

REGINA PACIS COLLEGE, GARKI II, ABUJA.
FIRST TERM 2026/2027 SESSION
E-NOTE ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE

CLASS: SS1

WEEK 1

TOPIC 1: CONSONANT CHART

A consonant sound is a sound that is articulated/produced with a complete or partial obstruction of the airstream. For instance, when the /p/ sound is articulated, there is a total obstruction of the airstream by the lips. However, when a consonant like /f/ is produced, there is a partial obstruction of the airstream by the lower lip and the upper teeth. There are 24 consonant sounds in the English language. Below is a consonant chart:

	Place of Articulation							
Manner of Articulation	Bilabial	Labio dental	Dental	Alveolar	Post-alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Plosive (Stop)	p b			t d			k g	
Nasal	m			n			ŋ	
Fricative		f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ			h
Affricate					tʃ dʒ			
Approximant					ɹ	j	w	
Lateral Approximant				l				

For sounds that appear in pairs, the sound on the **left** is voiceless, and the sound on the **right** is voiced

TOPIC 2: NOUNS- TYPES OF NOUNS

A noun is a naming word. Anything we can touch, see, smell, taste, hear and hold can be referred to as nouns. Almost every sentence will definitely have a noun and they perform different roles in a sentence. Examples are: Tony, man, Nigeria, classroom, table, rat, honesty etc.

TYPES OF NOUNS

Nouns can be classified into the following:

1. **Proper Noun:** it is the specific name of a person, place or thing. They always begin with a capital letter. Examples are: Rose, Regina Pacis College, The Redeemed Christian Church of God etc.
2. **Common Noun:** just as the name implies, it is the general name of people, places or things. They are not capitalized unless they appear at the beginning of a sentence. Examples are: school, pen, country, church, etc.
3. **Concrete Noun:** names of things that can be seen or touched. Examples are: book, table, cup, coffee etc.
4. **Abstract Noun:** these are names of concepts that we can only feel. They can't be seen nor touched.
5. **Countable Noun:** refers to nouns that can be counted, followed by **a/an** or pluralized e.g. egg, fan, tables etc.
6. **Uncountable Noun:** refers to nouns that can't be counted, followed by **a/an** nor pluralized e.g. advice, dust, weather, tea, oil etc.

ASSIGNMENT: Describe and give ten examples for each of the following nouns:

- Compound noun
- Collective noun

TOPIC 3 : COMPREHENSION – Reading to Comprehend Main Ideas

Passage: Johnny Hallyday's Family Feud (New Concept English, page 3-5)

- a. He sang a love/romantic song.
- b. ...
- c. She felt determined to restore peace at all cost.
- d. They cited the French constitution to back up their claim.

ASSIGNMENT: Reread the passage and answer questions E-H.

TOPIC 4: REGISTER OF HOME AND FAMILY

A home is a place where people live together as a family and share love, care and support. Family is a group of people related by birth, marriage or adoption.

Words Associated with Home and Family

Nuclear family

Extended family
Siblings
Parent
Relative
Children
Uncle
Home
Kindred
Foster
Couple
Grandma
Stepbrother
Elder
Conjugation
Origin
Kitchen

ASSIGNMENT: Write out 20 words associated with home and family , and their meanings.

TOPIC 5: NARRATIVE ESSAY/ COMPOSITION

What is a narrative essay?

A narrative essay is an essay that tells a story or gives a detailed account of an event. The events or stories may be factual or imaginary. It usually follows a chronological order of beginning, climax and ending. On the contrary, some writers often prefer to begin at the end and use flashback to tell their stories.

EXAMPLES OF NARRATIVE ESSAY

1. Writing an account of a road accident.
3. The Journey to Makafa forest
4. Make hay while the sunshine
5. A fight I witnessed
6. One good turn deserves another

FORMAT OF NARRATIVE ESSAY

1. Introduction
2. Body
3. Conclusion

ASSIGNMENT: Write an essay on the topic “ The Fight I Witnessed”.

WEEK 2

TOPIC 1: MANNER OF ARTICULATION

Manner of articulation refers to how the various speech organs make contact during the production of a particular speech sound. In English, the manners of articulation are:

1. **STOPS/PLOSIVES /p,b,t,d,k,g/:** These sounds are made with a total obstruction of the mouth/ oral cavity. The built-up air in the oral cavity is forcefully released through the mouth with a small sharp explosive noise called **plosion**.
2. **FRICATIVES /s,z,f,v,j,ʒ, ʰ,ʰ,h/:** these sounds are made with partial blockage of air. The air has to be forced out through a narrow passage created by two articulators/ speech organs that have come together during the production of the speech sound.
3. **AFFRICATES /tʃ,dʒ/:** The initial production of these sounds begins with the tip of the tongue coming into contact with the alveolar ridge thereby causing a total blockage of the oral and nasal cavities. However , the built up air is released through a narrow channel just like the fricatives.
4. **NASALS /m,n,ŋ/:** these sounds are produced when you totally block air flow through the mouth and let the air pass through your nose.
5. **APPROXIMANTS[CENTRAL]/w,j,r/:** these consonants are articulated with little obstruction of air. They are also known as **semivowels**.
6. **APPROXIMANT[LATERAL] /l/:** this sound is made with the tip of the tongue touching the alveolar ridge, thereby causing air to flow through the sides of the mouth.

