

Worksheet 2



Reading

A. Read this passage.

May 8

I only slept a few hours, and feeling that I could not sleep any more, got up. I had hung my shaving glass by the window, and was just beginning to shave. Suddenly I felt a hand on my shoulder, and heard the Count's voice saying to me, "Good morning."

I started, for it amazed me that I had not seen him, since the reflection of the glass covered the whole room behind me.



In starting, I had cut myself slightly, but did not notice it at the moment. Having answered the Count, I turned to the glass again to see how I had been mistaken. This time there could be no error, for the man was close to me, and I could see him over my shoulder. But there was no reflection of him in the mirror!

At the instant, I saw that the cut had bled a little, and the blood was trickling over my chin. I laid down the razor, turning to look for some sticking plaster. When the Count saw my face, his eyes blazed with a sort of wild, evil fury, and he suddenly made a grab at my throat. I drew away, and his hand touched the string of beads round my neck. It made an instant change in him, for the fury passed so quickly that I could hardly believe that it was ever there.

“Take care how you cut yourself,” he said. “It is more dangerous than you think in this country.” Then, seizing the shaving glass, he went on: “And this is the wretched thing that has done the mischief. Away with it!” and opening the heavy window with one wrench of his hand, he flung out the glass, which shattered into a thousand pieces on the stones of the courtyard below. Then he withdrew without a word.

After breakfast I did a little exploring in the castle. I went out on the stairs, and found a room looking towards the south. The view was magnificent. The castle is on the very edge of a terrible precipice. A stone falling from the window would fall a thousand feet without touching anything! As far as the eye can reach is a sea of green treetops. Here and there are silver threads where the rivers wind through the forests. But I am not in heart to describe beauty, for in no place save from the windows in the



castle walls is there an available exit. The castle is a prison, and I am a prisoner!

B. Answer these questions.

1. This passage is: a. a story b. a diary entry c. an article

How do you know?

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2. Scan the passage quickly to find three words or phrases that heighten the suspense and mystery in the passage.

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3. Imagine you are creating a painting of the castle described in the passage. Which element would best convey the sense of danger and isolation mentioned in the text?

- a. a clear blue sky
- b. lush green treetops
- c. a silver river far below
- d. a castle on the edge of a precipice

4. The passage mentions 'string of beads' around the speaker's neck. Why were they able to calm down the Count instantly?

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5. Besides having no reflection in a mirror, what else in the passage suggests that the Count might not be human? Quote the sentence.

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6. After the Count threw away the mirror, which of these two responses do you think the speaker would have had?

a. "Thank you for your concern, Count. I'll be more careful in the future."	b. "Why did you do that? Are you hiding something from me?"
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Explain the reason behind your choice.

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7. What can you infer about the speaker's feelings towards the Count after the encounter in the shaving room?
- a. The speaker respects the Count's authority.
 - b. The speaker fears the Count's unpredictable behavior.
 - c. The speaker is fascinated by the Count.

C. Use appropriate words from the passage you have read to complete this connected passage.

Detective Jones cautiously entered the abandoned warehouse, his footsteps echoing in the silence. Suddenly, a faint light



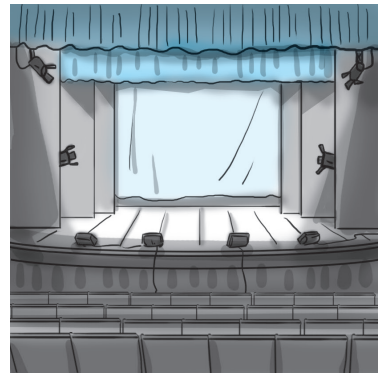
1. from a corner, revealing a figure standing there. Jones ², not expecting anyone. He turned to face the notorious thief known as The Phantom. A strange fury seemed to flicker in his eyes. The Phantom had caused enough trouble, Jones thought. In a swift move, The Phantom made a ³ for a hidden object. Jones reacted instantly, ⁴ The Phantom's arm and ⁵ the object away—a rusted key.



Grammar

A. Underline the noun clauses in these sentences.

1. I want to know how far the metro station is from here.
2. The news that all was well delighted everyone.
3. Nutan doesn't know whether her parents are home yet.
4. Can you please find out if the stage lights are working?
5. I have promised my friend that I will never litter again.
6. For my birthday, I buy whichever cake I like.
7. To this day, the watchman believes that he saw something strange that night.
8. What he did in the cricket match was miraculous.



