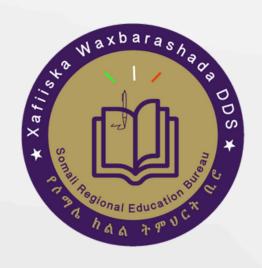
# UGAS FUAD UGAS AFI

# IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH

Grammar, Vocabulary,
Reading, Writing, Speaking,
Listening, Practice Activities,
Sample Exam Questions,
Answer Key, Explanation and
Glossary



Xafiiska Waxbarashada DDS

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

English is one of the most important languages in the world today. It is used in education, business, science, and communication across countries. In the Somali Regional State of Ethiopia, English is taught as a subject from primary to secondary schools and is also used as a medium of instruction in many grades (7-12).

This reference book is designed to support both **primary and secondary school students** in their journey to learn English. It serves as a **supplementary resource** that can be used alongside textbooks and classroom instruction.

#### **Objectives of the Book:**

- To enhance students' understanding of English grammar and vocabulary.
- To improve reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills.
- To provide clear explanations with examples and practice exercises.
- To support **self-study and exam preparation** for all type of students.

#### Who Can Use This Book:

- Students from Grade 3 to Grade 12.
- English teachers in primary and secondary schools.
- Parents or guardians who want to help their children improve their English.
- Education officers and curriculum experts working in the Somali Regional State.

We hope this book becomes a valuable tool for all learners and educators in the region, and contributes to the overall improvement of English language proficiency.

#### 2. GRAMMAR ESSENTIALS

#### 2.1 Parts of Speech

Understanding the parts of speech is the foundation of grammar. Each word in a sentence plays a role, and knowing these roles helps you form correct and meaningful sentences.

# 1. Noun (Magac)

A noun is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea.

There are two main types:

- Proper nouns: Specific names (e.g., Ahmed, Jigjiga, Allah)
- Common nouns: General names (e.g., student, city, religion)

# **Examples:**

- The **teacher** gave me a **book**.
- Hodan lives in Godey.

# 2. Pronoun (Magac-Uyaal)

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

# **Examples:**

- She is my sister. (instead of "Amina is my sister")
- They are going to the market.

Common pronouns: I, you, he, she, it, we, they

#### 3. Verb (Fal)

A **verb** shows an action or a state of being.

#### **Examples:**

- I write letters. (action)
- She is tired. (state)

#### **Types of Verbs:**

Action Verbs: run, jump, write
Linking Verbs: is, are, was, seem
Helping Verbs: will, have, do

#### 4. Adjective (Sifo)

An **adjective** describes or modifies a noun or pronoun. It tells us what kind, how many, or which one.

#### **Examples:**

- The **red** apple is sweet.
- She has **two** brothers.

# 5. Adverb (Qeexis Fal)

An **adverb** modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb. It often answers how, when, where, or to what extent.

# **Examples:**

- He runs quickly. (modifies verb)
- It is **very** cold. (modifies adjective)

#### 6. Preposition (Qodobka Xidhiidhka)

A **preposition** shows the relationship between a noun/pronoun and another word.

#### **Examples:**

- The book is **on** the table.
- We walked to the river.

Common prepositions: in, on, at, over, under, beside, between, with

# 7. Conjunction (Isku Xidh)

A **conjunction** connects words or groups of words.

# **Examples:**

- I like mangoes **and** oranges.
- He is tired, but he will study.

Common conjunctions: and, but, or, because, so

#### 8. Interjection (Cabir Dareen)

An interjection expresses emotion. It's often followed by an exclamation mark (!)

#### **Examples:**

- Maashaa Allaah! That's amazing.
- Subhana-Allaah! I forgot my book.

#### 2.2 Sentence Structure (Qaabka Weedha)

A sentence must:

- Have a **subject** (who or what the sentence is about)
- Have a **predicate** (what the subject does or is)

#### **Types of Sentences:**

1. **Declarative** – Makes a statement.

Example: I am going to school.

2. Interrogative – Asks a question.

Example: Are you coming today?

3. Imperative – Gives a command or request.

Example: Please sit down.

4. **Exclamatory** – Expresses strong feeling.

Example: What a great surprise!

