

Module 11

Speech: Listening Comprehension

In this module, the teacher will read a passage while you listen attentively. After that, you will be allowed to ask a few questions and discuss briefly. Following that, the same passage will be read out to you once more, and then you will have to answer the questions that follow.

The teacher now reads the passage for this section in Appendix 2.

Questions

1. The passage has established the fact that
 - A. the lion is the biggest animal in the cat family.
 - B. the tiger is the biggest animal on land.
 - C. the tiger is the biggest animal in the cat family.
2. The lion has been called the king of the beasts first, because
 - A. its mane makes it appear as if it is wearing a crown.
 - B. it has a bigger head than other animals.
 - C. it is more ferocious than other animals.
3. Secondly, the lion has been called the king of the beasts because
 - A. its mane makes that title to fit it.
 - B. when it roars, the terror puts other animals in their place.
 - C. there is no other animals that can defeat it in a fight.
4. The passage has shown clearly that whereas carnivores eat flesh,
 - A. no other animal does so.
 - B. they feed on carnivores only.
 - C. vegetarians feed on leaves only.
5. From the passage we can conclude that animals of the cat family would
 - A. attack and kill any other animal.
 - B. kill and eat any other cat member.
 - C. attack and kill those other animals they can easily overpower.

Structure: The Past and the Past Perfect

In the earlier classes, you have learnt about the past and past perfect tenses. In this module, we shall review the use of past perfect tense and note the differences between this tense and the past tense.



Read the following dialogue aloud:

Papa: Obi, why *did* you not *cook* my lunch?

Obi: I *cooked* your lunch, Papa.

Papa: Are you sure?

Obi: I *had cooked* your meal, before you *left* for the meeting in the morning.

Papa: That *is* very good. Now, where *is* your mother?

Obi: She *went* to the market.

Papa: Market? Didn't she hear that Amina *has* a new baby?

Obi: Mama *had left* for the market when Mama Amina *brought* the news.

Various tenses have been used in this dialogue. Place each tense under the appropriate column. One has been done for you.

Present	Past	Past Perfect
1. Cook		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

The past tense is used for events that occurred and ended in the past. When two events occurred in the past, the past perfect is used to state the event that occurred first. The past perfect tense is used for an action

which started and was completed in the past.

The past perfect tense is made up of two parts:

had+past tense.

Consider Obiâ€™s response in the dialogue above:

1.I *had cooked* your meal before you *left* for the meeting this morning.

We have two tenses in this sentence:

- i. had cooked â€” Past Perfect
- ii. left â€” Past.

From the sentence, which action took place first?

The cooking occurred before Papa left.

Because one action occurred before the other, it would be very right to write both tenses in the past tense, e.g.

I cooked your meal before you left this morning.

The correct thing is to put the first of the two past actions in the past perfect tense and then leave the second past action in the past tense:

I had cooked your meal before you **left** for the meeting this morning.

Here is another example:

2. Suddenly Mama remembered that she promised to call her daughter.

This sentence is not quite correct.

The two actions!: **Mamaâ€™s promise** and **Mama remembering** occurred in the past. Which one occurred first?

The promise occurred before the remembering.

The earlier past would be better expressed in the past perfect tense, not simple past. So, it is more correct to say:

Suddenly Mama remembered that she had promised to call her daughter.

The purpose of the past perfect is to make clear which of two past actions occurred before the other. This tense is sometimes called â€˜past in the pastâ€™.

Exercise

A. Say which of the two actions occurred first in the following sentences:

1. Mary had finished her meal before I arrived.
2. The Banjos had moved to their new house when the landlord sent the quit notice.
3. The bank had been burgled when the police came in.
4. Mamaâ€™s telephone had stopped ringing when she picked it up.
5. The film had ended when the lights went out.

B. Join these sentences to show that an action comes before

the other.

1. Henry played tennis for three hours. He slumped.
2. She was married for seventeen years. She took in.
3. I completed my assignments. I attended the wedding.
4. The children played all day. They slept soundly.
5. The film started. The governor arrived.

C. Form 10 sentences from the table below:

She		cooked	the yam	before he arrived.
His mother	had	fried	the meat	before he entered.
The lady		washed boiled		before he came in.

Reading Comprehension

Consider and discuss the following:

- ⌚ Have you ever wished you were someone else?
- ⌚ Have you tried to model yourself after a very important person you admire?
- ⌚ Have you ever thought of the possibility of that hero also wanting to be someone else?
- ⌚ Similarly do you ever think it would be possible for you, the imitator, to have the same level of attainment as the person you are imitating?
- ⌚ This poem should make you think anew along these lines.

