

Lesson 2

Tense :
Present simple/continuous

Vocabulary :
Adding prefix and suffix

Reading
Writing

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Presentation-1

Life after Retirement

SUFIA Begum is a retired teacher of a Government school in Rangpur. She is a widow and lives alone. Her two children, a son and a daughter, are married and live with their families in Dhaka. Sufia Begum has a lot of free time which she spends reading books, watching TV, visiting friends and relations and occasionally writing letters to her old colleagues. She's generally quite happy with her retired life, but at times she feels bored. Now she's thinking of doing something more meaningful than just socializing. A friend of hers is running a school for adults. Sufia knows that she is looking for some experienced teachers. She could surely go and teach there!



As she is thinking about these things, a letter comes. Sufia Begum opens the envelope, unfolds the letter and starts reading.

SAHARA Banu, also a retired teacher and a former colleague of Sufia Begum, lives with her husband in Bogra. Unlike Sufia, Sahara Banu is a very busy person. She has little free time as she does a lot of social work. At the moment she is planning to establish an old people's home in her locality. She knows quite a few elderly people who live alone and often feel helpless and miserable for lack of care and support. Sahara Banu is going to people's homes, from door to door, talking to them, finding out about the elderly people in their families and their needs. She's doing all this to create awareness among the people about the lonely, old and distressed people. At the same time, she is trying to raise funds from different sources.



Sahara Banu needs many people's help to make her vision come true. She remembers Sufia who she knows is looking for something meaningful to do. She sits down to write a letter to her friend.

Activity 1: Vocabulary

Read the passages carefully and choose the appropriate meanings of the words as used in the passages.

bored a) annoyed
b) tired
c) angry

socialising a) doing social work
b) preaching socialism
c) enjoying spending time with other people

miserable a) anxious
b) ashamed
c) very unhappy

awareness a) consciousness
b) feelings
c) beliefs

fund a) found
b) money
c) an organization

vision a) dream
b) eyesight
c) aim

distressed a) disturbed
b) under pressure
c) in great suffering

Activity 2: True or False?

Read the following statements and say if they are true or false. If false, then say why you think so and give the right answer.

Sufia is a lonely person.
Sahara Banu and Sufia Begum teach in the same school.
Sahara Banu spends most of her time taking care of her husband.
Sufia wants to start an adult school. She decides to write to her friend for help.
Sufia Begum lives with her husband and two children.

Sahara Banu is writing a book about old people's suffering. She thinks that no one else except herself can help the old people of the society.

Activity 3: Writing a letter

Suppose you were Sahara Banu. Write a letter to your friend Sufia Begum telling her what you are planning to do and how you are spending your time working for that. Use Present simple/continuous forms of verbs as needed. You can use the following guides.

Dear _____

How ___ you ___ doing/ I ... hear ... you ... something...worthwhile/ have ...plan/ know old...physically weak... lonely people/...need our ... and .../ I... set up ... old home.../ need ... help/

At the moment...meet different people... talk...exchange views/ try ... raise... fund/ help ... if you ... join.../ together ... do a lot/

I... write...some...former colleagues.../ Write ... me... soon/ wait... eagerly... your reply/

Best

Note : Word formation

We can extend our knowledge of vocabulary by adding **prefixes** and/or **suffixes** to the base word form.

Examples:

happy/unhappy/happiness/
unhappiness

A **prefix** is a letter or a group of letters placed before a word or a root to make a new word.

When you add a prefix to a base word, the spelling of the base word does not change. The meaning of the prefix can be a clue to figure out the meaning of an unfamiliar word. For example, *mis-* means "wrong or wrongly", therefore, you can figure out that *misunderstand* must mean "to understand wrongly".



A **suffix** is a letter or group of letters placed at the end of a root or a word. *Suffixes change the function and sometimes the meaning of a word.* For example, *hard* means difficult. Add *-ly* to *hard*. *Hardly* means rarely.

Look at the example below and see how the function of the word changes when a prefix or a suffix is added to it.

Adjective	Adverb	Noun	Verb	Negative
Happy	happily	happiness	-	unhappy

The spelling of the root or base word may also change when a suffix is added. **For example:** happy / happiness / happily.

Activity 4: Using prefix and suffix

A. Look at the following words from the two passages in **Presentation 1**. Write down the prefix/suffix(es) in each word.

Example: occasionally, al ly

occasionally, generally, meaningful, social, socialize, unlike, awareness, unfold

B. Put the words under the right heading below:

C. Can you guess the base word of each of the above words. Write down the base word under the right column, too. One is done for you.

Adjective	Adverb	Noun	Verb	Preposition	Negative
occasional	occasionally	occasion			

Presentation-2

A Letter

Dear Rehana,
I'm sitting in the college canteen and writing to you. I'm waiting for a friend. I often come here in the afternoon for tea and snacks. The place is usually full of people at this hour, but today it's quite empty. May be because it's raining outside, or perhaps because exams start from tomorrow and most of the students are busy studying. Only four or five junior students are drinking tea and chatting at a corner table, and at another table, a young man is reading a book while waiting to order.

I want to give you some good news. My elder brother is a painter. He is now participating in a group art exhibition in Kolkata. He called father this morning to say that one of his paintings has won an award. I'm so happy! And I miss him, too, although you know, when he's around, he's always giving me orders, or teasing me. Father says that the award giving ceremony is at seven this evening and my brother is coming home tomorrow.

Well, I must stop now. My tea is here and I can see my friend at the door too.

Write to me soon.
Seema

Activity 5: Identifying Present simple and continuous forms

Read the letter in **Presentation-2** and underline all the verbs in the present simple and continuous forms. One has already been done for you. Now put the rest under the right categories given below:

- Present simple for facts and description: e.g.
My elder brother is a painter.
- Present simple for frequent events
- Present simple for the future
- Present continuous to mean things happening now
- Present continuous for the future
- Present continuous for repeated events

Doctor!
Hospital!!
Ambulance!!!



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