



Senior 1 English (New curriculum)

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President of Uganda 2031** 

Time, t, is now!!!

Term 2

Topic 1/3: Communication Technology

Competency: The learner communicates using modern technology devices and other methods and shares own experiences of communication technology.

Lesson 1: Pronunciations

A student is required to practice the production of diphthongs /aiə/ as in fire, higher; /au/ /ə/ as in; our, flower; (o) /uə/ as in; slower, mower, /ɔiə/ as in; employer, enjoyable.

Practice tips

- (i) say the words loudly several times

Exercise 1

Read these words loudly.

Diphthong	Example Words (5 each)
/aiə/ (as in <i>fire, higher</i>)	fire, higher, entire, desire, empire
/auə/ (as in <i>our, flower</i>)	our, flower, power, hour, shower
/uə/ (as in <i>slower, mower</i>)	slower, mower, lower, fewer, newer
/ɔiə/ (as in <i>employer, enjoyable</i>)	employer, enjoyable, loyal, royal, voyage

1. Which diphthong is found in the word *fire*?
2. Give two words with the diphthong /auə/.
3. Which diphthong appears in the word *slower*?
4. Name one word with /ɔiə/ that describes a worker.
5. Why is it important to learn diphthongs in English pronunciation?

Suggested Answers

1. The diphthong /aiə/ is found in *fire*.
2. Examples: *our*, *flower*.
3. The diphthong /uə/ appears in *slower*.
4. *Employer* contains /ɔiə/.
5. Because diphthongs help learners pronounce words clearly and understand spoken English better.

Lesson 2: Communication

Communication is the **process of sharing information, ideas, feelings, or messages** between people. It can be done through words, writing, gestures, or technology. The goal of communication is to ensure understanding between the sender and the receiver.

Key Features of Communication

- (i) **Sender:** The person who gives the message.
- (ii) **Message:** The information being shared.
- (iii) **Medium:** The way the message is sent (speech, writing, phone, internet).
- (iv) **Receiver:** The person who gets the message.
- (v) **Feedback:** The response that shows understanding.

Types of Communication

- (i) **Verbal:** Speaking or writing (e.g., speeches, letters, phone calls).
- (ii) **Non-verbal:** Body language, gestures, facial expressions.
- (iii) **Digital:** Using technology (e.g., WhatsApp, email, Skype).
- (iv) **Visual:** Pictures, charts, diagrams.

Exercise 2

1. What is communication?
3. Name two types of communication.
3. Who is the “receiver” in communication?

4. Give one example of digital communication.
5. Why is feedback important in communication?

Suggested Answers

1. Communication is the process of sharing information, ideas, or feelings between people.
2. Examples: verbal and non-verbal communication.
3. The receiver is the person who gets the message.
4. Example: WhatsApp.
5. Feedback is important because it shows whether the message was understood.

Lesson 3: Communication tools

Communication tools are the devices, platforms, or methods people use to share information, ideas, and messages. They help connect the sender and receiver effectively, whether in personal, educational, or professional settings.

Examples of communication tools

Tool	Description	Use
Skype	An online video and audio calling platform.	Used for virtual meetings, interviews, and connecting with people across the world.
Mobile Phones	Hand-held devices for calls, texts, and apps.	Used for instant communication, emergencies, and daily updates.
Letters	Written messages sent through postal services.	Used for formal communication, official notices, and personal messages.
WhatsApp	A messaging app for texts, calls, and media sharing.	Used for quick chats, group discussions, and sharing documents or pictures.
Email	Digital letters sent via the internet.	Used for professional communication, school assignments, and business correspondence.

Notes for Learners

- (i) **Formal vs Informal:** Letters and emails are often formal, while WhatsApp and mobile calls can be informal.
- (ii) **Speed:** Mobile phones and WhatsApp are faster than letters.
- (iii) **Reach:** Skype and email connect communication across long distances instantly.
- (iv) **Record Keeping:** Letters and emails provide written records, useful for official purposes.
- (v) **Engagement:** Visual tools like posters and charts make messages clear and attractive.

