English Summary Note for Grade 8

Grammar Focus

Active and Passive Voice

Active Voice is when the grammatical subject performs the action.

Study the following sentences

1. Bemnet threw the ball.
2. Henok is going to make a good decision.
3. We will help the poor as quickly as possible.

1) (The subjects in the above sentences- Bemnet, Henok and we perform the respective actions.)

Passive voice is when the grammatical subject is being acted upon by another object.

Study the following sentences. (The sentences are equivalent forms of the above active sentences)

1. The ball was thrown by Bemnet.
2. A good decision is being made(by Henok)
3. The poor will be helped by us as quickly as possible.

2) (The subjects of the above sentences are ' the ball, a good decision and we'. However, these subjects do not perform actions.)

3) When changing an active voice into its equivalent passive, we must apply the form ' BE' followed by the past participle of the given verb in the active.

Examples:

a) I read some stories.(active voice)
b) Some stories are read.(passive voice)
c) We are sending the necessary money.(Active voice)
d) The necessary money is being sent.(passive voice)

Exercise

Write the passive equivalent for the active forms given below.

1. They collected the coins.
2. We have arranged the tables and chairs.
3. She will buy me a chocolate.
4. He is fixing the car.
5. My sister has done her homework.
6. He sold the car.
7. We are cleaning the rooms.
8. My parents have saved a lot of money.
9. Are you going to help them?
10. People speak Spanish around here.

Relative clauses

Relative clauses are type of clauses that can serve as adjectives to give additional information. They are formed from relative pronouns(who, which, that, whom, etc.)

Examples:

1. Here is the boy. The boy gave me the money.

   Here is the boy **who gave me the money.**

The part in bold is a relative clause. It gives additional information about the boy.

2. Where is the girl? The girl's father died a week ago.

   Where is the girl **whose father died a week ago?**

3. I found the ring. I lost the ring last week.

   I found the ring **which/ that I lost last week.**

Relative clauses are of two types:

Defining and Non- defining

Defining relative clauses help us to understand what or who is being referred to. The clause provides essential information. (N.B. No comma is necessary to set off the relative clause from the rest)

The girl **who came here early** is my sister. (who came here early defines which girl is being talked about)

Non- defining clauses do not define the noun. Simply, they give extra information. (We use comma to set off the relative clause from the rest)

Example:

1. **My house, which is near the bank, is very big.**
2. **My uncle is a dentist, who is working with you.**

Exercise

Join the following pairs of sentences

1. Give me the money. You promised to lend me the money.
2. I love my mother very much. She is smart.
3. My civic teacher is very tall. He has been away for two weeks.
4. Our school is very nice. It is 2 kilometers from here.
5. Show me the boy. The boy didn't finish the note.
6. Is this the girl? The girl's sister came from Canada.
7. Our prime minister took power three years ago. People love him.

CORRELATIVE CONJUNCTIONS

Correlative conjunctions include pairs such as "**both/and**," "**either/or**," "**neither/nor**," "**not/but**" and "**not only/but also**."

A. **EITHER….OR**: The correlative conjunction "either…or" is used to join two positive options, and only one of the two options can come true, but whichever.

EXAMPLES:

1. Either you stay or leave.
2. The sound was either a firework or a gunshot**.**

B. NEITHER… NOR: Pairs up two negative options; not even one of the two cane come true.

EXAMPLES:

1. The movie is neither comedy nor romantic.
2. You can neither watch a movie nor go out for a game.

C. NOT ONLY…BUT ALSO: This emphasizes that the second- mentioned thing can equally be true to the first.

EXAMPLES:

1. **He is not only clever, but also he is disciplined.**
2. **Not only is she a liar, but she is also a thief.**

D. BOTH…. AND: This conjunction is used to indicate the two mentioned things have equal chance to come true**.**

EXAMPLES:

1. **Both Helen and Semira stopped talking to me.**
2. **We went both to the gallery and the theater.**

AS…AS: If you want to compare two things and say that one contains a certain quality to the same extent as the other, you can use the correlative conjunction "as…as."

