UNIT 2

Dad Bakes a Lemon Cake

A kitchen can sometimes be the heart of a home especially when Dad's the cook!

Now don't get me wrong. Dad is an excellent cook. He can cook up a delicious rajma and pea pulao to go with it. His tandoori chicken is to die for and he can even make a pizza from scratch with all the toppings of our choice. But..... and I repeat I'm not being nasty to Dad or speaking about him behind his back, but... when we hear the words, 'I feel like cooking today,' we all take off in different directions. Of course, that doesn't mean we are free to enjoy a Sunday morning in any way we please. For soon there are urgent calls from the kitchen, 'Karan, can you come here for a minute,' or 'Rhea, I need some help,' and then like obedient children, we creep into the kitchen carefully. The whole experience of being in the kitchen with Dad is fraught with danger. There's always the chance of there being a slippery piece of onion on the floor or a small pool of water near the sink when Dad's at work. I have had the uncomfortable experience of slipping and sliding straight into the kitchen counter in just such a pool.

So, when at breakfast one day Dad announced, 'Right, I'm going to try my hand at baking today, so what's it to be a lemon cake or a baked vegetable with white sauce?' we got up and prepared ourselves to leave the room as hastily as possible.

Grandma sighed and said, 'I have to finish that pullover I'm knitting.' Not waiting for an answer, she walked out briskly to look for the unfinished pullover and a comfortable chair. Grandpa had already left to meet his friends at the park, so he was not there to comment.

Rhea got up and said, 'I've some homework to do.' Mummy just smiled patiently in a long –suffering manner.

Dad turned to me, 'So Karan, it's the two men today: you and I.' Now there was no way of getting out of it, so I just nodded, unsure of what I should say. Out of the window went my plans of reading the new book I'd got from the library.

After much discussion, a look at the larder and a peep into the fridge, we

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fraught with danger : full of danger; very dangerous

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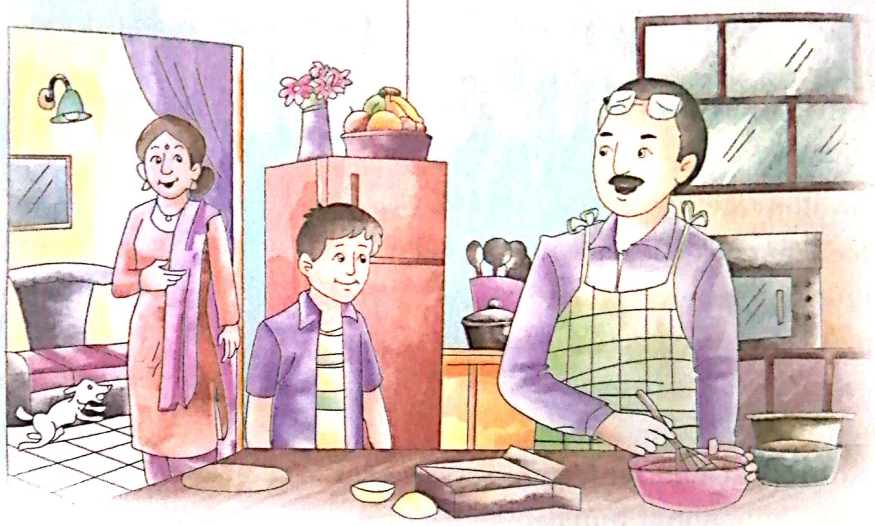
decided that it was to be the lemon cake. Of course Dad's plan to begin the task at hand immediately was vetoed by Mummy. We were unceremoniously asked to vacate the premises and were allowed into the kitchen once again after Mummy had cleared the breakfast dishes away.



'Now Karan,' said Dad, 'here's the recipe in your mother's cook book. Hmmm… now what do we need?' He peered at the book his glasses perched on his head.

'It might help if you wear your glasses, Mohan.' said Mummy. 'They're there on your head.'

'Right, of course, I can see better now. Bring the flour, Karan, and Geeta, could I have six eggs and a measuring cup, please? Where is Rhea? Surely she can do her homework a little later. Rhea! Rhea I need you for a while.'

So there we were: Mummy was separating egg whites and I was measuring flour when Rhea joined the band of helpers. She set the temperature and put on the oven. Dad continued to study the recipe. He took the mixer out of the cupboard and put it on the counter. 'I need vanilla essence and some lemons, Geeta, do we have some?'