Now read the following poem.

Be Yourself

The best person to be is yourself,
Imitators never excel, never attain perfection;
And never achieve the heights of their potentials.
Perfect in yourself the stuff God has put in you
Because the best person to be is yourself.

5

An imitator is never himself,
Can never mentor to others,
An imitator perpetually mimics others
Leaving nothing in him for others to mimic
The best person to be is yourself.

10

A driver aiming to overtake the front driver
Must ply a track different from that front runner's;
So long as he treads the same track
He will forever remain a follower not an overtaken

You cannot imitate Shakespeare and excel him;
 Nor can a Soyinka imitator beat him in word-craftsmanship
 At best, he'll only be a sad shadow of those pen masters;
 To excel in writing, choose another track;
 The best person to be is yourself.

20

You cannot imitate Michael Jackson and beat him,
 Nor can a Lagbaja imitator beat him in masquerading;
 At best you can cut a sad shadow of a performer;
 To excel in entertainment, choose another track;
 The best dancer from your end is you.

25

Did God make a mistake in making you?
 Look into the mirror, whom do you see there?
 Yes, you won't see the one you are imitating there;
 You are you, and he, the perfect person, is he;
 The best person to be is yourself.

30

Yes, you can have a model in focus,
 You can borrow a leaf from a favourite hero,
 But not beyond learning from such,
 Not beyond perfecting on their steps;

35

Be yourself, the best person to be.
 Be yourself, develop yourself,
 Improve yourself, attain new heights;
 Aim at a height higher than your mentor's,
 Seek new ways to sharpen yourself;
 That way you'll be imitated.

40

Now answer the following questions:

1. Within the lines, there is a line which repeats the same idea in different words. Which is it?
2. What does it mean to perform to one's potentials?
3. The second stanza claims that an imitator cannot be himself. Why do you think this is so?
4. What does it mean to mentor others?
5. According to the third stanza, what should a car driver do before he can overtake the car in front?
6. The poet in the fourth stanza makes references to Shakespeare and Soyinka. What is the warning being given here?
7. The same idea is repeated in the fifth stanza with respect to the entertainment world. Why do you think the poet needs this seeming repetition?
8. To drive home his point, what illustration does the poet use in the sixth stanza?
9. a. In what way does the poet, in the seventh stanza, depart from the

- warning he had been giving in the earlier stanzas?
- What point is he making in this seeming departure?
- What is the general advice given in the final stanza?
- What does it mean to “sharpen” oneself?
- Do you agree with the main point being made by the poet? Give reasons for your view.

Vocabulary Development

Agriculture: Words associated with agricultural implements

We shall be examining another register of agriculture: words associated with agricultural implements. Quickly make a list of some agricultural equipment you have seen in a sheet of paper. Also make a list of those whose English names you do not know.

Now quickly go through the list of the agricultural implements in the following table:

A	B
tractor	cutlass
hoe	basket
axe	sickle
planter	wheelbarrow
harvester	garden fork
shears	rake
digger	silo barn
shovel	bulldozer
spade	wicker sieve
wicker	

Activity I

Use your dictionary to get the meanings of the implements indicated in the following table. The first one has been done for you.

Implements	Meanings
Sickle	A tool with a curved blade and a short handle used for cutting grass or corn.
Silo barn	
Garden fork	

Harvester
Planter
Wheelbarrow
Shears
Digger
Spade
Axe

Activity II

Make a list of other words associated with agricultural implements apart from those mentioned in this module.

Continuous Writing: Report Writing I

You often listen to news and reports on the radio and television. This is just an act of telling the readers or listeners what happened in the past. You learnt in JS1-3 how to make reports to the police or other law enforcement agents. In this section, you will learn more about report writing.

In order to write a good report, you need to consider the following tips:

- a. Go straight to the points and avoid unnecessary preambles.
- b. Do not include unnecessary details (that could mar the report).
- c. In writing or making a report, the use of the past tense is very essential. This is because you are reporting an incident that happened in the past.
- d. The use of appropriate registers relevant to the field of activity you are reporting is very important.
- e. The conclusion of your report should be very clear; that is, you should try to make your stand known about the issue you reported.

Examples of this kind of writing include reports of cases of:

- a. Fire accident
- b. Armed robbery
- c. Motor accident
- d. Arson
- e. A fight
- f. Student's riot or unrest