ASSIGNMENT:

New Oxford English page 83

TOPIC 2: READING TO COMPREHEND MAIN IDEAS

PASSAGE: Between Morality and the Law (New Concept English, page 18-20)

- a. The raid by officials of Lagos State Environmental Task Force and Special Offices Unit on strip clubs in Ikeja generated the controversy in the passage.
- b. The action was necessary because some girls dance nude on stage.
- c. Everyone wasn't in support. Some felt the girls hadn't broken any law.
- d. The copying of the West, disregarding the consequences.
- e. He felt the government ought to have arrested the patrons of the strip clubs.

ASSIGNMENT: Reread the passage and answer questions E-g.

TOPIC 3: EXPOSITORY ESSAY

What is an expository essay?

This is an essay that is aimed at giving a clear and detailed explanation of a thing, a process or an idea. It is also known as **how to** essay. An adequate knowledge of the subject matter is a core prerequisite for a good expository essay.

EXAMPLES OF AN EXPOSITORY ESSAY

1. How to prepare your favorite meal.
2. How a machine or equipment works/ functions.
3. Why gardening is my hobby.
4. The activities of the Nigerian police.
5. Why reading a newspaper is not a waste of time.

FORMAT OF EXPOSITORY ESSAY

1. Title
2. Introduction
3. Body
4. Conclusion
5. Name of writer

ASSIGNMENT: New Concept English for SS1, page 179.

TOPIC 4: Words Associated with Agriculture

Agriculture refers to the practice of growing crops and rearing of animals. Horticulture is an aspect of plant agriculture that deals with the cultivation of fruits, vegetables, flowers or ornamental plants. Below are some words associated with agriculture/ horticulture:

Tillage

Animal husbandry

Subsistence agriculture

Commercial agriculture

Crop rotation

Ranching

Desertification

Irrigation

Domestication

Agribusiness

Monoculture

ASSIGNMENT: write out 10 words associated with agriculture / horticulture and their meaning.

WEEK 3

TOPIC 1: PLACES OF ARTICULATION

Place of articulation refers to the point in the mouth or oral cavity where the flow of air is interrupted during the production of a particular consonant sound. In English, the places of articulation of the consonant sounds are:

1. **Bilabial /p,b,m,w/:** these sounds are made with both lips coming in contact with each other.

2. **Labiodental /f,v/**: they are made with the lower lip coming in contact with the upper teeth.
3. **Dental /θ,ð/**: in the production of these sounds, the tip of the tongue makes a slight contact with the upper teeth.
4. **Alveolar /t,d,s,z,n,l/**: these sounds are made with the tip of the tongue coming in contact with the alveolar ridge.
5. **Palate Alveolar or Post Alveolar /ʃ,ʒ,tʃ,dʒ,r/**: they are made with the blades of the tongue moving towards the alveolar ridge or palate.
6. **Palatal /j/**: this is made with the body of the tongue touching the hard palate or centre of the roof of the mouth.
7. **Velar /k,g,ŋ/**: here, the back of the tongue goes up to touch the soft palate or velum.
8. **Glottal /h/**: it is made with an open glottis .

ASSIGNMENT:

1. Write out the consonant sounds based on their place of articulation.

TOPIC 2: NOUN PHRASES AND FUNCTIONS

A noun phrase is a group of words that consists of a noun as the head word and its determiners or modifiers. Put differently, a noun phrase is made up of a noun and one or more words that modify the noun. A noun phrase behaves like a noun.

COMPONENT/ FORMATION OF A NOUN PHRASE

A noun phrase can be formed in so many ways. It can consist of:

1. noun + a conjunction + a noun e.g.
 - **Mary and Martha** behave well at all time.
 - She had **bread and butter** for breakfast.
2. A gerund + a noun e.g.
 - **Reading books** is my favourite pastime.
3. An article + an adjective + a noun e.g.
 - **The new student** participates actively in every class.
4. An article + a noun + a prepositional phrase e.g.
 - Did you meet **the boy from London**?
5. A determiner+ a noun e.g.
 - **That building** is where they live.
 - **These mangoes** belong to the kids.

