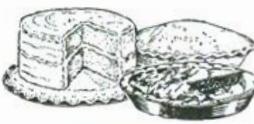


Sweets Baking:

Learn how to bake these treats:

- Cheesecake
- Chocolate Cake
- Banana Pie
- Blueberry Muffins

Price: \$7



The first ten people who register get a discount off their next cooking or baking class.

Register online now at www.bakeandco.com

Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the poster. Which class would you be interested in attending? Why?
 - Why do you think they are offering a discount off the next class for the first ten people who register?
- (b) Have you tried cooking before? Why/Why not?
 - Who usually cooks at home? Why?
- (c) What do you think are the benefits of knowing how to cook?
 - Are there any parts of preparing a meal that you might find less enjoyable? Tell me why you think so.

 **Practice 26**

*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

I sat on the edge of the bed in my older sister's room. I studied her room. It was almost empty except for the bed, her closet and the childhood toys that she no longer needed. It had been a few days since she left for Spain, but it felt like she had been gone for a long time. I was already missing her very much.

"Why do you have to leave?" I had asked her as I was helping her pack her suitcase a few days before she left.

"Well, I am furthering my studies in a university in Spain that offers a programme that I'm really interested in," she replied. "Besides, it is a good opportunity to travel the world and learn more about the culture of another country," she added. She was extremely thrilled by the idea of living abroad for a few years.

Although I was sad that my sister would be away from our family for two years, I was happy for her. I knew that she had always yearned to travel and explore the world.

OVERSEAS IMMERSION PROGRAMME

We are offering an opportunity for students to travel overseas* to discover the cultures of other students from other parts of the world.



Learn about their daily life



Observe how they learn in school

*The duration of the immersion programme is about one week, regardless of the destination.

Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the poster. Would you like to participate in the overseas immersion programme? Why/Why not?
 - Where would you like to go to for the programme? Why?
- (b) Besides overseas immersion trips, what are other kinds of school trips that take place overseas?
 - Would you like to go on an overseas trip with your school? Why/Why not?
- (c) Would you want to host others who are coming to your country for an immersion programme? Why/Why not?
 - What local activities would you recommend to an immersion programme student?



Practice 27

*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

"Good morning! How are you today?" Darren asked Madam Soh as he walked past the basketball court. The gardener was raking up the fallen leaves.

"Good morning, Darren. I'm happy because it's Friday," replied Madam Soh cheerfully. "Have a good day in school!" she told him.

Darren thanked Madam Soh and reminded her to take care of her health before he made his way to class. He was always greeting the cleaners and gardeners in school whenever he met them. He felt that it was only right to be caring towards the people who kept the school environment clean and tidy.

Darren's classmates were inspired by his behaviour and they began to do the same. They started to greet the cleaners and gardeners they met and thank them for their efforts. This made the cleaning and gardening staff feel noticed and appreciated. Darren was glad that their hard work was not taken for granted. It was unfortunate that many of them had to keep working despite their old age so that they could feed themselves. Appreciating their work was the least the pupils could do.

Taking Care of the School Environment

Ah Soon the school cleaner

His job is to ensure that the school compound is clean.

He works from 6 o'clock in the morning till 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

He mops and cleans the classrooms, the school hall, the canteen and the corridors.

He works hard to make sure that the pupils have a comfortable, clean and conducive environment for learning.



Sally the school gardener

Her job is to ensure that the garden is well taken care of.

She works from 7 o'clock in the morning till 3 o'clock in the afternoon. She trims the bushes and picks up the dead leaves from the school compound and garden.

She works hard to make sure that the garden is a conducive and beautiful place for pupils to explore and learn in.



Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the picture. Do you greet or speak with the cleaners or gardeners in your school? Why/Why not?
 - What can you do to show your appreciation for their hard work?
- (b) What do you observe about the cleaners in your school? Tell me about them.
 - Do you think they like doing what they do? Why/Why not?
- (c) There are many older people working as cleaners in our country. Why do you think they are still working?
 - Do you think you want to continue working even when you are old? Why/Why not?

 **Practice 28**

*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

"Children, let's plan our next vacation!" announced Mr Ray. He laid out the world map on the coffee table. Ken and Kim settled themselves in between their parents on the sofa. "Any suggestions?" asked Mr Ray.

"Let's go to Scotland! They have castles, lakes and mountains there!" cried Kim as she pointed to the country on the map.