# 2.3 Tenses Overview (Wakhtiga Falka)

Verbs change form to show time. There are **three main tenses**:

# 1. Present Tense (Wakhtiga Hadda)

- Talks about something happening now or generally true.
- Example: She **reads** every day.

#### 2. Past Tense (Wakhtiga Dhacay)

- Talks about something that already happened.
- Example: I **played** football yesterday.

#### 3. Future Tense (Wakhtiga Dhici Doona)

- Talks about something that will happen.
- Example: We will travel tomorrow.

#### Quick Tips:

- Every sentence **must** have a verb.
- The subject and verb must agree in number (singular/plural).
  - Correct: He **goes** to school.
  - Incorrect: He **go** to school.

#### 3. VOCABULARY BUILDING

Vocabulary is the collection of words that a person understands and uses. A strong vocabulary helps students to read, write, speak, and understand English more effectively.

This chapter will help students from **primary to secondary** school levels to build their vocabulary through:

- Word categories
- Word formation
- Synonyms and antonyms
- Common academic and everyday words
- Strategies to learn new vocabulary

# 3.1 Types of Vocabulary

There are different types of vocabulary that students use in school and daily life:

#### 1. Listening Vocabulary

Words we hear and understand when others speak.

#### 2. Speaking Vocabulary

Words we use when we talk.

#### 3. Reading Vocabulary

Words we recognize and understand when we read.

#### 4. Writing Vocabulary

Words we use when we write.

**Tip**: Reading often improves all four types!

# 3.2 Word Categories

Words can be grouped into themes to help you remember and use them better. Here are examples by category:

#### a. School Words

• classroom, teacher, desk, chalkboard, homework

#### b. Body Parts

• head, hand, eyes, legs, nose

#### c. Food and Drinks

• rice, banana, milk, sugar, tea

#### d. Emotions

happy, sad, angry, excited, scared

#### e. Nature

• river, tree, sun, mountain, cloud

#### 3. VOCABULARY BUILDING

#### f. Jobs

• doctor, farmer, teacher, driver, nurse

#### 3.3 Word Formation

You can learn many new words by understanding how they are formed.

### 1. Prefixes (beginning of a word)

- un- = not → unhappy, unclean
- re- = again → rewrite, rebuild

### 2. Suffixes (ending of a word)

- -ful = full of → hopeful, beautiful
- -less = without → hopeless, careless

### 3. Compound Words

Two words combined to make one:

• classroom, notebook, sunlight, football

# 3.4 Synonyms and Antonyms

#### Synonyms – Words with similar meanings

- big  $\rightarrow$  large
- smart  $\rightarrow$  intelligent
- fast → quick

# Antonyms – Words with opposite meanings

- hot → cold
- tall  $\rightarrow$  short
- begin  $\rightarrow$  end

**Practice Tip:** Create two columns — one for synonyms and one for antonyms. Add new words every week!

# 3.5 Common Academic and Daily Life Words

Here are some useful English words every student should know:

English Word	Meaning in Somali	Example Sentence
Respect	ixtiraam	We should respect our elders.
Honest	daacad	He is an honest student.
Clean	nadiif	Keep your classroom clean.
Learn	baro	Students learn new things daily.
Answer	jawaab	Can you answer the question?
Help	caawin	Please help your friend.

#### 3.6 Strategies to Learn Vocabulary

- 1. **Read Every Day** The more you read, the more words you see.
- 2. **Use a Dictionary** English-English or English-Somali.
- 3. Keep a Vocabulary Notebook Write down new words with meanings and examples.
- 4. Practice with Flashcards Review frequently.
- 5. Speak and Write in English Use new words in your speech and writing.
- 6. **Group Words by Theme** It helps with memory.
- 7. Play Word Games Crossword puzzles, word search, memory games, etc.

# \* Activity

Choose 5 new English words each week:

- Write their meanings
- · Make a sentence with each
- Say them out loud
- Test yourself every Friday!

#### 4. READING COMPREHENSION

**Reading Comprehension** is the ability to read a text, understand its meaning, and make use of it. It is one of the most important English skills for both **primary and secondary** school students because it improves vocabulary, grammar understanding, and critical thinking.