GRAMMATICAL FUNCTIONS OF A NOUN PHRASE

A noun phrase can function as the following:

- i. **Subject of a Verb**: here, the noun phrase performs the action in the sentence and usually occupies the first position **e.g.**
 - **The thieves** deserved more than what they got.
- ii. **Object of the Verb**: here, the noun phrase receives or suffers the action of the verb {the verb must be an action verb} **e.g.**
 - They bought **an extremely expensive car** last year.

- iii. **Subject complement:** here, the noun phrase comes after a verb of being / linking verb. It describes the subject by answering the question **who? or what? e.g.**
 - Ilebaye is the winner.
- iv. **Object Complement:** here, the noun phrase comes after a direct object to rename or modify it. **e.g.**
 - We can't make her the leader of the group.
- v. **Object of a Preposition:** here, the noun phrase comes after a preposition in the sentence **e.g.**
 - The boys played football in the backyard.
- vi. **Indirect Object:** it receives the direct object itself. It indicates who or what is receiving the direct object. It is placed directly after the verb and before the direct object **e.g.**
 - The teacher gave the students some loaves of cake.
 - Dad gave a fat bone.
- vii. **As an Appositive:** here, the noun phrase functions in apposition to another noun when it is placed next to it in order to explain it further **e.g.**
 - Elijah, the fake pastor has been arrested.

ASSIGNMENT:

State the grammatical functions of the underlined nouns.

1. Dad is the manager of the shop.
2. The boy kicked the ball over the backyard fence.
3. The boy kicked the ball over the backyard fence.
4. The boy kicked the ball over the backyard fence.
5. Rachel brought her sister lunch because she was hungry.
6. My dad, Mr Paul, is a lawyer.

TOPIC 3: Reading to Comprehend Supporting Ideas

PASSAGE: Dogo is Deserted (New Concept English, page 32-33)

- a. Nana is the narrator of the story.
- b. Dogo sent the elder wife out of the house because the younger wife accused her of being a witch.
- c. He refused to speak to his father because he drove his mother out of the house.
- d. He ruined himself by drinking and gambling.
- e. The two conditions are:
 - His father should stop drinking.
 - His mother should return to the house.
- f. i. noun phrase
 - ii. It functions as the object of the verb, drove.

ASSIGNMENT: Reread the passage and answer questions f-g.

TOPIC 4: Mechanics of Writing: Punctuation

What are writing mechanics?

These are rules and conventions of writing that enable writers to write with care and express themselves with accuracy. Some of these writing mechanics include grammar, punctuation, spelling and capitalization.

PUNCTUATION MARKS: These refer to the symbols that show where pauses, stops, questions, introductions and other forms of expression occur in our writing. Some of the punctuation marks are:

- Full Stop / Period [.]
- Comma [,]
- Question Mark [?]
- Colon [:]
- Semicolon [;]
- Apostrophe ['']
- Exclamation Mark [!]
- Ellipsis [...]
- Quotation Mark [“ ”]
- Parentheses [()]

ASSIGNMENT: Add the correct punctuation mark to the following sentences.

1. After class I want to go to Johns house.
2. The appointment is from 1030 1130 at the Aso Rock Villa.
3. I have always wanted to visit Iceland but Ive never had the time.
4. Shut the door at once
5. My fridge consists of the following juice eggs old milk and shredded cheese

TOPIC 5: Words Associated with Fishing

Fishing refers to the industry or business of catching fish and other seafood for sale. Below are words associated with fishing:

1. fishing hook
2. tackle box
3. reel
4. core trench
5. freshwater
6. spillway

7. net
8. bait
9. monk
10. channel

ASSIGNMENT: Write out 10 words associated with fishing.

WEEK 4

TOPIC 1: STATE OF THE GLOTTIS

The state of the glottis is the amount of vibration in the vocal cords and the closure in the glottis. Put differently, it has to do with whether the glottis is widely opened or narrowly open [almost closed]. It is also known as **voicing**.

When there is vibration, the sound produced is called a **voiced consonant**. The voiced consonants are /r,n,m,l,j,ŋ,ð,³z,w,v,dʒ,g,d,b/.

When there is no vibration, the sound produced is called a **voiceless consonant**. The voiceless consonants are /p,t,s,k,f,h,tʃ,θ /

ASSIGNMENT:

Write out the voiced and voiceless consonant sounds and two examples of words where they occur.