'Mohan, you should have warned me that you were going to bake a cake today. The vanilla essence has finished.'

'I'll go and get some, Dad,' I said and started to slip out of the kitchen, anything to get away from it all.

'No, never mind,' said Dad, while reading out loud from the book. 'Add lemon juice and lemon zest…. Now what's this lemon zest thing, Geeta?'

vetoed : over-ruled
unceremoniously : impolitely; abruptly
vanilla essence : flavouring agent made from the vanilla bean

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'It's just a bit of grated lemon peel, Mohan,' said Mummy. 'It adds flavour to the cake.'

'Yes, I knew I had heard that term before! Now I need the grater,' he began pulling out drawers and searching frantically for the grater while Mummy took it off a hook on the wall and patted him gently on the shoulder with it.

'Oh you found it, Geeta!' said Dad sounding like a drowning man who'd just been handed a rubber ring.

Ruff, the puppy, couldn't bear the thought of being left out. He ran into the kitchen wagging his tail when he found the whole family there. Of course, Rhea who was backing away from the oven almost stepped on him. He squealed and ran off into a safe corner. He sat down and looked at all of us, his mouth open, tongue hanging out. The hectic activity in the normally-quiet kitchen confused him.

Grandma decided to join us just at this most chaotic juncture. Ours is a family that eats together and cooks together, especially on a day when Dad is at the helm. 'So, have you got all you need for the baked vegetables, Mohan?' she said. 'I think you'll need some more cheese. Karan finished the last bit at breakfast. Now Mohan, you know I like plenty of cheese in my baked vegetables. If you're sending Karan out for some cheese, I need a tube of toothpaste. I left it out of the shopping list I gave Geeta yesterday.'

'Mama, I am not making baked vegetables today. I am baking a lemon sponge cake,' said Dad, happily.

'Mohan, remember to separate the egg yolks and whites,' she advised. 'Do you want me to beat the egg whites?'

'It's all under control, Mama,' smiled Dad happily. 'Where's Papa?'

'Here I am,' said Grandpa. 'So, we're cooking today. I hope it's something sweet.'

'Now Raj,' said Grandma, 'no sweets for you. I saw you spreading jam on your toast this morning. You know what Dr. Sethi said.....'

Dad meanwhile was beating the butter and sugar in the mixer. He had just started adding the egg yolks when one egg yolk landed on the floor and Ruff dashed excitedly towards it, almost tripping up Mummy. This was bound to happen and Mummy had a pained look on her face as she shooed Ruff out of the kitchen. Finally, after many near crises and some tense moments when the electricity department, in its often misunderstood

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frantically : desperately
hectic activity : lots of movement and sometimes disorganized activity
chaotic juncture : at this most confusing moment