# 4.1 What is Reading Comprehension?

Reading comprehension means:

- Understanding what the text says (literal meaning)
- Finding the deeper or hidden meaning (inferential meaning)
- · Making connections to your own life, other texts, or the world

There are two main levels:

- 1. Reading for information factual understanding
- 2. Reading for meaning deeper analysis and interpretation

#### 4.2 Types of Texts Students Read

Students should practice reading different kinds of texts:

Type of Text	Example
Narrative	Short stories, folk tales, novels
Informational/Expository	Textbooks, reports, facts about science
Descriptive	Articles describing places or people
Persuasive	Avertisements, opinion essays
Instructional	Recipes, how-to guides, manuals

#### 4.3 Reading Comprehension Skills

To improve reading comprehension, focus on these key skills:

#### 1. Skimming

Reading quickly to get the general idea.

Example: Skim a news article to know what it is about without reading every word.

#### 2. Scanning

Looking for specific information or keywords.

Example: Scan a timetable to find when your class starts.

#### 3. Predicting

Using the title or pictures to guess what the text is about before reading.

Example: If a story is titled "The Lion and the Mouse," you can predict it's about animals and a lesson.

#### 4. Finding the Main Idea

Understanding the central point the text is making.

Ask: What is this paragraph mostly about?

#### 5. Inferring

Reading between the lines – understanding what is not directly stated.

*Example:* "Ali was shivering and looked for a blanket."  $\rightarrow$  We can infer it was cold.

#### 6. Summarizing

Telling the most important parts of the text in your own words.

Example: "The story is about a poor farmer who becomes rich by helping others."

# 7. Making Connections

Relating what you read to:

- Yourself (text-to-self)
- Other texts (text-to-text)
- The world (text-to-world)

# 4.4 How to Approach a Reading Passage (Step-by-Step)

- 1. Read the questions first so you know what to look for.
- 2. **Skim the passage** to get the general idea.
- 3. **Read it carefully** sentence by sentence.
- 4. Underline keywords names, places, dates, important points.
- 5. **Answer the questions** in your own words or using words from the text.
- 6. Double check your answers make sure they are complete and correct.

#### 4.5 Sample Reading Passage and Questions

#### Passage:

Hassan loves school. He wakes up early every day to go to class. His favorite subject is English because he wants to become a teacher. After school, he helps his parents on the farm and studies at night.

#### **Questions:**

- 1. What does Hassan like?
- 2. Why does he like English?
- 3. What does he do after school?
- 4. What job does Hassan want in the future?
- 5. Do you think Hassan is hardworking? Why?

#### 4.6 Tips to Improve Reading Comprehension

- ✓ Read daily short stories, books, or even news
- Ask and answer questions after reading
- ✓ Use a dictionary to understand new words
- ▼ Talk about what you read with others
- Practice summarizing what you read
- Highlight or underline main points when allowed

#### Practice Activity

#### Read the following paragraph and answer the questions:

Amina and her friend went to the market to buy vegetables. They bought tomatoes, onions, and potatoes. On their way back, it started raining. They ran home quickly, laughing and holding their bags.

#### **Questions:**

- 1. Where did Amina and her friend go?
- 2. What did they buy?
- 3. What happened on the way home?
- 4. How did they feel?

#### 5. WRITING SKILLS

**Writing** is one of the most powerful tools in learning English. It allows students to express ideas, share information, and communicate clearly. Good writing helps in exams, daily life, and future careers.

This chapter will guide **primary and secondary** students through different writing types, the writing process, grammar tips, and practical examples.

#### **5.1 Why Writing is Important**

- Helps organize your thoughts clearly
- • Improves grammar and vocabulary
- • Makes your ideas permanent (you can read and edit later)
- • Builds confidence in communication
- Needed for schoolwork, emails, letters, essays, and reports

# **5.2 Types of Writing**

Туре	Purpose	Example
Narrative	To tell a story	A day I got lost
Descriptive	To describe something in detail	My school, My favorite place
Informative	To explain facts or processes	How plants grow, The water cycle
Persuasive	To convince the reader	Why school rules are important
Letter Writing	To communicate formally or informally	A letter to your teacher or friend
Report Writing	To present organized facts	A report on a class trip

#### **5.3 The Writing Process**

To write well, follow these five steps:

# 1. Prewriting (Planning)

- Think about the topic
- Ask yourself: Who is my reader? What is my message?
- Make a list of ideas or draw a mind map

#### 2. Drafting

- Write your first version
- Don't worry about mistakes—just get your ideas down

#### 3. Revising

- Improve the ideas and structure
- Add more details or change weak parts

# 4. Editing

- Check grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- Make your writing clear and correct

# 5. Publishing or Sharing

- Final copy is clean and ready
- Read aloud, print, or submit your writing

#### 5.4 Paragraph Writing

A good paragraph has:

- Topic Sentence introduces the main idea
- Supporting Sentences give details or examples
- Concluding Sentence summarizes the paragraph

# **Example Paragraph (Descriptive):**

My school is very big. It has a large playground, many classrooms, and a library. The teachers are kind and helpful. I love my school because it is a fun place to learn.

#### **5.5 Sentence Structure Basics**

#### A complete sentence needs:

- A subject (who/what the sentence is about)
- A predicate (what is said about the subject)

**Example:** Ali (subject) is reading a book (predicate).

#### **Types of Sentences:**

- 1. Simple One idea: "I like English."
- 2. Compound Two ideas joined: "I like English, and I enjoy reading."
- 3. Complex One main and one dependent idea: "I study hard because I want to pass."

#### **5.6 Punctuation and Capitalization Rules**

# **✓** Capital Letters:

- At the beginning of a sentence
- For names of people and places
- For days and months
- The word "I"

#### **V** Punctuation Marks:

- . (Full stop): Ends a sentence
- •, (Comma): Separates items or ideas
- •? (Question mark): Ends a question
- •! (Exclamation mark): Shows strong feeling
- ' (Apostrophe): Shows possession or contractions (e.g., Ali's book, don't)

#### **5.7 Linking Words (Transition Words)**

To make your writing flow better, use linking words:

Use	Examples
Addition	and, also, furthermore
Contrast	but, however, although
Cause/Effect	because, so, therefore
Sequence	first, next, then, finally
Examples	for example, such as

### 5.8 Writing Examples by Grade Level

# Primary School (Grades 1-6):

- · Writing about yourself, your family, your school, animals, or seasons
- Writing simple letters (to a friend or teacher)

Example: My name is Nasteexo. I am 10 years old. I live in Qabridahare. I like to read books and play football.

#### **Secondary School (Grades 7–12):**

- · Writing formal and informal letters
- Composing short essays
- Describing experiences and opinions

#### Example (Essay Start):

Education is the key to a better future. In our region, many students walk long distances to school. However, they know that learning will help them improve their lives and communities.

#### Practice Activities

- 1. Write a paragraph about your favorite subject.
  - What is it? Why do you like it?

#### 2. Write a letter to your best friend.

• Tell them about your weekend.

#### 3. Write a short story.

• Title: "The Day the Rain Wouldn't Stop"

#### 4. Rewrite these jumbled sentences correctly:

- likes / she / reading / very much → She likes reading very much.
- playing / the / are / they / outside → They are playing outside.

#### **6. SPEAKING AND LISTENING SKILLS**

**Speaking and Listening** are essential communication skills in English. They help students express ideas clearly, understand others, and participate actively in class discussions, group work, and real-life situations.

This chapter provides a detailed guide to building effective **oral communication** and **active listening** skills for both **primary and secondary students**.

# 6.1 Importance of Speaking and Listening

- Helps in classroom participation
- ✓ Builds confidence when using English
- ✓ Improves pronunciation and vocabulary
- Develops better relationships and teamwork
- ✓ Needed for future success in interviews, jobs, and presentations

#### 6.2 Speaking Skills

What is Speaking?

Speaking is the ability to express ideas, feelings, and information using words and clear pronunciation.

#### 6.3 Elements of Good Speaking

#### 1. Clear Pronunciation

Say words clearly so listeners can understand.

Say: "teacher" instead of "teacha"

#### 2. Correct Grammar

Use the correct verb tense, word order, and sentence structure.

Correct: I am going to school. Incorrect: I going school.

#### 3. Fluency

Speak smoothly without long pauses or "um... uh..."

#### 4. Confidence

Make eye contact, stand straight, and speak with energy.

#### 5. Vocabulary

Use suitable words based on the topic. Expand vocabulary regularly.