TOPIC 2: COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

A countable noun simply refers to nouns that can be counted. The number or quantity of countable nouns can be quoted exactly. To identify if a noun is countable, you can ask the question 'how many'. In other words, a countable noun is a noun that has both a singular and a plural form and names something that can be counted because there can be one or more of it. In the plural, countable nouns usually add an 's' or 'es', for example 'mistakes', 'problems' and 'buses'. When it is singular, a countable noun usually comes after a determiner such as 'a', 'this', 'any', or 'a lot of', for example 'this house', 'a week', and 'the way'.

Below are some examples of countable nouns:

Singular	Plural
Shoe	Shoes
Hand	Hands
Book	Books
Umbrella	Umbrellas
Aeroplane	Aeroplanes
Computer	Computers
Glass	Glasses
Apple	Apples
Coconut tree	Coconut trees
Bottle	Bottles

On the other hand, uncountable nouns are for things that cannot be counted with numbers. They may be names of abstract ideas or qualities or for physical objects that are too small to be counted {liquids, powder, gases etc}. They do not have a plural form and they are usually used with a

singular verb. They cannot be used with a/an. To express a quantity of an uncountable noun, use a word or expression like some, a lot of, much, a bit of, a great deal of etc. An exact measurement like a cup of, a bag of, a handful of, a pinch of, 1kg of, 1L of, etc can equally be used.

Examples are:

1. Would you like to have some milk before you go to bed?
2. Firoz asked his son to throw out the garbage before he went to college.
3. Sanu had blood on her hand; nobody including her knew what had happened.
4. Is there any water left in the jug?
5. We were asked to collect information about the new education policy before noon.

NB: Some nouns are countable in other languages but uncountable in English. They must follow the rules for uncountable nouns. The most common ones are:

Uncountable Noun	Singular	Plural
Furniture	A piece of furniture	Pieces of furniture
Luggage	A piece of luggage	Pieces of luggage
Advice	A piece of advice	Pieces of advice
Corn	An ear of corn	Ears of corn
Information	A piece of information	Pieces of information

ASSIGNMENT: Underline the countable nouns and circle the uncountable nouns.

1. All successful candidates will be notified within a week.
2. I don't prefer to have tea in the morning.
3. Does anyone have an extra blue pen?
4. The students who had not completed their homework were asked to stay back after class and complete it.
5. My mom's watch stopped working.

TOPIC 3: Guidelines for Answering Summary Questions

Summary refers to a brief or concise version of a longer passage. Below are the guidelines for answering a summary question:

1. Always read the given instructions.
2. Be brief and straight to the point.
3. Use simple sentences.
4. Write in your own words as much as possible.
5. Avoid mindless lifting.
6. Do not add or remove from the original idea in the passage.
7. Avoid using examples or illustrations.
8. Always write the required number of sentences.
9. Avoid grammatical or spelling errors.

ASSIGNMENT: Read and answer the summary questions in page 5 of New Concept English for SS1 by Joy Eyisi et al.

TOPIC 4: ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

What is an article?

An article is a piece of writing specifically for publication in a newspaper.

Purpose of an Article

1. Educate or inform
2. To entertain.
3. To explain an idea
4. To explain the process or guidelines of doing something
5. To argue a point or to prove a case or to balance two sides of an argument

Features of an Article

- Caption
- Introduction
- Body
- Conclusion, subscription

Examples of articles are:

- The role of technology in nation-building.
- Man-made factors responsible for air pollution.
- The implications of parental negligence on children's mental and character development
- Examination malpractice in Nigeria; the role of parents, teachers and society.
- Dangers of open defecation in Nigeria and the way forward.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Write an introductory paragraph to the article the topic 'Man-made factors responsible for air pollution'.

TOPIC 5: Words Associated with Christian Religion

Christianity is a religion that is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the belief that he is the son of God. Some of the words associated with Christian religion are:

Gospel

Bible

Pentecostal

Evangelism

Fellowship

Unbelief

Jesus Christ

Worship

Resurrection

Missionary

Pope

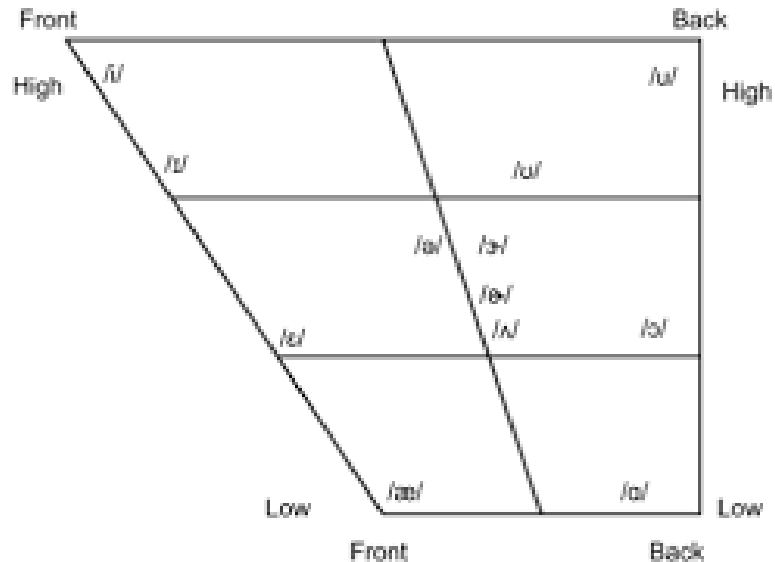
Bishop

ASSIGNMENT: Write out 10 words associated with Christian religion.