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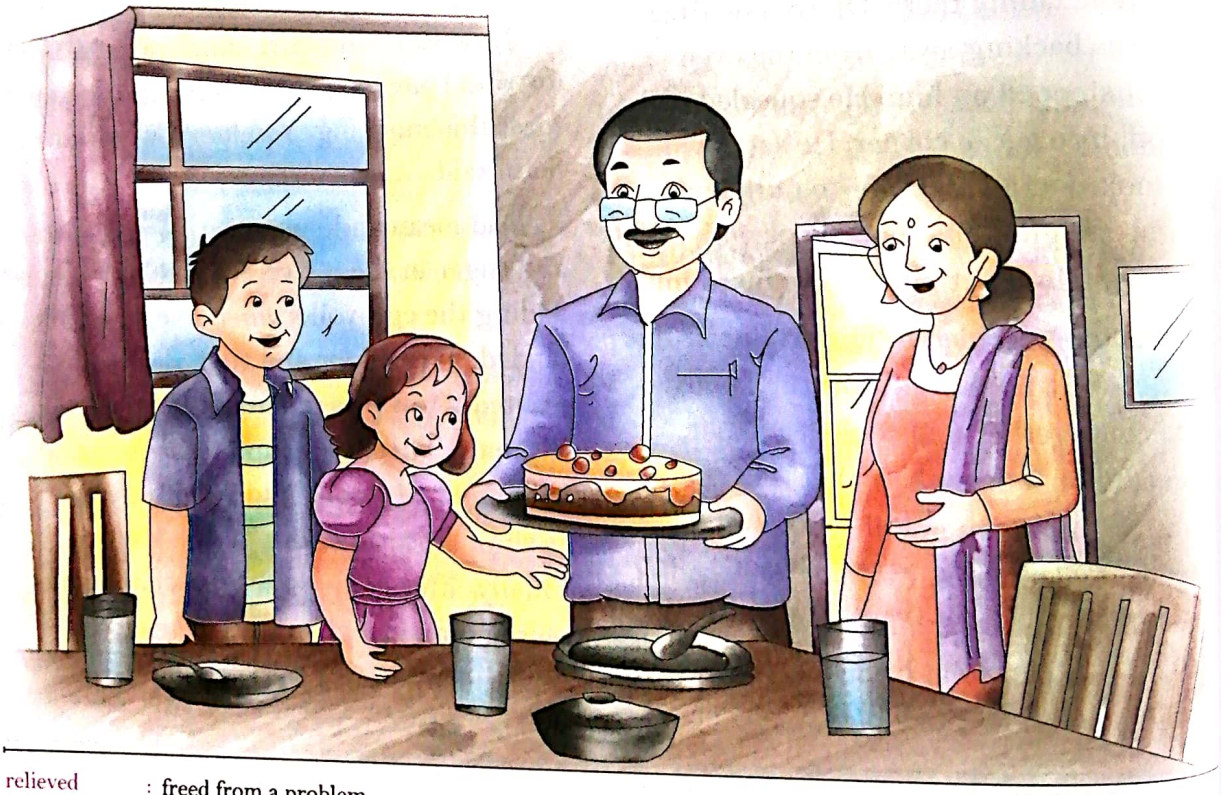
wisdom, decided to switch off the current for five minutes, Dad poured the batter into the cake tin and put the tin in the oven. Relieved, we dashed out of the kitchen. Dad washed his hands and wiped them on a towel and followed us.

I looked back and saw Mummy looking helplessly at the state of her usually neat and clean kitchen. Then she frowned, 'All of you, back in here! Help me to clean up, or there'll be no cake for anyone.' We trooped back slowly and helped to clean up the mess: flour on the counter, egg yolk on the ground, batter dripping off the mixer jar and egg shells near the stove.

Mummy can be very much like a colonel commanding a unit and her troops dare not disobey her. It took some effort, for not an eggshell or a drop of lemon juice could escape Mummy's eagle eye and high standards of cleanliness, but soon everything was ship-shape again and we were sent off to do our Sunday chores.

An hour later the fragrance of lemon cake filled the house and after a while Dad emerged from the kitchen triumphantly with a perfect specimen on a plate. It tasted scrumptious too! All was forgotten as we enjoyed a mid-morning coffee and cake break.



relieved : freed from a problem
triumphantly : as if a victory had been won
scrumptious : extremely delicious

REA

A. 1. Tick
used

a. His t
(i)
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b. He c
(i)
(ii)
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(iv)

c. Mum
(i)
(ii)
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d. We
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(ii)
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e. 'Oh
han
(i)
(ii)
(iii)
(iv)

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READ AND ANSWER

A. 1. Tick (✓) the best options to explain the following sentences/phrases as they are used in the account given above.

a. His tandoori chicken is to die for.
   (i) so tasty that you long to eat it
   (ii) so tasty that you'd do anything to get it
   (iii) so delicious and well-made that you'd consider dying just to have it
   (iv) so tasty that you'd give anything just to eat it

b. He can even make a pizza from scratch.
   (i) He could make a pizza right from the beginning.
   (ii) He could make a pizza from baking the base to putting on the toppings all by himself.
   (iii) He could make a pizza all by himself.
   (iv) He knew how to make a pizza step by step from beginning to end.

c. Mummy just smiled patiently in a long -suffering manner.
   (i) Mummy had been through all this before so she just smiled to show that she was ready to tolerate it as usual.
   (ii) Mummy bore it all patiently.
   (iii) Being well-used to Dad's way of cooking, Mummy smiled patiently.
   (iv) Mummy got ready to patiently bear the noise and confusion that Dad's cooking created.

d. We were unceremoniously asked to vacate the premises.
   (i) We were asked to leave the kitchen.
   (ii) We were quite abruptly asked to leave the kitchen.
   (iii) Quite firmly we were all asked to clear out from the kitchen.
   (iv) Mummy wanted us to be out of her way while she cleaned the kitchen.

e. 'Oh you found it, Geeta!' said Dad sounding like a drowning man who'd just been handed a rubber ring.
   (i) When Mom handed Dad the grater he was really happy.
   (ii) When Dad was given the grater, he sounded like a man whose life had just been saved.
   (iii) When Dad got the grater, he sounded very much like a drowning man who has just been saved.
   (iv) Dad was so happy to get the grater that he sounded like a man who had been saved from death.