#### 6. Tone and Volume

Speak at the right loudness and with emotion (don't be too quiet or too loud).

### **6.4 Common Speaking Activities**

Activity	Description
Greetings and Introductions	Practicing saying hello, introducing yourself
Dialogues	Short conversations with a partner
Role Plays	Acting out real-life situations (at a market, hospital, etc.)
Oral Presentations	Speaking about a topic in front of the class
Debates	Giving your opinion and defending it politely
Storytelling	Telling a short story from memory or pictures
Describing	Pictures Saying what you see in an image

# \* Sample Dialogue (Primary)

Ali: Good morning!

**Zahra**: Good morning, Ali! **Ali**: How are you today?

**Zahra**: I'm fine, thank you. And you? **Ali**: I'm fine too. Let's go to class.

Zahra: Yes, let's go!

# 6.5 Listening Skills

#### What is Listening?

Listening is more than hearing. It means **understanding** what others are saying and responding correctly.

#### 6.6 Elements of Good Listening

- 1. Pay Attention Focus on the speaker and don't get distracted
- 2. Look at the Speaker Eye contact shows respect and attention
- 3. **Don't Interrupt** Wait until the person finishes before you speak
- 4. Understand the Message Think about what the speaker is saying
- 5. Respond Appropriately Answer or ask a question politely

#### **6.7 Types of Listening Activities**

Activity	Purpose
Listening to Stories	Understanding narrative flow and main ideas
Following Directions	Listening carefully to complete tasks
Listening for Details	Catching specific words, names, or numbers
Answering Questions	Listening and responding correctly
Listening to News/Audio	Developing real-world English understanding

# Practice Activity: Listening Task (Primary)

#### **Teacher reads aloud:**

"Yesterday, Halima went to the market with her mother. They bought bananas, tomatoes, and onions. On their way back, it started to rain, and they ran home quickly."

#### **6.7 Types of Listening Activities**

Activity	Purpose
Listening to Stories	Understanding narrative flow and main ideas
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Listening for Details	Catching specific words, names, or numbers
Answering Questions	Listening and responding correctly
Listening to News/Audio	Developing real-world English understanding

# Practice Activity: Listening Task (Primary)

#### **Teacher reads aloud:**

"Yesterday, Halima went to the market with her mother. They bought bananas, tomatoes, and onions. On their way back, it started to rain, and they ran home quickly."

#### Students answer:

- 1. Where did Halima go?
- 2. Who did she go with?
- 3. What did they buy?
- 4. What happened on the way back?

# Practice Activity: Speaking Task (Secondary)

Task: Describe your daily routine

#### Example Answer:

I wake up at 6:00 AM. I pray and then prepare for school. I eat breakfast and leave home at 7:00 AM. My favorite class is English. After school, I help my parents and study in the evening.

#### 6.8 Tips for Teachers and Students

#### For Students

- Practice speaking English every day at home, school, or with friends
- Watch English videos and repeat what they say
- Record your voice and listen to improve pronunciation

#### **For Teachers**

- Encourage student interaction in class
- Create a safe environment where mistakes are accepted
- Use listening and speaking games, pair work, and group discussions

# 7. PRACTICE ACTIVITIES

(For English Skills: Grammar, Vocabulary, Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening)

This chapter provides fun and effective **practice activities** to help primary and secondary students **strengthen their English skills**. Activities are arranged by skill and level, with both **individual** and **group-based** options. These can be used at home, in class, or in group study.

#### 7.1 Grammar Activities

71	Fill in the	Blanks	(Primary &	Lowers	Secondary)
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<b>Activity</b> : Complete the sentence with the o	correct verb.
I (go) to school every day.	
She (eat) lunch at noon. They (play) football in the afternoon.	

# **2.** Sentence Correction

Activity: Identify and fix the mistake.

- a) He go to school.  $\rightarrow$  He goes to school.
- b) I am study now.  $\rightarrow$  I am studying now.

#### 3. Match Parts of Speech

**Activity**: Match words with their part of speech.

Word	Part of Speech
quickly	
student	
and	
jump	

(Answers: adverb, noun, conjunction, verb)

#### 7.2 Vocabulary Activities

# ✓ 1. Word Mapping

**Activity**: Choose a new word and create a word map:

- Word: Beautiful
- Meaning: attractive
- Synonym: pretty
- Antonym: ugly
- Sentence: The girl wore a beautiful dress.