Exercise 3

1. What are communication tools?
2. Name two digital communication tools.
3. Which method of communication is best for a formal job application?
4. What is the main use of Skype?
5. Why are letters still important today?
6. Which communication method allows sharing pictures instantly?
7. Compare mobile phones and emails in terms of speed and formality.
8. Give one example of a visual communication tool.

Suggested Answers

1. Communication tools are devices or platforms used to share information between people.
2. Examples: WhatsApp and Email.
3. **Email** is best for a formal job application.
4. Skype is mainly used for **virtual meetings and interviews**.
5. Letters are important because they provide **formal records** and are used for official communication.
6. **WhatsApp** allows instant sharing of pictures.
7. Mobile phones are **fast and informal**, while emails are **slower but more formal**.

8. Example: Posters or charts.

Exercise 4

Identify any five communication tools from the diagram below



Answers: smartphone, laptop, headphones, camera, Notebook

Lesson 4: Use adjectives, past simple tense, articles and modifiers

◆ Adjectives

Definition: Words that describe nouns.

Use: Place them before nouns or after linking verbs.

Example: *The **beautiful** garden amazed us.*

◆ Past Simple Tense

Definition: Verb form used for completed actions in the past.

Use: Regular verbs add **-ed**; irregular verbs change form.

Example: *We **visited** the museum yesterday.*

◆ Articles (a, an, the)

Definition: Words used before nouns to show specificity.

Use:

a → before consonant sounds (*a book*).

an → before vowel sounds (*an apple*).

the → for specific nouns (*the teacher explained the lesson*).

◆ Modifiers

Definition: Words or phrases that change or add meaning to another word.

Use: Can be adjectives, adverbs, or phrases.

Example: *She spoke **very clearly**.*

Example with adjective modifier: *It was **a truly memorable** day.*

Exercise 5

Read the story and answer the questions that follow

Yesterday, we **went** on **an exciting trip** to **the old library**. The building was **very large** and **beautifully decorated**. We **saw** a **rare book** and **an ancient manuscript**. The guide **explained** the history **carefully**, and my classmates were **extremely curious**.

Questions

1. Identify three adjectives in the example text.
2. Which verbs are in the past simple tense?

3. Find two examples of articles used in the text.
4. What modifiers are used to add meaning?
5. Why is the past simple tense suitable for storytelling?

Suggested Answers

1. Adjectives: exciting, old, rare.
2. Past simple verbs: went, saw, explained.
3. Articles: an, the, a.
4. Modifiers: very large, beautifully decorated, extremely curious.
5. Because it describes **completed actions in the past**, making the story clear.

Exercise 6

Read the dialogue below and answer the questions that follow in full sentences

Dialogue

Anna: Yesterday, I used **a modern mobile phone** to call my cousin. It was **very fast** and **extremely convenient**, but the battery drained quickly.

James: I wrote **a formal letter** last week. It was **quite slow**, but it gave me **a permanent record** of my message.

Anna: True. Mobile phones are **highly useful** for emergencies, but letters are **more reliable** for official communication.

James: I also tried **Skype**. It was **a wonderful tool** because I could see my friend's face. However, the internet connection was **terribly weak**, and the call dropped often.

Anna: Yes, Skype is **an effective device** when the network is strong. WhatsApp, on the other hand, is **very popular** and allows us to send pictures instantly. But sometimes people send **too many unnecessary messages**, which is distracting.

James: So, each device has **its clear advantages** and **its obvious disadvantages**. We must choose carefully depending on the situation.

Questions

1. Suggest the title of the dialogue

2. Which communication device did Anna use yesterday?
3. What was the disadvantage of James's letter?
4. Identify two adjectives used in the dialogue.
5. Which article is used before "modern mobile phone"?
6. Why did James say Skype was both wonderful and weak?

Suggested Answers

1. Advantages and disadvantages of communication devices/tool
2. Anna used **a modern mobile phone**.
3. The letter was **quite slow**.
4. Adjectives: modern, permanent, wonderful, weak.
5. The article "**a**" is used before "modern mobile phone."
6. Skype was wonderful because it allowed video calls, but weak because the internet connection was poor.