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A. 2. **Read the quotes from the story and answer the questions that follow with reference to the context.**

a. 'I feel like cooking today.'

(i) Who said the above words and to whom were they said?

(ii) What effect did the words have on different members of the family?

b. 'Yes, I knew I had heard that term before.'

(i) Who said these words and to whom were they said?

(ii) What term was the speaker referring to?

(iii) Why was this particular item needed?

c. 'All of you, back in here...'

(i) Who said these words and to whom were they said?

(ii) Where did the speaker want everyone to go?

(iii) Why did the speaker want everyone to go back into the room?

A. 3. **Answer the following questions.**

a. How many people were there in the family? Name them.

b. Which member of the family is narrating the story?

c. Who added to the confusion and how?

d. How did the electricity department take part in the whole event?

e. Why was everyone relieved when the cake was put into the oven?

A. 4. **Could Dad have made the cake himself? Why? Why not? HOTS**

WRITING

B. 1. **Write a character sketch of Geeta. Use examples from the story to support what you say about her.**

B. 2. **More and more men are becoming famous chefs. There are also TV shows in which children, who are younger than you, are cooking better than their parents. Have a classroom discussion about this. Have you ever helped your parents in the kitchen? Describe the experience. If you haven't, imagine such an experience and describe it in a few paragraphs.**

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SPELLING AND PRONUNCIATION

C. Read these words aloud. Pronounce them correctly. Complete the table. Add three more words in each column.

changeable, chaos, crochet, chimpanzee, parachute, chemist, machine, chairman, brochure, monarch, chalk, scheme, chandelier, channel, stomach

When 'ch' sounds as in chain	When 'ch' sounds like 'k' as in ache	When 'ch' sounds like 'sh' in chef
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

VOCABULARY

D. Use the following words and phrases in sentences of your own.

speak about someone behind his/her back; try your hand; in a long-suffering manner; task at hand; get away from it all; at this most chaotic juncture; like a colonel commanding a unit; an eagle eye

GRAMMAR

The forms of the verb **be** are is/isn't, am/am not, are/aren't, was/wasn't, were/weren't. When used with **will**, the form of the verb **be** doesn't change.

They can also be used as **helping verbs**: am/is/are/was/were/will be/won't be eating.

Has/hasn't/have/haven't/had/hadn't can also be used as **helping verbs**.

has eaten/hasn't eaten; have done/haven't done; had finished/ hadn't finished

We can change declarative sentences where the above verb forms have been used, into interrogative sentences (questions).

Notice the position of the subject in each interrogative sentence.

He is Preeti's friend. Is he Preeti's friend? He isn't Preeti's friend. Isn't he Preeti's friend?

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They are/were friends. **Are/Were** they friends?
They are/were playing cricket. **Are/Were** they **playing** cricket?
She **has/had eaten** her lunch. **Has/Had** she **eaten** her lunch?
They **have/had gone** to school? **Have/Had** they **gone** to school?
They **will/won't be coming** to the party. **Will/Won't** they **be coming** to the party?

E. 1. Change the following **Declarative sentences into Interrogative sentences** (Questions).

a. They will be meeting us tomorrow afternoon.
b. That is a crocodile swimming in the lake.
c. They are going to the planetarium this morning.
d. She is busy at the moment.
e. She won't be able to meet Maya.
f. They have shifted to a new apartment.
g. He has changed his address.
h. He is using another bus to get to school.
i. They are in Class VIII now.
j. They aren't studying in our school.