#### 2. Themed Word Collection

**Activity**: Write down as many words as you can for these categories:

- Food
- Family
- School
- Nature

# ✓ 3. Synonym-Antonym Challenge

**Activity**: Write synonyms and antonyms for:

- Big
- Happy
- Easy
- Strong

#### 7.3 Reading Comprehension Activities

#### 1. Short Story Reading

#### Read this story and answer questions:

Ladan wakes up early every day. She helps her mother prepare breakfast. After eating, she walks to school. She enjoys learning, especially math.

#### **Questions:**

- 1. What does Ladan do after she wakes up?
- 2. What is her favorite subject?
- 3. How does she go to school?

#### 2. Main Idea Hunt

Activity: Read a paragraph and choose the main idea.

"Somali Region has many beautiful places. There are mountains, rivers, and wildlife. Tourists love to visit during the dry season."

### What is the main idea?

- a) Tourists hate traveling
- b) Somali Region is boring
- c) Somali Region has beautiful places 🗸

#### 7.4 Writing Activities

# ✓ 1. Journal Writing

**Activity**: Write 5–10 sentences about your day.

What did you do in the morning? What did you eat? What did you learn in class?

# **2. Sentence Building Puzzle**

Provide students with word cards and let them form correct sentences.

Cards: [I] [am] [eating] [lunch]  $\rightarrow$  I am eating lunch.

# **☑** 3. Picture Description Writing

**Activity**: Show students a picture (e.g., a market scene). Ask them to describe what is happening.

#### 7.5 Speaking Activities

#### ✓ 1. Role Play

**Activity**: Students act out real-life situations:

- At the hospital
- Buying things from a shop
- Asking directions
- Interview with a teacher

# 2. My Favorite Thing

**Activity**: Each student talks for 1–2 minutes about:

- Their favorite animal
- A person they admire
- Their dream job

# 3. Tell a Story from a Picture

Show a picture and let the student tell a story based on it.

# 7.6 Listening Activities

#### 1. Listening to Instructions

**Activity**: Teacher gives commands, and students follow. Stand up. Clap three times. Touch your nose. Say your name.

# 2. Listening and Drawing

Activity: Read a description. Students draw it.

"Draw a house with three windows. A tree is beside it. The sun is above."

#### **☑** 3. Dictation

Activity: Teacher reads a short paragraph. Students write what they hear.

#### Integrated Group Games (Fun + Learning)

Game	Name Description
Word Bingo	Create bingo cards with vocabulary. Teacher calls out meanings.
Spelling Bee	Students take turns spelling words aloud.
Word Chain	One student says a word; next one says a new word that starts with last letter.
Question Ball	Toss a ball; whoever catches it must answer a question in English.
What Am I?	One student describes something without naming it; others guess.

### 8. SAMPLE EXAM QUESTIONS

(For English language practice: Primary and Secondary students)

This chapter provides **graded**, **skill-based sample exam questions** for all major English areas: **grammar**, **vocabulary**, **reading comprehension**, **writing**, **speaking**, **and listening**. The goal is to help students get familiar with question formats and prepare effectively for school assessments and regional exams.

### **8.1 Grammar Sample Questions**

- **☑** Grade 5–6 Level (Multiple Choice)
- 1. Choose the correct verb:

She \_\_\_ to school every day.

- a) go
- b) goes 🗸
- c) going
- d) gone

Choose the correct preposition:

The book is \_\_\_ the table.

- a) in
- b) on 🗸
- c) under
- d) into
- 3. Identify the noun:

My father is a doctor.

- a) is
- b) my
- c) father <a></a>
- d) a
- **✓** Grade 9–10 Level (*Error Correction*)
- 1. She don't like mangoes.
- → She doesn't like mangoes.
- 2. The students was happy.
- $\rightarrow$  The students were happy.
- 3. He going to the library.
- $\rightarrow$  He is going to the library.

