

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD

Department of English Language & Applied Linguistics

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Assignment No.	2 (Units 6–9)

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ASSIGNMENT No. 2 (Units 6–9)

Q.1 Use an appropriate cohesive linker to join the following sentences:

1. The weather changed suddenly. The match was cancelled.
2. The bell rang. The students left the classroom.
3. I studied hard. I failed the test.
4. He woke up late. He rushed to get ready. He missed the meeting.
5. We waited for a long time. The bus was late.

1. **Joined Sentence:** The weather changed suddenly; therefore, the match was cancelled.
2. **Joined Sentence:** As soon as the bell rang, the students left the classroom.
3. **Joined Sentence:** Although I studied hard, I failed the test.
4. **Joined Sentence:** Because he woke up late and rushed to get ready, he missed the meeting.
5. **Joined Sentence:** We waited for a long time because the bus was late.

Q.2 Read the sentences given below and complete the story. Your answer should be 100-120 words long.

Prompt Sentence: "The power went out suddenly, and the entire house became dark. Everyone stopped talking. The silence was deep. A few seconds later, we heard..."

Completed Story (112 Words):

The power went out suddenly, and the entire house became dark. Everyone stopped talking. The silence was deep. A few seconds later, we heard a faint scratchy sound coming from the wooden window in the hallway. My heart began to beat rapidly as my brother slowly searched for a flashlight. The mysterious noise grew louder, accompanied by a soft tapping against the glass frame. With trembling hands, my father clicked on his phone's light and walked toward the window. We held our breath in absolute anxiety until the beam of light illuminated the glass. To our immense relief, it was just our neighbor's friendly cat trying to escape the sudden rainstorm outside. We all burst into warm laughter and opened the door to let the shivering animal inside, happy that our frightening moment had ended so safely.

Q.3 For each of the following scenarios, write an apology that is appropriate to the context:

1. You forget to bring your assignment to class.
2. You speak loudly in the library.
3. You give someone incorrect information by mistake.
4. You fail to reply to an urgent message on time.
5. You spill water on someone's desk accidentally.

1. **Apology:** I am extremely sorry, teacher, for forgetting my assignment at home today. I have completed it fully and will definitely submit it first thing tomorrow morning.

- 2. Apology:** I sincerely apologize for speaking so loudly in the quiet study area. I will keep my voice down and maintain the library's decorum.
- 3. Apology:** I am so sorry for giving you the wrong directions earlier. It was an honest mistake, and I regret any inconvenience it caused you.
- 4. Apology:** Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your urgent message. I was away from my phone, but I am ready to assist you now.
- 5. Apology:** I am so sorry for accidentally spilling water on your desk! Let me clean it up immediately with a cloth and ensure none of your papers are damaged.

Q.4 Write a short paragraph on any one of the following topics. Your answer should be 80-100 words long.

Option 1: Why Silence is Sometimes Better than Words

Option 2: A Skill I Want to Learn and Why

Option 3: Why Everyone Needs a Break Sometimes

Chosen Topic: Why Silence is Sometimes Better than Words

Paragraph (90 Words):

Silence is often far more powerful than words because it prevents unnecessary arguments and allows us time to reflect deeply before speaking. In tense situations, expressing quick words can cause regret, whereas maintaining composure helps preserve relationships and peaceful understanding. Silence also provides a peaceful mental space to listen effectively to others and process complex thoughts calmly. Choosing silence over hasty speech demonstrates emotional maturity, self-control, and wisdom, showing that staying quiet can sometimes heal conflicts much faster than words ever could.

Q.5 Write an expression of agreement and disagreement for the following:

1. Clean surroundings help people stay happy.
2. Time should not be wasted on sports.
3. Taking breaks is important when studying.
4. Spending time outdoors is important for health.
5. Listening is more important than speaking.

Example:

Statement: Online learning is just as good as classroom learning.

Agreement: I agree that online learning is useful because students can study at their own time.

Disagreement: I am afraid I disagree; classroom learning is better because it allows students to interact directly with teachers.

1. Statement: "Clean surroundings help people stay happy."

Agreement: I agree completely because a clean environment reduces stress and promotes peace of mind.

Disagreement: I am afraid I disagree; happiness depends more on a person's inner mindset than their outer surroundings.

2. Statement: "Time should not be wasted on sports."

Agreement: I agree that excessive time spent on sports can distract students from their academic studies.