WEEK 5

TOPIC 1: THE VOWEL CHART

A vowel sound is a sound that is produced without an obstruction to the air passage. Below is a vowel sound chart:



ASSIGNMENT:

Study the chart in New Oxford English page 83.

TOPIC 2: Nominalization

Nominalization is the process of making verbs and adjectives to function as nouns in sentences. In other words, nominalization is a powerful grammar tool where we turn verbs (action words) or adjectives (describing words) into nouns (naming words).

1. Turning Verbs into Nouns

We can transform verbs into nouns in two primary ways:

- a. **Adding Suffixes:** We often attach endings like **-tion**, **-ment**, **-ance**, or **-al** to the root verb. For example,

Verb	Nominalised noun
decide	decision
develop	development

perform performance

refuse refusal.

- b. **Using Gerunds (-ing words):** You can turn any action into a noun by adding *-ing*.
Example:

She reads every day. (verb)

Reading is an excellent habit. (noun)

2. Turning Adjectives into Nouns

Adjectives describe nouns, but nominalization turns the adjective itself into a stand alone noun.

- **Adding Suffixes:** We attach endings like **-ness**, **-ity**, **-cy**, or **-th** to the adjective.
For example

Adjective	Nominalised noun
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kind	kindness
------	----------

pure	purity
------	--------

fluent	fluency
--------	---------

strong	strength.
--------	-----------

- **The + Adjective:** You can talk about a whole group of people by putting "the" in front of an adjective. For instance, instead of writing "poor people," you can write "the poor." Other examples include the youth, the elderly and the rich.

ASSIGNMENT: Write ten verbs and nominalise them.

TOPIC 3: Formal Letter

What is a formal letter?

A formal letter is a letter written to people who occupy an official position. When you write a letter to the principal or headmaster of a school, the editor of newspaper, the commissioner for or minister of education, the secretary of a scholarship board etc, you are writing a formal letter. A formal letter is also known as an official or business letter. A formal letter does not allow the use of contractions, abbreviations, colloquial languages, exchange of pleasantries, etc. The language of a formal letter is strictly formal.

Features / Formats of a Formal Letter

1. Writer's address and date
2. The receiver's address
3. Salutation e.g. Dear Sir, / Madam,
4. Heading / Title

5. Introduction
6. Body
7. Conclusion
8. Complementary close e.g. Yours faithfully,
9. Writer's signature
10. Writer's full name

ASSIGNMENT:

Write a letter to the Director of the Environmental Protection Agency in your country complaining about environmental pollution of your area and requesting that an urgent action be taken to improve the situation.

WEEK 6

TOPIC 1: LONG AND SHORT VOWELS (MONOTHONGS)

A monothong is a single vowel sound that is produced without an obstruction of the air from the vocal cords. It is also known as pure vowel sound. There are 12 monothongs. Seven of them are short while five are long. The long vowel sounds are denoted with a colon (:) in front of them.

The pure vowels or monothongs include:

Short Vowels	Long Vowels
/æ/	/a:/
/ɪ/	/i:/
/e/	/ɜ:/
/ʊ/	/u:/
/ɔ/	/ɔ:/
/ʌ/	
/ɒ/	

ASSIGNMENT: Write two examples of words for each vowel sound and transcribe them.

TOPIC 2: RELATIVE PRONOUN

A relative pronoun is a pronoun that introduces a clause which describes a noun or pronoun mentioned earlier in the sentence. Examples: who, whom, whose, which, that.

Functions :

1. **Who** refers to person in subject position
2. **Whom** refers to person in object position
3. **Whose** shows possession
4. **Which** refers to animal and thing .

5. **That** refers to people, animals or things.

Example in sentences:

1. The student who answered the question is brilliant.
2. The boy who won the prize is my friend.
3. The person whom you saw has been transferred.
4. The man whom you met is my father.
5. The woman whose bag was stolen is crying.
6. The man whose name was called did not answer.
7. The book which I borrowed is interesting.
8. The house which we paid for is far from here.
9. The car that was parked outside has been scratched.
10. The dress that she bought is beautiful.

