

Unit 1

Good Show!

Reading Corner

Tears on the Stage and Off

Read the diary entry and complete the exercise.

24 July

Is she there?

The question lingered as the curtain was rising. She didn't give a definite 'yes' or 'no' when I invited her.

5 Moving to the edge of the stage, as required by the script, I failed to resist the temptation. I cast a quick glance across the audience, but to no avail. The faces down there were barely visible in dimness. This a-fraction-of-a-second distraction however was sufficient to make the lines escape my mind. My mouth was open but I did not hear the words
10 that had automatically come out during rehearsals! I felt sweat running down my back. My head somehow turned slightly and my eyes squarely caught the spotlights. The piercing light made my eyes water. It also brought me back to 'reality': the lines came back...

Before leaving the backstage, I browsed through comments on me in the
15 feedback questionnaires: 'stunning performance', 'totally immersed in the role, with tears streaming down cheeks,' 'well done'... My memory lapse did not seem to have been noticed. I felt relieved. But I felt more ashamed!

Approaching the theatre entrance, I was thrilled—and tearful!

20 She was there!

Comprehension

Choose the best answer and blacken the circle.

1. The writer was looking for _____.

- A. a fellow actor
- B. his girlfriend
- C. his mother
- D. his sister

A B C D

2. It was a _____.

- A. play
- B. concert
- C. movie
- D. stand-up comedy

A B C D

3. The writer was a/an _____.

- A. actor
- B. stagehand
- C. script writer
- D. costume designer

A B C D

4. The writer forgot his _____.

- A. position
- B. rehearsals
- C. role
- D. speech

A B C D

5. The writer felt ashamed (lines 17–18) because he had accidentally _____ the audience.

- A. neglected
- B. ignored
- C. cheated
- D. forgotten

A B C D

Tip!

Read lines 9–10.

Tip!

Where did the writer find her?

6. 'She' was _____.

- A. in the audience
 B. in the backstage
 C. in the toilet
 D. on the stage

A B C D

ABC Vocabulary Corner

Words Related to Performance

Fill in the blanks with the words given.

flute	guitar	stand-up comedian	breakdancer
curtains	script	scenery	props
actresses	costume	sound effects	stagehands

Do You Remember...?

- script (n): 劇本
- props (n): 道具
- costume (n): 戲服
- stagehand (n): 舞台工作人員

Lily: Are you serious about putting on a play at the school Christmas variety show?

Tony: Of course, I am! I actually have got a story in mind. I will write the (1) _____. I need someone who can play the (2) _____.



Lily: No one in our class plays any wind instruments.

Tony: Fine. I can change it to string...

Lily: Susan can play the (3) _____.

Tony: Great! Who can make clothes for actors and (4) _____?

Lily: Ann was the (5) _____ designer last year.

Tony: Good.

Lily: What kind of (6) _____ do you need?

Tony: A forest, a hill, a river...

Lily: Tracy and John can take care of it.

Tony: We need (7) _____ such as tables, chairs, a bed, etc.

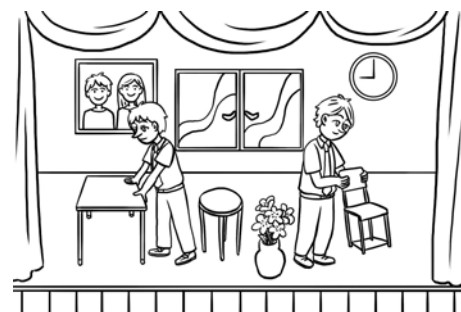
Lily: Who can help move them onto and out of the stage?

Tony: Billy and Sunny are experienced

(8) _____.

Lily: They will also open and close the

(9) _____, won't they?



Tony: Correct.

Lily: What about (10) _____?

Tony: Simon knows how to play with amplifiers, loudspeakers, etc.

Lily: So there will be nine members on our team, counting you and me, won't there?

Tony: Eleven. I also need a

(11) _____ and a

(12) _____.

Lily: Brian is a great dancer, and Peggy tells funny jokes.