Lesson 5: Use auxiliary verbs and 'wh' questions meaningfully

Auxiliary Verbs

Auxiliary verbs (also called *helping verbs*) are used with main verbs to form tenses, questions, and negatives. Common ones include **be, have, do, will, can, must, should**.

◆ How to Use Them

- (i) Forming questions: **Do** you like football?
- (ii) Forming negatives: She **does not** play piano.
- (iii) Forming tenses: They **have** finished their homework.
- (iv) Showing necessity/possibility: We **must** study hard.

'Wh' Questions

'Wh' questions begin with words like **who, what, when, where, why, which, how**. They are used to ask for specific information.

◆ How to Use Them

- (i) **Who** → asks about a person (*Who is your teacher?*)
- (ii) **What** → asks about a thing (*What did you eat?*)
- (iii) **When** → asks about time (*When did you arrive?*)
- (iv) **Where** → asks about place (*Where do you live?*)
- (v) **Why** → asks about reason (*Why are you late?*)

Exercise 7

Read the dialogue below and answer the questions that follow

Teacher: *What did you do yesterday?*

Student: *I did my homework and watched a movie.*

Teacher: *Where did you watch the movie?*

Student: *I watched it at home.*

Teacher: *Did you enjoy it?*

Student: *Yes, I did. It was very interesting.*

Questions

1. What is the role of auxiliary verbs in English?
2. Give one example of an auxiliary verb used in a question in the dialogue
3. Which 'wh' word was used to ask about a place?
4. Write a 'wh' question for the answer: *I watched a movie yesterday.*
5. Why are 'wh' questions important in communication?

Suggested Answers

1. Auxiliary verbs help form tenses, questions, and negatives.
2. The auxiliary verb used in the dialogue is 'Do'. (i.e. Did you enjoy it?)
3. The word "**Where**" was used to ask about a place.
4. What did you do yesterday?
5. They are important because they help us get specific information.

Exercise 8

Read the story below and answer the questions that follow in full sentences

Story

At The Science Foundation College, students were learning about different **methods of communication**. Their teacher explained that **verbal communication** involves spoken words, while **non-verbal communication** includes gestures, facial expressions, and body language. She also mentioned **written communication**, such as letters, emails, and text messages, and **visual communication**, like charts, posters, and diagrams.

To practice, the class organized a debate. Maria stood up and used **verbal communication** to present her arguments clearly. James, on the other hand, relied heavily on **non-verbal communication**—he nodded, smiled, and used hand gestures to emphasize his points. Later, Sarah shared her ideas through a **written communication** method by reading a prepared speech. Finally, the team displayed a colorful poster, an example of **visual communication**, to summarize their main points.

At the end, the teacher praised them: “You have shown that effective communication is not just about speaking. It is about combining different methods to make your message clear and powerful.”

Dr. Aida Namitala

Questions

1. Suggest a title for the story
2. What are the four methods of communication mentioned in the story?
3. Which method did Maria use in the debate?
4. How did James emphasize his points?
5. What example of written communication is given?
6. Why did the teacher praise the students?

Suggested answers

1. ‘Effective communication’, ‘Method of communication’, ‘different methods of communication’

2. Verbal, non-verbal, written, and visual communication.
3. Maria used verbal communication.
4. James used non-verbal communication (gestures, nodding, smiling).
5. Sarah's prepared speech.
6. Because they combined different communication methods effectively.

Lesson 6: Difference between '...used to...' (habitual past tense) and 'I am used to...' (plus the present participle of the verb)

◆ "Used to + verb" (habitual past tense)

This structure describes actions or states that were true in the past but are no longer true.

Examples:

- (i) *I used to play football every evening.* (I don't play football now.)
- (ii) *She used to live in Kampala.* (She doesn't live there anymore.)

◆ "Be used to + verb-ing/noun" (present participle)

This structure means being familiar with or accustomed to something.