ASSIGNMENT

Write five sentences with relative pronouns and identify them.

TOPIC 3 :Informal Letter

An informal letter is a letter written to people you are familiar with, such as friends or family members. It allows the use of pleasantries, slangs and contracted forms of expressions such as I'm, can't, don't, wasn't, etc. The language use is usually friendly and cordial.

Format/Features:

1. Writer's address and date
3. Salutation
4. Introduction
5. Body of the letter
6. Conclusion
7. Subscription (closing)
8. First name of the writer

ASSIGNMENT: Write a short letter to your friend, telling her what it feels like being in senior student.

TOPIC 4 : WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Animal husbandry is the branch of Agriculture concerned with the breeding, feeding, housing and healthcare of domesticated animals for food, labor or raw materials. Simple put, it is the science and art of caring for livestock.

Here are examples of words associated with animal husbandry:

- The Animals: Livestock, Poultry, Ruminants, Broilers, Layers
- Their Homes: Sty (pigs), Coop (poultry), Byre (cattle), Pen (sheep/goats)
- Their Food: Fodder, Silage, Forage, Concentrates, Ration
- Their Care: Breeding, Culling, Vaccination, Quarantine, Drenching

ASSIGNMENT: Write ten words associated with animal husbandry and their meanings.

WEEK 7

TOPIC 1: DIPHTHONG VOWELS

A diphthong is a complex vowel sound that begins with one vowel and glides into another within the same syllable. That is to say, a diphthong is a vowel sound formed by a combination of two monothong vowel sounds. There are eight diphthong vowels. They are:

/eɪ/ day, /deɪ/ , late /leɪ/, face /feɪs/
/aɪ/ my /maɪ/, light /laɪt/, kind /kaɪnd/
/ɔɪ/ boy /bɔɪ/, toy /tɔɪ/, noise /nɔɪz/
/aʊ/ now /naʊ/, cow /kaʊ/, house /haʊs/
/əʊ/ go /gəʊ/, home /həʊm/, nose /nəʊz/
/ɪə/ ear /ɪər/, idea /aɪdɪə/, serious /sɪərɪəs/
/eə/ hair /heər/, care /keər/, fair /feər/
/ʊə/ tour /tʊər/, pure /pjʊər/

ASSIGNMENT

Write two examples of words for each vowel sound and transcribe them.

TOPIC 2: PRONOUNS

A **pronoun** is a word used **instead of a noun** to avoid repetition.

Example:

Mary is a good girl. → **She** is a good girl.

Segun is resting in the livingroom. ---- **He** is resting in the livingroom.

Types of Pronouns and Examples

Type	Function	Examples
Personal	Replaces people or things	I, you, he, she, it, we, they
Possessive	Shows ownership	mine, yours, his, hers, ours, theirs
Reflexive	Refers back to subject	myself, yourself, himself, herself, ourselves
Demonstrative	Points out nouns	this, that, these, those
Interrogative	Asks questions	who, whom, whose, which, what
Relative	Introduces clauses	who, whom, whose, which, that
Indefinite	Refers to non-specific people/things	someone, everyone, anything, nothing

Examples in Sentences

1. **He** is my friend. (*Personal pronoun/subject*)
2. The man saw **him**. (*Personal pronoun/object*)

3. The house is **his**. (*Possessive*)
4. This book is **mine**. (*Possessive*)
5. She did it **herself**. (*Reflexive*)
6. The girls came here **themselves**. (*Reflexive*)
7. **Those** are my shoes. (*Demonstrative*)
8. **Who** is knocking? (*Interrogative*)
9. **Someone** has taken my bag away. (*Indefinite*)
10. I saw the boy **who** bought you a book. (*Relative*)

Classwork: Fill in the correct pronoun:

1. Peter and Paul said ____ were ready.
2. The cat licked ____ paw.
3. That car is ____.
4. The girl ____ won the prize is my sister.

TOPIC 3: SEMI-FORMAL LETTER

Meaning

A **semi-formal letter** is a letter written to someone you know but do not have a friendly or cordial relationship with. Examples: teacher, pastor, guardian, family doctor, house master, sports master, etc. The language use is polite and respectful, neither too formal nor too casual.

Features of a Semi-Formal Letter

1. Writer's address (top right corner)
2. Date
3. Salutation – Dear Mr. / Mrs. / Miss + Name,
4. Introduction – state reason for writing
5. Body – main content (2–3 paragraphs)
6. Conclusion – polite ending or appreciation
7. Subscription – Yours sincerely,
8. Full name of the writer

ASSIGNMENT

Write a letter to your teacher thanking him/her for one good thing he/she did to you.

