

2.3 Mark Twain

Warming up!

Chit-Chat

- Who is your favourite comedian?

Ans. Example:- Kevin Hart was my favourite comedian

- What do you like better to listen to a joke, or to tell a joke?

Ans. Example:- I like to listen a joke

- Do you like cartoons and cartoon films? Which one do you like best?

Ans. Example:- I like cartoons most

Quick Thinkers

Within one minute, write as many meaningful phrases as possible using the numbers given below. Do not repeat the ideas.

One: one man

Two: two roads

Three: three lamps

Four: a four wheeler

Five: five frogs

Six: six kites

Seven: seven arrows

Forty: forty flowers

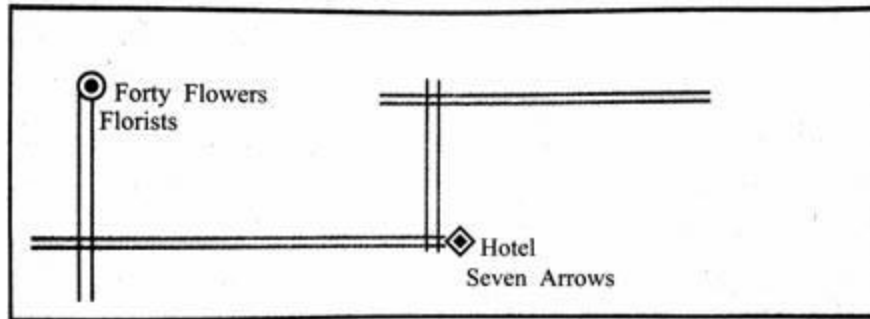
A hundred: a hundred dots

- Try to imagine a situation/context where all the above items fit in. Describe it in 8-10 lines.
- Think of a title for your passage.

Ans. Tit for tat

There was a boy in one city. He was studying in standard nine. He opened three fake Facebook accounts and started sending indecent messages to two girls from his class. The girls complained to their teacher four times but he continued sending the same kinds of messages. At last, the girls' parents complained to Five gardens police station. Six policemen from the police station came to his school and took the boy to a remand home where seven roads meet. Now the boy is in a forty feet room and taking his punishment for sending hundreds of indecent messages to the innocent girls.

- Try to draw a map incorporating your phrases in a meaningful way. (Two examples are given below.) Write a key/index for your map.



ENGLISH WORKSHOP

1. Answer the following questions :

(a) Did Twain tell the barber who he was?

Ans. Twain did not tell the barber who he was because he didn't want to disclose his identity. But he told him that it was his first visit to that town.

(b) Was Twain particular about how he dressed when he was visiting friends?

Ans. Yes, Twain was particular about his dress because when Mrs. Stowe saw him without any collar and tie she was surprised. She disapproved his dressing, it shows that he was always in formal, particular dress.

(c) Was Twain particular about what words he used?

Ans. Yes, Twain was very much particular about what words he used.

(d) Do you think Twain approved of spelling reforms? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. Twain proposed a different plan for the improvement of English spellings. He wanted to convey that further changes and reformation in English spellings would be harmful for the language. So I think he did not approve of spelling reforms.

(d) How did Twain explain the spider in the paper? What did he want to highlight?

Ans. Twain explained that the spider was on the paper to see which merchant was not advertising, so that he could go to that store; spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace afterwards. He wanted to highlight that there was no logical reason behind superstitions as the spider just happened to be there on the newspaper by chance. He also wanted to highlight that we should not believe in superstitions.

2. Read the following and write the two meanings of 'mind' and 'matter'. Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.

Ans. Here mind and matter both are used as nouns first and then they are used as verbs.

3. Enact any one anecdote in the classroom.

Ans. Example:- my experiences with my friend Shreya. She always help me in my studies and was always by my side in the classroom. When I had any doubt she always help me to solve it. She is my best friend today, tomorrow and always.

4. Translate any five of the quotations you like.

Ans. 1. The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall. - Nelson Mandela
2. The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing. -Walt Disney
3. Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma –
4. which is living with the results of other people's thinking. -Steve Jobs
5. If life were predictable it would cease to be life, and be without flavor. -Eleanor Roosevelt
6. If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough. -Oprah Winfrey

5. Form groups of four to six.

Discuss whether and how you can improve English spelling.

Ans. Example:- Use a (good) dictionary. ...

Be consistent about using British or American spellings in your writing. ...

Always check certain “troublesome” suffixes in your dictionary. ...

Create your own “difficult-to-spell” lists. ...

Learn the standard pronunciations for frequently misspelled words.

6. Arrange a Jokes' session in the classroom where each student tells a joke. The jokes must be told in English.

Ans. Example:- Teacher:- Sani, if you had 5 dollars and you asked your mother for another 5, how many dollars would you have?

Sani:- 5 dollars teacher!

Teacher:- You don't know your Arithmetic.

Sani:- But teacher, you don't know my mother!