Disagreement: I strongly disagree because sports build physical health, teamwork, and mental discipline.

3. Statement: "Taking breaks is important when studying."

Agreement: I agree because taking short breaks refreshes the mind and improves long-term focus.

Disagreement: I disagree because continuous study sessions help maintain deep concentration and workflow.

4. Statement: "Spending time outdoors is important for health."

Agreement: I agree fully because fresh air and sunlight boost physical energy and immune health.

Disagreement: I disagree because indoor exercises and light yoga can be equally effective for good health.

5. Statement: "Listening is more important than speaking."

Agreement: I agree because listening enables us to understand others better before sharing our thoughts.

Disagreement: I disagree because expressing one's ideas clearly through speaking is equally vital for effective communication.

Q.6 Read the issues given below. For each, state your opinion and then provide a good reason.

1. Is it important to get enough sleep?

2. Is it important to think carefully before making decisions?

3. Is it important to help people in need?

4. Is it important to save water?

5. Is it important to avoid wasting food?

Example:

Issue: Is it important to manage time effectively?

Opinion: In my opinion, it is important to manage time effectively.

Reason: It is important to manage time effectively because it helps us complete tasks on schedule and reduces stress in daily life.

1. Issue: Is it important to get enough sleep?

Opinion: In my opinion, it is extremely important to get enough sleep every night.

Reason: It is important because proper sleep restores physical energy, improves memory, and maintains mental alertness.

2. Issue: Is it important to think carefully before making decisions?

Opinion: In my opinion, it is vital to think carefully before making any decision.

Reason: It is important because thoughtful reflection prevents bad choices and protects us from future regret.

3. Issue: Is it important to help people in need?

Opinion: In my opinion, we should always make an effort to help people in need.

Reason: It is important because assisting others creates a kind community and brings personal satisfaction.

4. Issue: Is it important to save water?

Opinion: In my opinion, saving water is essential for our survival and environment.

Reason: It is important because clean water is a limited natural resource necessary for all living beings.

5. Issue: Is it important to avoid wasting food?

Opinion: In my opinion, it is very important to avoid wasting food at home and gatherings.

Reason: It is important because millions of poor people suffer from hunger while food production requires valuable resources.

Q.7 Read the sentence given below and identify five things that can be discussed later on in the paragraph:

Given Sentence: "Traveling to new places can be both exciting and challenging."

- 1. Discovering new cultures, traditions, and local foods.
- 2. Seeing beautiful landscapes, historic landmarks, and natural sights.
- 3. Dealing with language barriers and communication difficulties.
- 4. Managing travel budgets, transport schedules, and unexpected expenses.
- 5. Overcoming navigation issues and adapting to unfamiliar surroundings.

Q.8 Read the article given below and answer the following questions:

1. Why do libraries remain important despite the internet?
2. How do libraries help students and other readers?
3. In what way do libraries contribute to a sense of community?
4. How can libraries be seen as promoting equal opportunities?
5. How have libraries adapted to changes brought by technology?

Article:

Public libraries have played an important role in spreading knowledge for many years. They provide free access to books, newspapers, and other learning materials for people of all ages. Students often use libraries to prepare for exams, while others visit them to improve their reading habits. In a world where digital media is growing rapidly, libraries remain valuable because they offer a quiet environment that helps people concentrate and think deeply. It allows people to work and learn with focus. Apart from education, libraries also help build a sense of community. They organize reading sessions, workshops, and educational programs that encourage people to learn together. Even when they do not, they create a feeling of companionship among the people who frequent them. Libraries also promote equal opportunities by allowing everyone, regardless of income or race or gender, to access information. Although technology has changed how people read, libraries continue to adapt by offering digital resources alongside traditional books.

1. Answer: Libraries remain important despite the internet because they offer a calm, quiet environment that helps people concentrate, work, and think deeply with focus.

2. Answer: Libraries help students prepare effectively for exams and provide other readers with free books and newspapers to build good reading habits.

3. Answer: Libraries build a sense of community by organizing reading sessions, educational workshops, and programs where people can learn together and develop companionship.

4. Answer: Libraries promote equal opportunities by offering free access to information and learning resources for everyone, regardless of their income, race, or gender.

5. Answer: Libraries have adapted to technological changes by integrating digital learning resources alongside traditional printed books.