#### **8.2 Vocabulary Sample Questions**

# **✓** Match the word with its meaning (Grade 5–8)

Word Meaning

Honest () not telling lies ✓ very fast ✓

Strong () having much power <

# **✓** Synonyms/Antonyms (Grade 9–12)

Write a synonym for:

- Big → Large
- Begin → Start

Write an antonym for:

- Hot → Cold
- Happy → Sad

#### 8.3 Reading Comprehension Sample

# ✓ Passage (Grade 5-7)

Fatuma wakes up at 6:00 AM. She washes her face and helps her mother prepare breakfast. Then she walks to school with her younger brother. She enjoys reading books and dreams of becoming a teacher.

# **Questions:**

- 1. What time does Fatuma wake up?  $\rightarrow$  6:00 AM
- 2. Who does she walk to school with? → Her younger brother
- 3. What does Fatuma want to be?  $\rightarrow$  **A teacher**

#### ✓ Passage (Grade 9–12)

Education plays a key role in national development. In many regions, including Somali Regional State, efforts are being made to improve access to quality education. However, challenges such as lack of resources and trained teachers still exist.

# **Questions:**

- 1. What is the role of education?
  - $\rightarrow$  It supports national development.
- 2. Name one challenge mentioned.
  - $\rightarrow$  Lack of trained teachers.
- 3. What is being improved in the Somali region?
  - $\rightarrow$  Access to quality education.

# **8.4 Writing Sample Questions**

# **✓** Grade 5–6

- Write 5 sentences about your best friend.
- Describe your favorite animal

#### **✓** Grade 7–8

- Write a short paragraph about your school.
- Write a letter to your cousin telling them about your holiday.

#### **✓** Grade 9–12

- Write an essay on "The Importance of Learning English."
- Write a story beginning with: "It was a very hot day and I was walking alone..."

#### **8.5 Speaking Sample Questions**

#### **✓** Grade 5-8

- What is your name and age?
- Describe your house.
- What do you do after school?

#### **✓** Grade 9–12

- What are the advantages of education?
- Describe your daily routine in English.
- Express your opinion: "Social media helps students agree or disagree?"

#### **8.6 Listening Sample Questions**

#### **✓** Teacher reads aloud:

"Abdi went to the clinic on Monday because he had a headache. The nurse gave him medicine and told him to rest."

#### **Questions:**

- 1. Where did Abdi go?  $\rightarrow$  To the clinic
- 2. Why did he go there?  $\rightarrow$  He had a headache
- 3. What did the nurse tell him?  $\rightarrow$  *To rest*

### **\*** Exam Tips for Students

- Read each question carefully before answering
- Manage your time wisely
- Revise grammar rules regularly
- Practice speaking and listening with friends or classmates
- Read English books, short stories, or articles every week

#### 9. ANSWER KEY AND EXPLANATIONS

This chapter provides the correct answers to the sample exam questions in Chapter 8, along with **simple explanations** to help students understand why an answer is correct. This helps learners self-assess and improve their thinking for future exams.

#### 9.1 Grammar Questions

#### **✓** Grade 5-6 Level

# 1. She \_\_\_ to school every day.

Answer: b) goes

**Explanation**: "She" is singular, so the verb needs an "-s"  $\rightarrow$  goes.

#### 2. The book is \_\_\_ the table.

Answer: b) on

**Explanation**: The preposition "on" shows position directly on top of something.

#### 3. My father is a doctor.

Answer: c) father

**Explanation**: "Father" is a **noun** (name of a person).

# **✓** Grade 9–10 Level (*Error Correction*)

- 1. She don't like mangoes.
- Corrected: She doesn't like mangoes.
- → Use "doesn't" with **she/he/it.**
- 2. The students was happy.
- Corrected: The students were happy.
- → "Students" is plural, so use were not was.
- 3. He going to the library.
- Corrected: **He is going to the library.**
- → Always use "is/are/am" before "-ing" verbs in present continuous.

#### **9.2 Vocabulary Questions**

#### Match the Word with Meaning

Word	Meaning
Honest	not telling lies 🗸
Quick	very fast 🗸
Strong	having much power 🗸

# **✓** Synonyms/Antonyms

#### · Synonyms:

- Big → Large
- Begin → Start
- Antonyms:
  - Hot → Cold
  - Happy → Sad

# **Explanation:**

Synonyms have similar meanings. Antonyms have opposite meanings. Knowing both helps you describe better and avoid repeating the same words.

