

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

CONSONANT SOUNDS

/d, k, g/ (The Plosives)

Plosives are consonants that are produced with explosive noise because there is a complete obstruction of air passage during their production. They are simply produced by blocking a part of mouth so that no air can pass through. Examples are /p/ /b/ /t/ /d/ /k/ /g/ etc.

WORD EXAMPLES /d/ -	Positions
dawn, saddle, blamed /k/ -	Initial.
kit, cheque, disc /g/ -	Middle.
gown, exact, reign	Final.

ADVERBIAL OF TIME.

Adverb of time is a type of adverb that explains when an action was performed. It shows when something happened. Example: before, seldom, after, when, until, as soon as, since, tonight, yesterday, next year etc.

SENTENCE EXAMPLES:

1. She returned last month.
2. The newspaper arrives daily.
3. He left before I could get there.
4. It rained until dawn.
5. As long as there is life. I will survive.

TOPIC: READING COMPREHENSION FOR SPEED

Speed Reading is any of the several techniques used to improve one's ability to read quickly. To achieve speed reading habit, a student must have the following zeals:

i. The desire to improve,

1. The willingness to practice and
2. Motivation.

As one reads for speed, he/she must put the following skills into consideration:

1. Good eyesight: This ensures good reading and enhances speed while reading.
2. Avoid vocalization during reading: Do not read out words when reading.
3. Avoid regressive reading: when reading, make sure you do not go back to the words already read.
4. Constant reading practice: Remember, practice, they say, makes perfect. You must force yourself to read constantly by trying to use every opportunity to turn to your books.
5. Avoiding pointing at words as you read. Pointing at words while reading tends to slow down your reading speed.
6. Do not stop at individual words to find out its pronouciation while reading. Such tends to slow down your speed and even your understanding of the entire passage.

1. Avoid making poor Eye Movement. Do not allow your eyes to make many short forward jumps and many backward jumps as you read. Doing so will slow down your speed and as well affect your understanding of the passage. Try as much as possible to use the tail of your eyes to gather many words while reading and do not wait until you get to each word before you recognize it.

(Comprehension, Reading, Pg.174 of the Current English Text, try to practice all that have been taught)

CONSONANT SOUNDS

/f, v, θ/ (THE FRICATIVES)

Fricatives are consonant sounds that are produced by constricting the vocal tract, causing friction as the air passes through it. These types of sounds are produced with frictional noise as the articulators come in contact to obstruct the flow of air partially, not completely.

Examples /f, v, θ/

/f/ and /v/

In the production of these sounds, the upper teeth come in a firm contact with the lower lip, the flowing air is pushed out without disengaging the organs in contact and the sound produced has obvious friction with voicing in /v/ sounds and without voicing in /f/ sound.

Examples

/f/ sound: fan, photo, elf, photo etc.

/v/ sound: victory, Stephen, grove etc.

/θ/ sound

In the production of /θ/ sound, the tongue pushes hard on the teeth with the lower jaw loosely held, so that the tip of the tongue can be lodged almost between the teeth. The rushing air is trapped between the tongue and the teeth and it is then forcefully pushed out with friction; the lips are spreading in the process. It is a voiceless sound. Word examples are: thirsty thoughtful, method, wealthy.

Word examples of the fricatives sound discussed with their positions include:

/f/ - foil, buffalo, rough Initial Position.

/v/ - vast, move, leave Middle Position.

/θ/ - thought, method, growth Initial Position.

ADVERBIAL OF REASON (CAUSE)

Adverbial of reason tells us the reason why an action is performed. It usually answers the question *Why?*

Examples:

1. I sing because I like singing.
2. I am glad that you have come.
3. She was hungry, so she ate the food.
4. She woke up due to the loudness of the radio set.
5. He died as a result of ill health, etc.

CONSONANT SOUNDS /ð, s, ʃ/ MORE FRICATIVES.

This is a voiced sound that is produced when the tongue and the upper teeth come in contact and the vocal cord tightens for vibration to occur. Its manner of articulation is fricative.

Word examples are: they, father, this, other, smooth, than, either, with, together, another etc.

/s/ is a voiceless sound that is produced when the tongue touches the roof of the mouth at the roots of the teeth, and this is why its place of articulation is alveolar, while the manner of articulation is fricative because it is produced when there is a rush of air through a passage in the mouth.