Sometimes we use verbs of action without helping verbs in Positive and Negative sentences. To change them into questions, we must use **do/don't/ does/doesn't/did/ didn't.** Read the following examples and learn how to change Positive and Negative sentences into Interrogative sentences

She **composes** poems. **Does** she **compose** poems? (**does** added)
She **doesn't** compose poems. **Doesn't** she **compose** poems? (no words added)
They **write** good compositions. **Do** they **write** good compositions? (**do** added)
They don't write good compositions. **Don't** they **write** good compositions? (no words added)
She **wrote** an email to her friend. **Did** she **write** an email to her friend? (**did** added)
She **didn't write** an email to her friend. **Didn't** she **write** an email to her friend? (no words added)
He **has** a sister called Henna. **Does** he **have** a sister called Henna? (note the changes.)
He **had** a great time in Kolkata. **Did** he **have** a great time in Kolkata? (Note the changes.)

E. 2. Rearrange the wo
Interrogative sent
a. Hamid left his lun
b. They enjoy myste
c. She fell down the
d. Seema dances ver
e. The Principal gave
f. We have to go to
g. The birds became
h. He has many frie
i. He doesn't know
j. The cat didn't dr

E. 3. Fill in the blanks

who, which, wh
often, how long

a. _____ stude
b. _____ is tha
c. _____ is the
d. _____ one o
e. _____ are y
f. _____ is you
g. _____ juice
h. _____ are y
i. _____ is the
j. _____ specta
k. _____ do you
l. _____ far fro

A Question Tag is
Use a Positive que
home yet, has he?
Use a Negative qu
hasn't he?

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E. 2. Rearrange the words in these Declarative sentences to change them into Interrogative sentences (questions). Make other changes as required.

a. Hamid left his lunch box in school today.
b. They enjoy mystery stories.
c. She fell down the stairs and hurt her arm.
d. Seema dances very gracefully.
e. The Principal gave the students their prizes.
f. We have to go to the auditorium right now.
g. The birds became silent when the tiger walked through the jungle.
h. He has many friends.
i. He doesn't know how to do this exercise.
j. The cat didn't drink the milk.

E. 3. Fill in the blanks with these question words and phrases:

who, which, whose, when, where, why, what, how, how many, how much, how often, how long

a. _____ students are there in your class?
b. _____ is that strange man standing at the front gate?
c. _____ is the little girl looking so lost?
d. _____ one of these books is yours?
e. _____ are you going during the summer holidays?
f. _____ is your brother returning from Canada?
g. _____ juice are you going to drink?
h. _____ are you going to keep staring at that test paper?
i. _____ is the title of the book you are reading?
j. _____ spectacles are lying on the dining table?
k. _____ do you go out with your friends?
l. _____ far from your home is your school?

A **Question Tag** is a short question added at the end of a statement.
Use a **Positive question tag** at the end of a **negative statement:** He **hasn't gone** home yet, **has he?**
Use a **Negative question tag** at the end of a **positive statement:** He **has gone** home, **hasn't he?**

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E. 4. Complete the following with the correct positive or negative question tags.

a. They are ready to leave, _____?

b. He is older than you are, _____?

c. He will come here today, _____?

d. It didn't rain today, _____?

e. I was going to come home with you, _____?

f. They have had their dinner, _____?

g. He won't be accompanying us to the museum, _____?

h. I'm not in the hockey team again this year, _____?

i. We were just pretending to be angry, _____?

j. She does need some help to complete the assignment, _____?

PUNCTUATION

1. **Capital letters:** Use them
   a. at the beginning of each sentence: The cat was out of the bag. It wasn't a secret any more.
   b. to begin all proper nouns: Harish and Hamid belong to New Delhi.
   c. for the pronoun 'I': Harish, Hari and I are good friends.

2. **Use these marks at the end of sentences:**
   Full Stop (.) It is a very cloudy, damp day. We should stay indoors.
   Question Mark (?) Is it a cloudy damp day? Should we stay indoors?
   Exclamation Mark (!) What a cloudy, damp day! Oh! No! We have to stay indoors!

3. **Comma: We use a comma:**
   a. to link two sentences: He was sick, but he went to school. When he reached school, he got quite ill and had to be sent home.
   b. while making a list of more than two names, verbs and adjectives. The last two items are linked by AND: Rene, Shamim, Kartik and Rishab are absent today. She is tall, slim and very athletic. He hopped, skipped, jumped and ran home happily.

4. **A Semi-colon** is used to separate two statements that are linked: Mrs. Ali is kind and generous; she helps the poor and needy whenever possible.