#### 9.3 Reading Comprehension

# ▼ Fatuma's Story (Grade 5-7)

- 1. **6:00 AM**  $\rightarrow$  That's when she wakes up (from the first line).
- 2. **Her younger brother** → Mentioned clearly in the sentence.
- 3. A teacher → It says "dreams of becoming a teacher."

# ✓ Education Paragraph (Grade 9–12)

- 1. **Supports national development** → Stated in the first sentence.
- 2. Lack of trained teachers → Mentioned as a challenge.
- 3. Access to quality education → It's what's being improved

#### 9.4 Writing Samples (Examples)

#### **Grade 5-6 Sample:**

My best friend is Ahmed. He is 12 years old. He is kind and smart. We go to school together. We play football after school.

#### **Grade 9–12 Sample Essay Opening:**

Learning English helps us in school, in finding jobs, and in talking with people from other countries. It is one of the most spoken languages in the world. In Somali Region, English is also the language used in higher education.

#### 9.5 Speaking Sample Answers

#### Grade 5-8

What do you do after school?

I go home, eat lunch, help my mother, and then study.

# Grade 9-12

• What are the advantages of education?

Education helps us find good jobs, make wise decisions, and improve our communities.

# 9.6 Listening Sample: Abdi's Story

- 1. Clinic  $\rightarrow$  Abdi went there because he was sick.
- 2. **Headache**  $\rightarrow$  The reason for visiting.
- 3. **Rest**  $\rightarrow$  That's what the nurse told him to do.

**Explanation**: Listening carefully to the details helps you answer questions correctly. Focus on who, when, where, and why.

#### **10. GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS**

This **Glossary** provides short, easy-to-understand definitions of important English language terms that students from **primary to secondary** levels often encounter. It helps students improve their academic vocabulary and understanding of key grammar and writing concepts.

Term Definition (Simple Explanation)

**Adjective** A word that describes a noun (e.g., happy, small)

**Adverb** A word that describes a verb or adjective (e.g., quickly, very)

Article A word used before nouns (e.g., a, an, the)

Capital Letter Big letters used at the beginning of a sentence or name (e.g., Ali, School)

Clause A group of words with a subject and a verb (e.g., She is studying)

**Comprehension** Understanding what you read or hear

**Conjunction** A word that connects parts of a sentence (e.g., and, but, because)

**Declarative Sentence** A sentence that makes a statement (e.g., I like books)

**Essay** A short piece of writing on a topic

**Grammar** The rules of how words are used in a language

**Homophones** Words that sound the same but have different meanings (e.g., there/their)

**Interjection** A word that shows strong feeling (e.g., Maashaa Allaah! Subhaanallaah!)

Main Idea The most important point in a sentence or paragraph

**Noun** A word for a person, place, thing, or idea (e.g., student, Kelafo, hope)

Paragraph A group of sentences about the same idea

Past Tense A verb form showing something already happened (e.g., walked, went)

**Phonics** The sounds that letters and words make

Plural More than one (e.g., books, children)

Term Definition (Simple Explanation)

Predicate The part of a sentence that tells what the subject does (e.g., is sleeping)

**Preposition** A word that shows location, time, or relationship (e.g., in, at, on)

**Pronoun** A word used instead of a noun (e.g., he, she, it)

**Punctuation** Marks used in writing (e.g., ., ?,!)

**Reading Comprehension** Understanding what you read

Sentence A group of words that express a complete idea

Simple Sentence A sentence with only one idea (e.g., She is eating)

**Subject** The person or thing doing the action (e.g., Ali in Ali is running)

Suffix Letters added to the end of a word to change meaning (e.g., -ful, -less)

**Synonym** A word with a similar meaning (e.g., big/large)

**Tense** Shows when something happens: past, present, or future

**Verb** A word that shows an action or state (e.g., run, is, eat)

**Vocabulary** The words you know and use in a language

Writing Process Steps for writing: plan, draft, revise, edit, publish

### **✓** Tip for Students:

Start a personal **glossary notebook** and add 3-5 new words weekly. Write:

- The word
- Its meaning
- A sample sentence
- A translation (e.g., in Somali or Arabic).