EXAMPLES:

1. **This is really as cold as ice.**
2. **Natnael is as tall as any basketball player.**

Exercise

1. _____the picture_____ the sound is clear. Please search for other channel.
   A. Either /or B. Neither / nor C. Both /and D. Not only /but also
2. _____ sleep here with me _____ go home before it gets dark.
   A. Both /and B. Neither /nor C. Either / or D. Not only /but also
3. My sister is _____high scorer _____obedient. That is why every teacher likes her.
   A. Both / and B. Neither / nor C. Either / or D. Not only /but
4. _____ Meron _____ her sister can attend the program. It is meant only for adults.
   A. Both /and B. Neither / nor C. Either / or D. Not only /but
5. Your answer is _____ intelligent _____ I expected.

A. as…….as B. both…. and C. as……but D. as…….. to

6. We must _____ tell the truth_____ accept the punishment. We have no other alternative.
   A. either……. nor B. neither…….. or C. neither….. nor D. either……or
7. Come with _____ your sister _____ your brother. I want to talk to them.
8. They are _____ Japanese_____ Syrians. They are English.
9. My mother is_____ tyrant_____ my father.
10. I can _____ remember her name_____ recognize her face.

Some English Tenses

TYPE OF TENSE	SIGNAL WORDS AND PHRASES	USE	FORM (AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE	
1. **PRESEENT SIMPLE**	every day sometimes always, often, usually, never, seldom	•something happens repeatedly •how often something happens •one action follows another •things in general •with verbs like (to love, to hate, to think, etc.) •future meaning: timetable	he/she/it: infinitive + s	For negatives: - DON'T+ V1 - DOESN'T +V1	
2. **PRESENT PROGRESSIVE**	Now, at the moment, look, listen	something is happening at the same time of speaking or around it •future meaning: when you have already decided and arranged to do it (a fixed plan, date)	be (am/are/is) +ing	be (am/are/is) +not +ing	
3. **SIMPLE PAST**	last ....., ago in 1990, yesterday	action took place in the past, mostly connected with an expression of time	regular: infinitive + ed irregular: (2nd column of table of irregular verbs)	Did not + v1	

4. **PRESENT PERFECT**	just, never, ever, yet, already so far, up to now, since, for, recently	•you say that sth. has happened or is finished in the past and it has a connection to the present •action started in the past and continues up to the present	have/has+ past participle* *(infinitive + ed) or (3rd column of table of irregular verbs	Have/ has + not	

Exercise

Put the verbs in the brackets into correct tense.

1. I_____ to the cinema two nights ago.(go)
2. My friend _____ music every night.(listen)
3. They _____ this car. It looks new again.(clean)
4. Listen! The girls _____ the piano. (play)
5. Dani _____ that fiction this evening.(read)
6. Meron and Saron often _____ lunch to school. (take)
7. We _____ them anything when they were here. (not tell)
8. Wait! I_____ to the station. (drive)
9. He _____ his sister in April. (see)
10. We rarely _____ to those places. (go)

Reported Speech

Speeches can be reported either directly or indirectly, though indirect reporting is often preferred and sounds more comfortable. When reporting indirectly, some changes are expected: tense, ppronoun and time and place adverbs.

→ present simple to past simple → present perfect/ simple past to past perfect → present continuous to past cont → today to that day, now to then → here to there…….

Examples:

Direct speech: I'm working here.

Indirect speech: the man said (that) he was working there(the place mentioned)

Direct sp: We need some money.

Ind. Sp: The girls said that they needed some money.

Exercise

Report the following speeches using indirect speech.

1. We know everything.
2. She came yesterday.
3. I don't want to go.
4. We are doing things nicely.
5. She has done her best.
6. We were cleaning the rooms.
7. My children like coke.

Increase Your Vocabulary

Study the following phrasal verbs

phrasal verb	meaning	example sentence
ask sb out	invite on a date	Brian asked Judy out to dinner and a movie.
back sb up	support	My wife backed me up over my decision to quit my job.
let sb in	allow to enter	Can you let the cat in before you go to school?
work out	be successful	Our plan worked out fine.

turn up	appear suddenly	Our cat turned up after we put posters up all over the neighbourhood.
turn something down	refuse	I turned the job down because I don't want to move.