/ð/ is a voiceless palato-alveolar fricative which is articulated or produced with the blade or tip of tongue touching the alveolar ridge which allow the flowing out of air from every available opening. It is found in words like complexion, shop, sure, chef, nation, mission, etc.

SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE.

Tense is a form a verb takes to show the time an action is being performed. The time of an action could be in present tense, past tense and future tense.

Simple Present Tense

This is a type of tense that expresses an action that happens in a present time. It expresses habitual action, a well-known truth, ability and futurity.

Examples:

- a) Present tense expressing a habitual action, that is, actions that the doer does always or usually.
 1. He comes to school late.
 2. David drinks coffee at breakfast.
 3. We cook everyday.
 4. I go to Church every Sunday.
2. Present Tense expressing a well-known truth that is, expressing facts that have been scientifically, biblically, philosophically tested to be true.
 1. The earth is spherical.
 2. Dog barks.
 3. Rivers flow.
 4. The earth revolves around the sun.

3. Simple present tense expressing ability; that is, expressing that somebody or something is able to do something or can do something perfectly well.

1. John drives well.
2. I enjoy singing.
3. Uche plays violin etc.

1. Present Tense expressing futurity that is expressing action that will happen in the future; an action that is yet to happen.

- (1) I will visit you as soon as I come back.
- (2) We will give it to her when she arrives.
- (3) Uche will see you before she leaves, etc.

NOTE:

In simple present tense, third person singular pronouns (he, she, it) takes plural verbs that can be in either "s" or 'es' or 'ies'. For example: He wants.

She catches.

It flies, etc.

POETRY

Poetry is a genre of literature. It is defined as a collection of words that express an emotion or idea. It can also be defined as the piece of work that is arranged in patterns of lines, stanzas and verses to show the poet's imagination, deep thoughts and powerful feelings.

Types of Poetry.

- i. **SONNET:** A poem of fourteen lines with a specially arranged or fixed rhyme scheme. It is divided into two.
1. **ITALIAN OR PETRARCHAN SONNET:** A poem in which the first eight lines that introduces the subject matter is known as Octave, while the remaining six lines that concludes the poem is called Sestet.
2. **ENGLISH AND SHAKESPEARIAN SONNET:** This contains three quatrains and couplet.
3. **EPIC:** A long narrative poem that talks about the heroic deeds of great people and events that are significant.
- V. **ELEGY:** It is a mournful poem to mourn the death of a bosom friend. It is usually written to be recited.
- vi. **ODE:** A lyrical poem which poet uses in praising people, natural scenes, etc.

FEATURES OF POETRY.

1. It has regular rhythmic pattern.
2. Its words are carefully chosen.
3. It is written in verses, stanzas and lines.
4. It is written in Concrete language.

USES OF POETRY.

1. It is used to express one's emotion of sorrow, e.g., (dirge, elegy).
2. It can be turned into music, danced or sung because of its rhythmic features, (Ode, Ballad, Lyrics).
3. Some poems like Pastoral is used to portray the simple rural life of a people.
4. It uses humor and ridicule to attack ills and follies in the society in order to correct them (Satire).
5. It teaches moral lessons, instructs and corrects ills, etc.

CONSONANT SOUNDS

/h, z/ More Fricatives

/z/ is a voiced alveolar fricative sound that is produced when the upper teeth come together. It is found in words like zeal, zip, rise, does, rose, is, music, zero, etc.

/h/ is a voiceless glottal fricative that is pronounced through the mouth while the air comes out of the mouth as the sound is being produced. It can be seen in words like while, who, hot, hello, hill, hear, happen, horrible, hospital, etc.

SIMPLE PAST TENSE

This is a type of tense that expresses an action that has been already completed at time of speaking. It indicates an action that happened in the past. Examples:

- i. We saw her yesterday.
4. He washed the car.
5. I lived in Lagos for five years.
6. We waited for one hour.
7. They went to school.

LITERATURE: DRAMA.

Drama is a genre of literature that is acted on a stage before an audience. It is a story told in the form of a dialogue by the performers. It is usually written in acts and scenes. It is written by a playwright, acted by actors and actresses.

Types of Drama.