WEEK 8

TOPIC 1: EMPHATIC STRESS

What is emphatic stress?

Emphatic stress is the type of stress used to emphasize on a particular word in a sentence to focus attention, show contrast or correction. In an emphatic stress, only content words (nouns, main verbs, adjectives and adverbs) are mostly stressed. Grammatical words such as (articles, auxiliary verbs, prepositions and conjunctions) are not always stressed. The stressed word is written in capital letters to attract attention.

Examples:

1. I saw the man yesterday.
 - I saw the man yesterday. → (Not someone else)
 - I **SAW** the man yesterday. → (Not heard or met him)
 - I saw the **MAN** yesterday. → (Not the woman)
 - I saw the man **YESTERDAY**. → (Not today)

2. Ada fried the meat yesterday.

ADA fried the meat yesterday. (Not someone else)

Ada FRIED the meat yesterday. (Not cooked)

Ada fried the MEAT yesterday. (Not plantain)

Ada fried the meat YESTERDAY. (Not today)

EMPHATIC STRESS EXERCISE

In an emphatic stress exercise, a sentence is usually given with stress on a particular word, and three or four options with questions. Any option that expresses an opposite idea to the stressed word or omits it, becomes the answer.

Examples:

Instruction:

In each of the following sentences, the word in capital letters is the one that receives the emphatic stress. Choose the option that best expresses the *contrastive meaning* (the idea being corrected).

1. The **GIRLS** cleaned the classroom.
A. Did the boys clean the classroom?
B. Did the girls paint the classroom?
C. Did the girls clean the field?
D. Did the girls clean the compound?
Answer: A. Did the boys clean the classroom?
2. He travelled **YESTERDAY**.
A. Did he travel today?
B. Did she travel last week?
C. Did he travel with them?
D. Will he travel tomorrow?
Answer: A. Did he travel today?
3. Ada broke the **POT**.
A. Did Ada break the bottle?
B. Did Obi break the bottle?
C. Did Ada tear the book?
D. Did Ada steal the pot?

Answer: A. Did Ada break the bottle?

ASSIGNMENT: New Concept English, page 163, multiple-choice questions 1-5.

TOPIC 2: REGULAR AND IRREGULAR VERBS

A verb is a word that shows an action, event or state of being.

Examples: run, eat, sing, write, go, play, cry, etc.

A. Regular Verbs

Regular verbs are verbs that form their past tense and past participle by adding “-ed” or “-d” to the base form.

Rules for forming Regular Verbs:

1. Most verbs: add -ed → walk → walked
2. Verbs ending with “e” → add -d → love → loved
3. Verbs ending with consonant + y → change y to i and add -ed → carry → carried
4. Verbs ending with vowel + y → just add -ed → play → played
5. Short verbs ending with consonant-vowel-consonant → double the last consonant and add -ed → plan → planned, stop → stopped

Examples:

Present	Past	Past Participle
work	worked	worked
play	played	played
dance	danced	danced
clean	cleaned	cleaned
jump	jumped	jumped
talk	talked	talked

B. Irregular Verbs

Irregular verbs do not form their past tense and past participle by adding “-ed.” They change completely or remain the same.

Examples:

Present	Past	Past Participle
go	went	gone
eat	ate	eaten
drink	drank	drunk
write	wrote	written
see	saw	seen
come	came	come

Assignment

Copy and complete this table in your notebook:

Present	Past	Past Participle
Sing	___	___
Help	___	___
Drive	___	___
Laugh	___	___
Begin	___	___
draw	___	___
jump	___	___
fly	___	___
clap	___	___
Clean	___	___

TOPIC 3: EXPOSITORY ESSAY

What is an expository essay?

This is an essay that is aimed at giving a clear and detailed explanation of a thing, a process or an idea. An adequate knowledge of the subject matter is a core prerequisite for a good expository essay.

EXAMPLES OF AN EXPOSITORY ESSAY

1. How to prepare your favorite meal.
2. How a machine or equipment works/ functions.
3. Why gardening is my hobby.

4. The activities of the Nigerian police.
5. Why reading a newspaper is not a waste of time.

FORMAT OF EXPOSITORY ESSAY

1. Title
2. Introduction
3. Body
4. Conclusion
5. Name of writer

ASSIGNMENT: New Concept English for SS1, page 179.

TOPIC 4: WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH TRADITIONAL RELIGION

Traditional religion refers to the indigenous, ancestral belief systems and spiritual practices of a specific ethnic group passed down through generations before the introduction of foreign religions. It centers on the worship of a Supreme Being through intermediary deities, ancestors and nature spirits.