Exercise

Guess the meanings of the underlined words and phrases using context.

1. The Fire kept me dry and warm because I was soaked.
2. After looking into it for an hour, we came up with an idea that we should help them.
3. Can you hold off doing that for a moment. I think you need our advice.
4. When he made **insolent** remarks towards his teacher they sent him to the principal for being disrespectful.
5. I love cooking, but I detest grocery shopping.
6. While I live an extravagant lifestyle, my brother leads a frugal existence.

Grammar part 2

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES

Conditional Sentence Type 1

It is possible and also ***very likely*** that the condition will be fulfilled.

Form: *if* + Simple Present, will-Future

Example: If I find her address, I'll send her an invitation.

Conditional Sentence Type 2

It is possible but ***very unlikely***, that the condition will be fulfilled.

Form: *if* + Simple Past, Conditional I (= would + Infinitive)

Example: If I found her address, I would send her an invitation.

Conditional Sentence Type 3

It is ***impossible*** that the condition will be fulfilled because it refers to the past.

Form: *if* + Past Perfect, Conditional II (= would + have + Past Participle)

Example: If I had found her address, I would have sent her an invitation.

Exercise

Complete the following sentences using conditional forms.

1. **If they knew this, _____**
2. **What will you say if she _____**
3. **She would have given him more money if_____**
4. **If you don't know her,_____**
5. **If they had collected enough money,_____**
6. **_____, he would make good decision.**

ENGLISH WORKSHEET FOR GRADE 8

1. I really have no idea how the mistake _____ in the first place.

   A. came through B. came about C. came off D. came round

2. **Wongel to Kalkidan:** My father is coming back from Jimma tonight.
   Kalkidan to Mahlet: (the next day)

   A. Wongel told me that her father was coming back tonight.
   B. Wongel told me that my father was coming back last night.
   C. Wongel told me that her father is coming back last night.
   D. Wongel told me that her father was coming back last night.

3. Long ago, it _____ that diseases _____ from sinful acts of people.

   A. believed ……. caused C. was believed……. caused

   B. was believed…… were caused D. was believing…….were caused

4. The first time I _____ she cheated on me, I was completely frustrated.

   A. was finding out C. founded out

   B. was found out D. found out

5. We_____ a lot about the English tenses ever since we joined grade three.

   A. were learning B. are learning C. learned D. have been learning.

7. When my parents ____ for the visit tomorrow, they will see my baby for the first time.

A. will arrive B. arrive C. have arrived D. are going to arrive

7. You can't always succeed in life. Sometimes, failure is **inevitable. (inevitable)** means

A. sudden B. impractical C. unavoidable D. improbable

8. *We _____forget the good things people do to us. It is good to be grateful.*

A. may not B. cannot C. have to D. should not

8. **Why _____ to her like this? Please calm down.**

A. were you talking C. are you talking
B. have you talked D. do you talk

10. ***It _____ long ago that she _____ the money.***

A. has been…… sends C. was…… sent
B. is……. was sent D. was…… didn't

11. **It _____ a long time since we met.**

A. was B. is C. has been D. have been.

12. If you don't know what a word means, you can look it_____ in a dictionary.

A. up B. on c. through D. within

13. She **<u>came into</u>** a large fortune.

A. inherited B. calculated C. gathered D. maintained

14. A new hotel_____ in the centre of the town.

A. is built B. is being built C. is going to build D. has built

15. The woman, who has been missing for 10 days, is believed _____

A. to be abducted C. to be abducting

B. to have been abducted D. to have been abducting

16.Hermela: It's a great honor to be your guest.
Meron: _____.

A. Yes, of course C. What's that
B. I don't worry D. The pleasure is mine

17.She _____ soon, is she?

A. has not come C. is not coming
B. was not coming D. doesn't come