B. Rewrite these pairs of sentences into a single sentence with who / which / that / where / whose. Then circle the relative clause in each sentence.

1. I know a girl. She sings very well.

I know a girl who sings very well.

2. This is a college. My parents taught here.

3. The teacher's son also studies in this school. Do you know him?

4. I would like to meet the girl. She sent me beautiful flowers.

5. This is a Chinese restaurant. Your mother and I used to eat here.

6. I wanted to buy comic books. They are available only in the store on Mall Road.

7. I know a confectionery. It sells delicious cakes and cookies.



8. The customers are waiting outside the ATM. They came to withdraw money.



C. Match the main clause with the non-defining relative clause.

- | A | | B |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Paul inherited a lot of wealth, | • | • a. which I got as a present. |
| 2. Neha was very fond of her cousin, Radha, | • | • b. who used to live with her until a few years ago. |
| 3. Ruma has been offered a temporary job, | • | • c. which he later spent on building community libraries. |
| 4. We are going to visit a friend, Mohan, | • | • d. which never gave us a single fruit! |
| 5. Mother planted this beautiful mango tree, | • | • e. who loves to cook for us. |
| 6. Our next-door neighbour has a big yard, | • | • f. which he recycles as plant pots. |
| 7. I am using a new laptop, | • | • g. which she is not willing to accept. |
| 8. He collects discarded bottles, | • | • h. which is always overgrown. |



D. Complete these sentences with defining relative clauses from the box.

whom I knew	which I have just started
who was on stage	which we served
that she has always wanted to do	that we can share with others
who showed courage in the field	that is just round the corner

1. She is very happy. This is something that she has always wanted to do.
2. He could only hear and not see the person
3. Nearly all the people have left this locality.
4. The samosas were hot and spicy.
5. I would like to show you the painting
6. He usually frequents the shop
7. There is little food
8. The soldiers were awarded gallantry awards.





Vocabulary

A. Match each word with its definition. You may use a dictionary, if in doubt.

lonely / alone	imaginary / imaginative	adapt / adept
affirm / confirm	assent / ascent	singly / singularly

- existing only in the mind
 - showing / having new or exciting ideas
- climbing upwards
 - agreement or approval
- strangely, uniquely
 - individually
- change for new use or situation
 - very skilled
- on one's own
 - feeling isolated
- to state something as true
 - to make certain



B. Match the idiomatic expressions in A with their meanings in B.

- | A | B |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. to be all ears | • a. to be uncoordinated or ungraceful |
| 2. to be all thumbs | • b. to begin something before others do |
| 3. heart-to-heart | • c. be ready and eager to learn |
| 4. get / have cold feet | • d. become nervous before an important event |
| 5. head start | • e. a very honest and open conversation |

C. Now complete these sentences with the correct forms of the idioms from the previous exercise.

1. I'm today! I tripped and fell, and I broke my favourite coffee cup.
2. I had a conversation with my friend and told her about my problems.
3. **Satish:** How did you finish your work so quickly?
Riyaz: I had a
....., that's why.



4. I was supposed to make a speech; but I
..... and I didn't go to school today.
5. **Shama:** Hey! I have some wonderful news!
Kanti: I'm Please go on.



Punctuation

Rewrite this passage with the correct punctuation marks and capital letters where necessary.

how do we get past those mountains they seem to be higher than we
can fly higher than the very sky said waggle the little bird
yes said wagga the big bird had we been geese or eagles or cranes
we might have been able to fly right over them but do you see that
broad silver river there thats the mighty indus well fly along its valleys
through the mountains following the winding path it cuts through the
rugged terrain
wow said waggle impressed you know everything im glad im
with you id be lost without your guidance
as they began their descent towards the river the valley below came
into clearer view the water sparkled in the sunlight winding through
lush greenery and rocky cliffs look at that exclaimed waggle what are
those bright colors near the water
wagga squinted and smiled those are prayer flags waggle the locals
hang them to send their prayers and blessings into the wind
its a beautiful tradition

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Writing

- A. Have you read a book on mystery or horror? Write a **review** of such a book. Include details of why you found the book interesting and how it can interest people.

OR

- B. Have you ever experienced something scary or mysterious? Maybe you have heard of something spooky from a relative or a neighbour. Write a **letter** to your friend telling them about the incident. Then write what you personally think about it. Do you believe it? Will your friend?



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