"Or we could go to India or Pakistan and learn about one of the earliest ancient civilisations," said Ken, trailing his fingers over the map and pointing to the two countries.

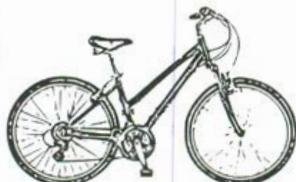
They spent the next hour listing other possible destinations. Ken preferred a destination with rich history and culture to satisfy his thirst for learning, whereas Kim liked places where she could enjoy the aesthetically pleasing landscapes and buildings. Their parents helped in narrowing the suggestions down to one which they could both enjoy. Finally, after much deliberation, they decided to go to Spain. Spain had a considerable amount of history and it had great architecture. Everyone was satisfied with the choice.

City Tour

We'll take you to monuments and places of interest within the city area!

Learn about the culture and history of our country!

CHOOSE YOUR CITY TOUR PACKAGE



Price: \$8



Price: \$12



Price: \$16

Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the poster. Which of these package tours would you choose?
Why?
 - Which of these package tours would you prefer not to join? Why?

- (b) What are the popular tourist destinations in your country? Tell me about them.
 - Which would you recommend if you could only recommend one? Why?

- (c) What do you think are the reasons that people travel around the world?
 - Would you prefer to learn about the culture of a place by visiting iconic buildings or go sightseeing outdoors? Why?

 **Practice 29**

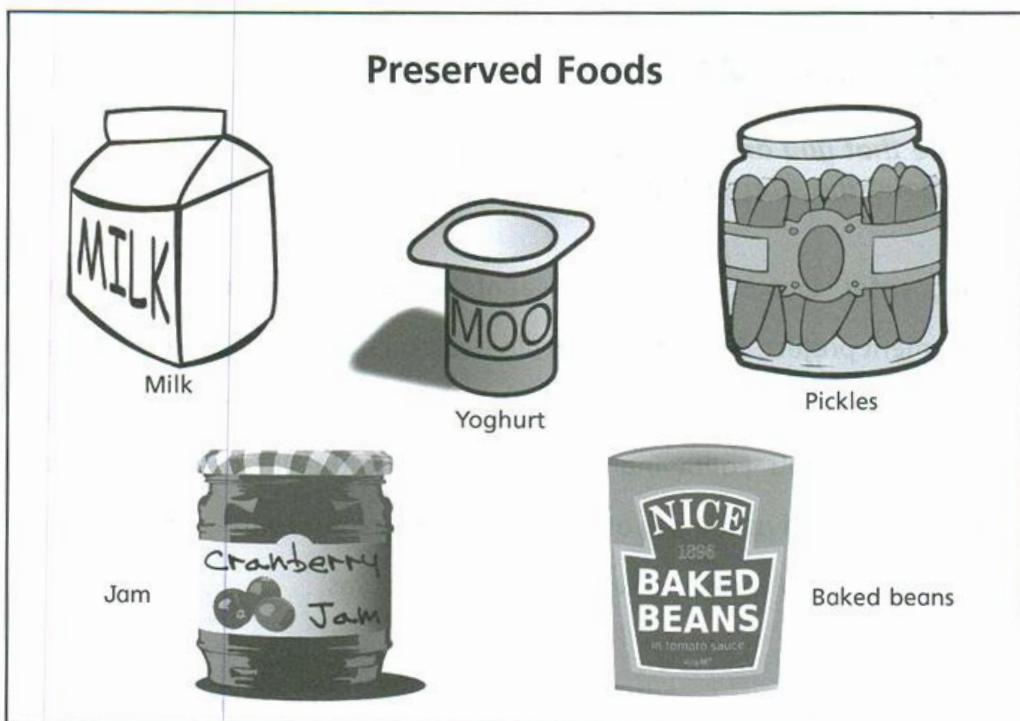
*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

"Happy birthday, sleepyhead!" Mr and Mrs Wellington stood next to Eric's bed, holding a birthday cake. Eric struggled to open his eyes. He glanced at the bedside clock. It was six o'clock in the morning.

"Mum! Dad! It's six in the morning!" cried Eric.

"Yes, we know, honey. But we're leaving for work soon in an hour's time and we don't want to miss being the first ones to wish you on your birthday!" said his mother eagerly. "And you have to wake up now to enjoy the breakfast we've prepared for you while it is hot."