Examples:

- (i) *I am used to waking up early.* (It is normal for me now.)
- (ii) *He is used to the hot weather.* (He has adapted to it.)

Key Difference

- (i) **"Used to + verb"** → talks about **past habits or states** that have changed.
- (ii) **"Be used to + verb-ing/noun"** → talks about **present familiarity or adaptation**.

Exercise 9

1. What does “used to + verb” express?
2. Write any two sentences using “used to + verb.”
3. What does “be used to + verb-ing” mean?
4. Write any two sentences using “I am used to...” correctly.
5. How are the two structures different?

Answers

1. It expresses past habits or states that no longer happen.
2. Examples:
 - *I used to eat a lot of sweets.*
 - *I used to watch movies every Sunday.*
 - *I used to visit my grandmother in every holiday.*
 - *I used to play football daily.*
3. It means being accustomed or familiar with something in the present.
4. Examples:
 - *I am used to studying late at night.*
 - *I am used to waking up early.*
 - *I am used to eating early lunch.*
5. “Used to + verb” = past habit; “Be used to + verb-ing/noun” = present familiarity.

Lesson 7: How to Use Punctuation Marks

(i) **Full Stop (.)**

Used at the end of a sentence.

Example: *The students are reading.*

(ii) **Comma (,)**

Separates items in a list or clauses in a sentence.

Example: *We bought apples, bananas, and oranges.*

(iii) **Question Mark (?)**

Used at the end of a direct question.

Example: *Where are you going?*

(iv) **Exclamation Mark (!)**

Shows strong feelings or emphasis.

Example: *What a beautiful day!*

(v) **Quotation Marks (“ ”)**

Used to show direct speech or quotations.

Example: *She said, “I am happy.”*

(vi) **Apostrophe (’)**

Shows possession or contractions.

Example: *It’s raining. / John’s book.*

(vii) **Colon (:)**

Introduces a list or explanation.

Example: *Bring the following: pens, books, and rulers.*

(viii) **Semicolon (;)**

Connects closely related sentences.

Example: *I have a test tomorrow; I must study tonight.*

Exercise 10

1. Which punctuation mark ends a statement?
2. Write a sentence with a comma separating three items.
3. Which punctuation mark shows strong feelings?
4. How are quotation marks used?
5. Give an example of an apostrophe showing possession.
6. What is the difference between a colon and a semicolon?

Suggest Answers

1. The full stop (.).
2. Example: *I like tea, coffee, and juice.*

3. The exclamation mark (!).
4. They are used to show direct speech or quotations.
5. Example: *Mary's bag is new.*
6. A colon introduces a list or explanation, while a semicolon connects two related sentences.

Exercise 11

Read the personal letter below and answer the questions that follow

Kampala, Uganda 6th May, 2026

Dear Sarah,

I hope you are doing well! It has been a long time since we last met, and I wanted to write to share some exciting news. Guess what? I have joined the school debate club, and yesterday we had our first competition.

The topic was: *"Technology improves communication."* I spoke confidently, but I was nervous at first. My teammates—James, Maria, and Peter—were very supportive. We used posters, speeches, and even jokes to make our points clear.

Can you believe it? Our team won! The teacher said, "You communicated effectively, using both words and actions." That made me very proud.

I miss our study sessions together. When are you free? Let's plan to meet soon.

Yours sincerely, Aida

Revisions

1. Identify three different punctuation marks used in the letter.
2. Why is a comma used after "Dear Sarah"?
3. Find one sentence that ends with an exclamation mark.
4. What punctuation marks are used around the word *Technology improves communication*?

5. Why are quotation marks used in the sentence: *The teacher said, “You communicated effectively, using both words and actions.”?*

Suggested answers

1. Full stop (.), comma (,), exclamation mark (!), quotation marks (“ ”), question mark (?).
2. To separate the greeting from the name.
3. *I hope you are doing well!*
Our team won!
4. Italics and quotation marks are used to highlight the debate topic.
5. To show the teacher’s exact words (direct speech).

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Thank you

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