Language study

7. Many actions involve two people/things - one that performs the action and one that is affected by the action. Example: Sonali ate the mango.

Here, the action of eating involves Sonali (who eats) and the mango (which gets eaten). Sonali is the subject and 'mango' is the object of the verb 'eat'. When you want to talk about who performed the action, the doer of the action is the subject, Sometimes, you want focus on the object the thing affected by the action. Then you make it the subject of that sentence. Example: The mango was eaten. You may or may not mention the doer - here, Sonali or the person who ate it. This is passive construction or passive voice. In this type of construction, the thing affected by the verb is the subject of the sentence, the verb is in the passive form (be + past participle), and the 'doer' of the action may or may not be mentioned. In the following examples of passive voice, the 'doer' of action is not mentioned. Examples: The plants are pruned. A cup of tea is offered to any guest... Many anecdotes related to Mark Twain are told...

If we wish to mention the 'doer' in passive sentences, we mention it by adding 'by'

before it. Examples:

This pen was given to me by my Aunt.

Note that only transitive verbs can be used in the passive voice.

8. Refer to the Language Study pages and read the entries 'irony' and 'pun'. Find one example of each from the passage or the quotations.

Ans. (1) irony - use of words to imply the opposite of what they mean.

Examples: (1) A writer is working on his manuscript; and it's a comedy.

(2) 'classic' - A book which people praise and don't read.

Ans. (2) pun - a play on words based on their different meanings, for a humorous effect.

Examples: (1) A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two-tired.

(2) Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.

8. Activity:

(a) Read the following conversation.

Vaishali: Mother, how's your new Zap3 mobile working?

Mother: Oh! It's a fantastic piece and I've got a Bhramar simcard free with this mobile but somehow the internet is not working.

Vaishali: Go to the settings and see if the mobile data is switched on.

Mother: Yes, dear, I've done that so many times, but still I am not getting connected.

Vaishali: Let's contact the customer support at Bhramar and take their help. Look, the number is given on the back of the simcard packet.

Mother: Yes. I'll contact them immediately.

Vaishali: Put your mobile on speaker phone so that I can guide you. (Mother dials Bhramar Telecom customer care.)

Bhramar CC: Hello. This is Bhramar customer care service. For information in English, press 1; for Hindi, press 2, for Marathi, press 3, to talk to our customer care executive, press 4. (Mother presses 1.)

Bhramar CC: For information regarding bills and your account, press 1; for internet queries and offers, press 2; for other services, press 3; to talk to our customer care executive, press 4. (Mother presses 2.)

Bhramar CC: For different internet plans, press: 1; to talk to our customer care executive, press 2.
(Mother presses 2.)

Bhramar CC: How can I help you? I bought a new Bhramar SIM yesterday. I have opted for the 349 rupees unlimited plan.

Bhramar CC: Yes, it is reflected against your number.

Mother: But I am not getting connected to the internet.

Bhramar CC: Go to Settings' and in APN type internet and save it. After that just switch off the phone and then switch it on again. The internet will start working. Any other queries, Madam?

Mother: No, thank you. If I have any problem, I will call you back.

Bhramar: Thanks for calling Bhramar Customer Care service. (Hangs up.)

Vaishali: See, Mummy, it's quiet simple.

Ans. Only for reading

(b) You have purchased some games CDs online through ChalaShikuya. com (CSY). You are not able to access the CD. It is published by Chhuttigames. When you contact the customer care service of Chhuttigames, what questions will you ask?

Ans. Questions to ask chalashikuya.com. customer care service of chhuttigames.

(1) Is it customer care service of chhuttigames? (2) I want to talk to the person who deals with customer complaints, who is the right person to talk to?

(3) Recently I have purchased some games CD online through your website. It's not working properly. How can I resolve my problem?

(4) Is it possible to exchange the CD?

(5) How can I send it back to you?

(6) How much time will you take to replace it?

(7) What is the guarantee that new CD will work properly?

(8) Will you return the money which I paid for CDs?

(c) Find out who the service provider is for your parent's mobile. With your parents' permission, call the customer care service to get information regarding the active plans on your number. (For example, SMS plan, internet plan, etc. and share this information in your classroom.)

Ans. Telephone conversation with customer care service.

Myself: Hello, is it Airtel Service Centre?

Myself: Yes, what can I do for you, Sir? My mother's number is 9867XXXX10 and I want to enquire about new plans for this number.

Serviceman: Could you hold on for a moment please? I will just put you through to our expert.

Myself: It's all right.

Serviceman: What do you want to ask, Sir? I can't get through to him at the moment. If you tell me, I will definitely pass on your message to him.

Myself: I want to ask about the active plan on my mobile. Especially about SMS plan and Internet plan.

Serviceman: I think the operator has hung up. I will pass on your message to him, call you back in some time.

Myself: Ok Sir, Thanks a lot!

Serviceman: Welcome Sir, Have a good day.

(d) Prepare a simple telephonic conversation based on the useful telephone phrases and expressions.

Ans. (Student can do it your own)