When they stepped into the kitchen, Eric could not believe the spread his parents had prepared for him. It was indeed his birthday, but it seemed as though they had prepared a feast for a king! He gave his mother and father a hug. It was very sweet of them to want to celebrate his birthday with him before they went to work and before he went to school.



Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the picture. Which of these food products do you have at home? Why?
 - What is the first thing you look out for when you buy such food products? Why?
- (b) Do you think it is dangerous to eat spoilt food? Why/Why not?
 - What can you do to make sure that food products you have at home stay fresh for a longer time?
- (c) Do you observe how clean a food stall looks before deciding to buy from it?
 - Do you think it is safe to eat from stalls that you find along the street? Why/Why not?

 **Practice 30**

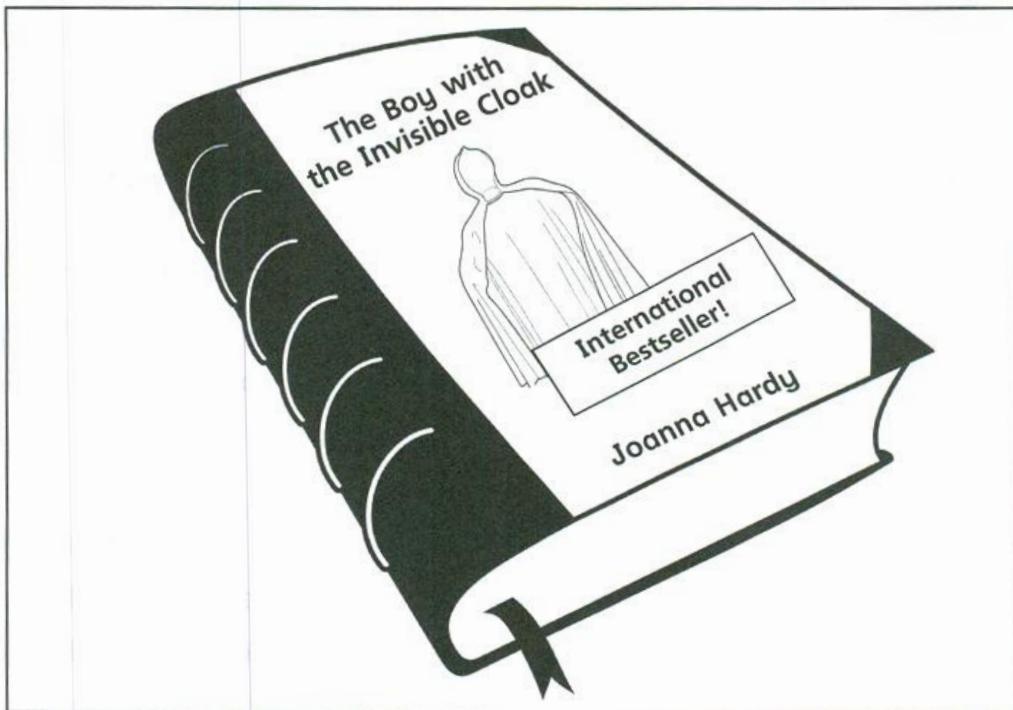
*Imagine that you are telling a story to your friends.
Read aloud the story below so that they will enjoy listening to you.*

Sally was observing her older brother as he read a book on the sofa. He had started reading the book that morning and had not taken a break since. Even when he needed to go to the toilet, he took the book with him. He seemed tickled by what he was reading. He kept laughing to himself every now and then.

"I must get hold of that book," Sally told herself. "He's enjoying it immensely. From the way he is laughing, it must be a really funny book."

She went up to her brother and sat beside him. He did not react to her presence. "Could I borrow the book when you are done reading it?" Sally asked.

"Sure, you can borrow it after I am done," replied her brother without even looking up from the book. The book was about a hundred-year-old man who escaped from a nursing home. In his attempt to escape, he found himself in peculiar situations. Sally's brother enjoyed the plot so much that it was difficult for him to put the book down even for a second.

Suggested Prompts

- (a) Look at the book. Would you be interested in reading this book?
Why/Why not?
 - What is the thickest book you have ever read? Tell me about it.
- (b) How do you choose the books that you are going to read? Why?
 - How important are book covers in getting you interested in a book? Why?
- (c) Many people read books on electronic devices. Do you like this way of reading? Why/Why not?
 - Do you think that one day books will no longer be important? Why/Why not?