5. **A Colon** is
packet of
he'd lost h

6. **A Dash** is
weather-it

7. **Apostroph**
a. possess
is smar
b. that a
been l
not-sh

8. **Hyphen:**
Compoun
Compoun

9. **Quotatio**
a. to me
b. to ide
said,
"Meet

E. 5. Punctuate
a. i have rea
all written
b. why is tha
trying to s
c. alice tried
d. tom lay in
e. the gupta
f. my friend
g. bessie our
what do y
wriggling
store roon
h. read these
telephone
for you

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5. **A Colon** is used before a list or an explanation: Please buy me: a kilo of sugar, a packet of chocolate -chip cookies and some cartons of milk. He was very upset: he'd lost his favourite story book.

6. **A Dash** is used informally in place of a semi-colon or a colon: We're enjoying the weather-it's cool, but sunny.

7. **Apostrophe:** Use the apostrophe to show:
   a. possession: Rita's sandals are really comfortable. The girls' new sports uniform is smart.
   b. that a word has been shortened. Place it in the place where the letters have been left out: it is-it's; will not-won't; who is-who's; were not-weren't; should not-shouldn't

8. **Hyphen:** Use it in some compound words if required.
   Compound Nouns: sister-in-law; x-ray; jack-in-the-box; rock-climbing
   Compound Adjectives: four-bedroom; two-seater; double-decker

9. **Quotation Marks are used:**
   a. to mention a word or phrase: The little boy wrote a perfect 'A' on the blackboard.
   b. to identify direct speech: Single or double quotation marks can be used. He said, 'We are looking forward to our summer holidays.'
   "Meet my brother," said Nirmal, "he studies in Mumbai."

E. 5. **Punctuate the following. Capitalise letters as required.**

a. i have read little women good wives little men jos boys and eight cousins they were all written by louisa may alcott

b. why is that radio so loud asked mrs ahmed turn down the volume at once everyone is trying to sleep

c. alice tried to go into the garden through the tiny door but she was too big and tall

d. tom lay in bed he thought of all the excuses he could make not to go to school that day

e. the gupta family sat in the waiting room because the train was late

f. my friend rusi went bungee jumping while he was on holiday in Australia

g. bessie our labrador rushed into the store room she ran to a large cardboard carton what do you think we saw in it there were about six or seven pale brown lab puppies wriggling around on an old blanket is this why you were always rushing up to this store room Bessie said mom

h. read these instructions on the box don't open the carton ring the company on the telephone number given below an engineer will come and install the television set for you

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LISTENING

F. Listen carefully and tick the best answers.

1. a pool of water near the sink/a slippery piece of onion
2. the oven/the kitchen counter
3. Dad wanted to check on the provisions available./Dad wanted to see if he could make some baked vegetables.
4. lime juice/grated lemon peel
5. to grate some cheese/to grate the lemon peel
6. Grandma/Dr. Sethi
7. He didn't like a noisy kitchen./He was not used to such hectic activity in the normally quiet kitchen.
8. He was happy, because he had succeeded in making a perfect lemon cake./In spite of all the confusion, he had made what he wanted to and it had turned out to be a success.

SPEAKING

G. Ask the student next to you at least five statements ending with question tags. He/She will answer and in turn ask you five statements ending with question tags that you will answer.

LIFE SKILLS

H. Parents work hard to provide a good home, good food and a good education for their children. It doesn't end there. Parents give their children their time, they love them and take care of them when they are ill. How do you help your parents? Are you assigned any duties at home? Do you do your duties? What is family time? Do you have at least one meal together? Do you talk about your day during family time? How does this help?

Have a class discussion on this topic. Talk about the things each one of you is responsible for at home. Make your parents' life easier. It will also help you to grow and accept responsibilities. It is a preparation for the life you will live when you grow up. Give each other ideas about what you can do at home to give your parents a time to relax. Your teacher will organize the discussion and help to keep it going.

UNIT 3

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couldn't be helped
suddenly taken a s
resigned from his
change tracks in h
pack up and leave
goodbye to all my
And now we were
changed circumst
We had to hang i
cloud too would

My second da
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inter-school athl
teams were to be
Every house had
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last minute ener
pats on appropri
boosts.

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legs to keep off
also, I guess, fro
come from Calc

circumstances : con
anxiety : wo
appropriate : sui

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