1. **TRAGEDY:** A type of drama that ends unhappily especially with the death of the hero or the main character(s) in the play.
2. **COMEDY:** This is an entertaining drama that consists of jokes, funny issues intended to amuse the audience by causing them to laugh while also ends happily.

1. **TRAGIC COMEDY:** This is a play that portrays both sad and funny event. It blends aspects of both tragedies with less serious issues of comedy. It seems to have a tragic end but suddenly ends happily creating mixed feelings in the audience.
2. **FARCE:** A type of comedy that makes use of highly exaggerated and funny situations aimed at entertaining the audience. It makes people laugh by using funny characters.
5. **MELODRAMA:** This is an exciting romantic play with consists of music, idealized love and visional events. It triggers strong feelings or interests in the minds of the people and it ends happily too.

Elements of Drama.

1. **SETTING:** This is the background where the action takes place. It consists of the time and locale of the drama.
2. **PLOT:** This is the sequence of events in the play. It is the order of events occurring in a play.
3. **THEME:** This is the central idea of a drama that can be staged through dialogue or action.
4. **CHARACTERS:** These are the actors/actresses that give life to what the playwright has written and also make the audience to understand what the play is all about, etc.

CONSONANT SOUNDS

/tʃ/ and /dʒ/

Affricates are sounds produced with total obstruction/blockage of air which is followed by the sudden release of the air with definite friction. Some examples of africate sounds are:

i. /tʃ/: This is a voiceless consonant sound which is produced by gliding /t/ sound to /ʃ/ while both the upper and lower teeth are in contact, while the front and the sides of the tongue touch the alveolar ridge and air flows from any available opening. It is found in words like chain, nature, Church, match, chips, change, future, etc.

1. /dʒ/: This is a voiced consonant sound. The vocal cord vibrates during the production of /dʒ/ while the upper and lower teeth are in contact with each other. It can be found in words such as marriage, danger, sponge, judge, fridge, change, etc.

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VERB.

An Active Verb (Voice) exposes/indicates the action of someone. In active verb, the performer is the subject of the sentence; the subject of the sentence introduces the action of the sentence by creating the action which is received by the object in that same sentence. Active verb takes the S.V.O structure.

Examples of active verb are:

1. The principal loves the student. (Principal - subject; loves - verb; the student - object).
2. The hunter killed an antelope. (The hunter - subject; killed - verb; an antelope - object).
3. He painted the entire house. (He - subject; painted - verb; the house - object).
4. Achebe built his reputation. (Achebe - subject; built - verb; his reputation - object).

Passive Verb (Voice)

Unlike the active verb, Passive verbs occur when the object of a sentence appears firstly in the sentence. In passive verb, the subject is acted upon by the verb. The difference between active and passive is that; active tells us what the subject of the sentence does or did in that particular sentence which is passive verb tells us what happened to or is done to the subject in a particular sentence. For instance;

The children broke the window, (active voice).

The window was broken by the children, (passive verb).

Passive verb is formed from the verb 'to be' + 'past participle' (tense of the verb 'to be')

In other words, in writing a passive sentence:

1. The object is followed by 'Be'.
2. The 'be' is followed by a past participle tense.
3. The past participle tense is followed by 'by'.
4. Then 'by' is followed by the subject of the sentence.

Examples:

4. An antelope was killed by the hunter, (an antelope - object; was - 'be', killed - PP (past participle tense of verb 'kill'), by, the hunter - subject).
5. This photo was taken by my friend.
6. A ticket was booked by them.
7. The road is being constructed by good company.

SUMMARY WRITING.

To summarize is to describe in your own words. It simply means writing a shortened version of the passage one has read. It involves analyzing information into few words or sentences by stating the main points and these main points are the subject of discussion that talks about what the passage is all about and leaving out every other thing that is not necessary.

There are essential things one has to bear in mind when summarizing a piece of work. They include:

1. Summary has to be precise and brief. (This means that one takes the vital points leaving out other ones that are not relevant).
2. One must read extensively any work given to him or her to summarize before making the summary.
3. Main points/ideas in the piece of work must be retained. (Do not deviate from the essential information).
4. Do not use paragraph while writing summary.

5. Do not join two points together and also avoid writing two answers when you are asked to give only one answer.
6. Always go through the work after summarizing to make sure that the main ideas in the piece of work are retained.