Tony: Terrific!

 **Language Corner****Let's Review**  **Participles****I. Present participles**

- Form: **verb + ing**
e.g. taking, walking, standing
- Use:
 - (i) to express an action happening **at the same time** as another (both actions done by the same person)
e.g. **Whistling** to himself, John walked down the road. (John whistled to himself as he walked down the road.)
 - (ii) to express an action happening **just before** another (both actions done by the same person)
e.g. **Putting** on his coat, he left the house. (He put on his coat and left the house.)

II. Perfect participles

- Form: **having + past participle**
e.g. having done, having sent
- Use: to express one action happening before another. It emphasizes that the first action **is completed** before the second one starts.
e.g. **Having read** the instructions, he switched on the fax machine.

III. Past participles (passive voice)

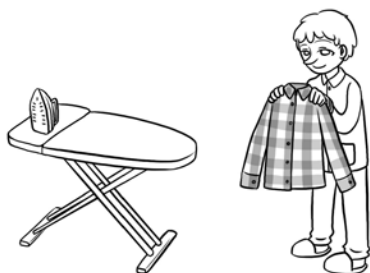
- Form:
 - i. regular verbs (**verb + ed or d**)
e.g. bumped, chased
 - ii. irregular verbs
e.g. beaten, bitten
- Use: to express one action which happened just before another. It is used to show **passive voice**.
e.g. **Bitten** by a dog, he cried loudly.

Let's Practise 

A. Combine the sentences by using present participles or perfect participles. The first two have been done for you as examples.

e.g. Wayne dug through the wardrobe. He picked a chequered shirt.

Digging through the wardrobe, Wayne picked a chequered shirt. (or Having dug through the wardrobe, Wayne picked a chequered shirt.)



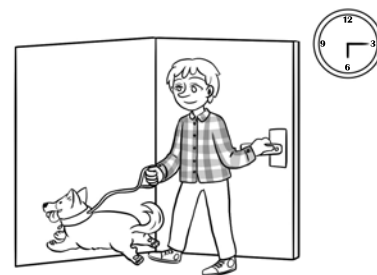
He washed and ironed the shirt very carefully. The shirt looked fresh and crisp.

Washed and ironed carefully, the shirt looked fresh and crisp.

1. He made sure it was 6.15. He went out with his dog.

_____, he

_____.



2. He reached the corner shop. He stopped to wait.

he _____.

Writing Corner

Magic Spice for Deliciousness: Sharing

Fill in the blanks with the words given.

spices	mean	joining	without	guests
much	lesson	sharing	no	nothing
shouldn't	don't	abandon	relationship	

SCENE 1

MOTHER and SON in living room, a week before 'Mango Festival'

MOTHER: How many of your friends are

(1) _____ our 'Mango Festival' this year, darling?

SON: None.

MOTHER: What do you (2) _____?

SON: I just don't want anyone to come.

MOTHER: What's wrong, my dear?

SON: (3) _____ you think it's unfair? Every year, we prepare food, they come and eat, and then go.

MOTHER: They're our (4) _____, honey!

SON: (5) _____ they have invited me back to a party or so of theirs?

MOTHER: (*smiling*) Not every mum has the time and kitchen skills to entertain her children's friends.

SON: Why can't they just buy some food and...

MOTHER: Not everyone has as (6) _____ pocket money as you do, and not every home is as guest-friendly as yours due to one reason or another.

SON: I don't care. I am inviting (7) _____ one.

MOTHER: You're sure, a party (8) _____ friends?

SON: (*silent and sullen*)



Dr Know-all's Corner



Hi! People call me Dr Know-all because I know everything.
 'Doggie' or 'Doggy' is a child's word for 'Dog'.
 A child's word is usually formed by adding -y or -ie to the original word. There are exceptions.

Try to match the child's words with the original words.

Original words

- cat •
- rabbit •
- father •
- doll •
- handkerchief •
- mother •

Child's words

- mummy
- hanky
- kitty
- bunny
- dolly
- daddy