Below are words associated with traditional religion:

Deities
Divinities
Ancestors
Worship
Shrine
Altar
Sacred Grove
Sanctuary
Priest/Priestess
Herbalist
Diviner
Oracle
Rituals
Libation
Sacrifice
Incantation
Charm
Masquerade
Taboo
Reincarnation
Ritual
Veneration

WEEK 9

TOPIC 1: WORD STRESS

Meaning of Word Stress

Stress is the degree of force with which a syllable is pronounced. In other words, stress is the extra force or emphasis placed on one syllable in a word when it is pronounced. The stressed syllable sounds louder and longer than the others. It is usually written in capital letters.

Examples

table	TA-ble
begin	be-GIN
computer	com-PU-ter
develope	de-VE-lope
Record(noun)	RE-cord
record (verb)	re-CORD

Rules of Word Stress

1. Two-syllable nouns/adjectives – stress the first syllable
e.g. TAbble, CLEver, DOctor
2. Two-syllable verbs/prepositions – stress the second syllable
e.g. reLAX, beGIN, aMONG
3. Some words change meaning with stress:
 - ‘REcord (noun) → something kept for reference
 - re‘CORD (verb) → to make a record

Importance of Word Stress

1. It helps in clear pronunciation.
2. It helps to distinguish word meanings.

ASSIGNMENT

Identify and mark the stressed syllables in the following words:
importance, information, mistake, student, education

Topic 2: Figures of Speech

Figures of speech are special expressions used to make language more vivid and imaginative. In other words, Figures of Speech are expressions used in a non-literal way to create a special effect or meaning.

Examples:

Figure of Speech	Meaning	Example
Simile	A comparison using <i>like</i> or <i>as</i> .	“She is as gentle as a dove.”
Metaphor	It makes direct comparison without <i>like/as</i> .	“The world is a stage.”
Personification	Giving human qualities to non-living things.	“The sun smiled at us.”
Hyperbole	Exaggeration to show emphasis.	“I’ve told you a million times!”
Irony	Saying the opposite of what you mean.	“What a beautiful weather!” (during a storm)
Oxymoron	Two opposite words used together side by side.	“It is a bitter sweet relationship.”
Pun	A play on words with double meaning.	“I used to be a banker, but I lost interest.”

Figure of Speech	Meaning	Example
Alliteration	Repetition of initial consonant sounds.	“Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.”
Onomatopoeia	Words that imitate sounds.	“The bees buzzed; the thunder roared.”
Euphemism	Mild expression used instead of a harsh one.	“He passed away” (for “He died”).
Metonymy	Substitution of a related word for the thing meant.	“The pen is mightier than the sword.”
Synecdoche	A part used to represent the whole.	“All hands on deck.”
Litotes	An understatement using “not.”	“He’s not a bad singer.”
Apostrophe	Addressing an absent or imaginary person or thing.	“O Death, where is thy sting?”

Functions of figures of speech

1. They make language more beautiful and interesting.
2. They help express ideas vividly.
3. They show creativity in writing and speech.
4. They make communication powerful.

Assignment:

Choose the correct answer from options A–D.

1. “The classroom was a zoo.” This is an example of —
A. Simile
B. Metaphor
C. Hyperbole
D. Personification
2. “The stars danced in the sky” illustrates —
A. Alliteration
B. Hyperbole
C. Personification
D. Irony
3. “He eats like a pig” is a —
A. Simile
B. Metaphor
C. Irony
D. Pun
4. “The child is a lion in battle” shows —
A. Metaphor
B. Simile
C. Hyperbole
D. Litotes
5. “I’m not unaware of your plans” is an example of —
A. Irony
B. Litotes
C. Pun
D. Euphemism

TOPIC 3: INFORMAL LETTER CONTINUES

Sample of an Informal Letter

Regina Pacis College.
P O Box 4868,
Garki II,
Abuja.
5th November, 2026.

Dear Sandra,

How are you doing? I hope you're fine and enjoying yourself. It's been a while since we last spoke, so I decided to write to tell you about my new school.

I got admitted into **Victory Model College**, and it's been both exciting and challenging. The school is very large and the environment is clean and beautiful. Our teachers are friendly but very strict when it comes to punctuality and assignments. I'm already getting used to their teaching styles and I really enjoy English and Computer classes.

At first, I missed my old friends but I've started making new ones. My classmates are kind and we help one another in our studies. The hostel is comfortable and the food is quite good, especially on Fridays when we have jollof rice and chicken.

Even though the workload is much, I'm coping well. I've joined the debate club and I plan to take part in the next inter-school competition. Wish me luck!

Please write back soon and tell me how everyone at home is doing. Send my regards to your parents and little sister, Ada.

Your loving friend,
Rita.