

## Getting started

Look at the pictures carefully and talk about them with your opinion.



## Reading I

Look at the picture and answer these questions.

- What do you think is going to happen?
- What precautions should be taken on the road while driving? Share your opinions.



## Road accidents in Nepal: Are poor roads solely to blame?

Every day, as we scroll through the news feed or flip through the pages of a newspaper, we witness news of a road accident. After that, we curse a lot of people - those in power and those responsible for the poor construction of the road. But if we delve into the causes of road accidents, we will find it is not just the government or the department associated with road infrastructure.

Driver's negligence is a key factor contributing to the high number of deaths in road accidents. Driving is a personal thing, and the responsibility for maintaining safety is more on the drivers.

*Safe driving is a mixture of discipline, experience and maturity - traits young people lack. If the minimum age to acquire a driving license is extended from 16 to 20, it might help reduce the road accidents.*

Motorbikes, among others, are the most popular form of vehicle in Nepal. In developing countries like Nepal, motorbikes outnumber cars. Among other reasons, what makes two-wheelers so popular is the cost. What is more, motorbikes can manoeuvre themselves through traffic congestion, which is another problem on Nepali roads. Mostly they are between the age of 18 and 40, and it is the age where one does not have much control over emotions and desires. Youths in Nepal are seen riding motorbikes at a very high speed.

Safe driving is a mixture of discipline, experience, and maturity - traits young people lack. If the minimum age to acquire a driving license is extended from 16 to 20 or even more, it might help to decrease the number of road accidents. The parents at home and the educational institutions should also play their roles by monitoring the youngsters. Schools and colleges can

restrict students from riding until they turn 20. And parents should not be in a hurry to buy their kids a motorbike or any other vehicle. The youths should be given access to vehicles only after they attain a sense of maturity.

At night, we often come across drivers who drink and drive. Since driving requires great concentration, a slight mistake can cause severe injury or even death. The drivers themselves must be conscious of their drinking habits. They should not drink before driving. That is something a responsible driver can do.

And from the **perspective** of the law, a person who drinks and drives must be punished and made aware so that s/he does not repeat it. Strict checking should be held at the checkpoints in the city areas, and enough traffic officers should be **deployed** to get hold of the **culprits**.

Poor road infrastructure is something that should not be overlooked while discussing the deaths caused by road accidents. The narrow lanes with countless potholes are responsible for the increasing number of road accidents. There are roads where two vehicles cannot even pass through. During the monsoon, especially in hilly areas, roads are blocked for days due to landslides. The passengers face such **ordeal** that they opt to stay home than travel. Such is the condition of road infrastructure in Nepal.

Poor road conditions result in a number of accidents. To develop better road infrastructure, the different government agencies; Department of Roads and Department of Transport Management should **coordinate** between themselves. That way, we will witness less number of road accidents.

*(Adapted from an article by Sugam Gautam published in The Himalayan Times)*

**A. Complete the sentences with the correct words given below.**

perspective    witnessed    congestion    infrastructure  
ordeal    coordination

- a. A car hit a boy. People ..... the accident.
- b. The earthquake destroyed the ..... of the building.
- c. Excessive number of motorbikes and violation of traffic rules cause traffic .....
- d. As we judge others from our ....., we fail to understand their problems.
- e. Good ..... among the staff flourishes a healthy relationship.
- f. Anusha looks sad as she faced a/an .....

**B. Answer these questions.**

- a. According to the writer, who do we curse for road accidents?
- b. Why are motorbikes popular in Nepal?
- c. Why should parents and educational institutions monitor the youngsters?
- d. What measures should be taken to stop drink-driving?
- e. What is the main cause of road accidents in your opinion?

**C. What measures can be taken to maximise the road safety in Nepal? Discuss.**

**Pronunciation**

**Listen to your teacher. Practise pronouncing these words.**

congestion	infrastructure	witness	pedestrian
manoeuvre	jaywalking	mishap	motorways
transport	safeguarding		

## Speaking

### A. Act out the following conversation in pairs.

#### Conversation I

Manoj: What do you think about working until midnight?

Sundar: In my opinion, working until midnight is very bad for health.

Manjila: I think working until midnight helps one meet deadlines.

Pratik: I don't think so. Some people are unlikely to utilise their time properly.

#### Conversation II

Seema: Don't you think social media is making us less social?

Anil: That's a good point. People hardly talk to each other face to face because of the social media.

Anita: I agree with you to some extent. But, it helps us get updated.

Vim: I don't quite agree with you. Without social media, we'd have been unable to keep in touch with people.

### B. How do you feel about the following statements? Give your opinion.

- a. Celebrities earn too much money.
- b. All children should be able to access school.
- c. We should not eat too much fast food.
- d. Watching television is necessary for schoolchildren.
- e. The internet is a good source of learning.

## Grammar I

- A. Study the following sentences. Notice how subject and verb agree with each other.**
- Games and sports are part and parcel of our regular life.
  - There is lots of research.
  - Participating in sports reduces our stress and makes our mood better.
  - Some of our food habits are also risking our lives.
- B. Choose the correct words from the brackets to complete the sentences.**
- My uncle and aunt ..... to my house every Friday. (come/comes)
  - There ..... time to watch the movie. (is/are)
  - My friends who are in the band ..... me to play a musical instrument. (wants/want)
  - Everyone ..... time to relax. (needs/need)
  - Your trousers ..... new. (looks/look)
  - Some of the books on the shelf ..... missing. (is/are)
  - One of my friends ..... living in that house. (was/were)
  - One hundred rupees ..... not enough for me. (is/are)
  - Five kilometres ..... a long distance to travel. (is/are)
  - You or he ..... responsible for that job. (is/are)
  - Linguistics ..... her favourite subject. (is/are)

### Writing I

**Do you think extracurricular activities are important for students? Write an essay giving your opinions. Divide the essay into the following parts.**

- Introduction:** definition and examples of extracurricular activities

- b. **Body:** importance and challenges of extracurricular activities
- c. **Conclusion:** summing up ideas

## Listening

### A. Look the picture and answer these questions.

- a. What countries do these flags belong to?
- b. What are these countries famous for?



### B. Listen to the audio and fill in the gaps with correct words. Use one word only.

- a. Sweden was voted the best place in the world for being safe and .....
  - b. Canada is also considered the best place to live because it has got lots of ..... and nature.
  - c. It is okay to live in Canada but it is really ..... there.
  - d. The ..... time is the perfect time to live in Canada.
  - e. Hotels and restaurants in Canada were not very .....
  - f. Canadians are really ..... and outgoing as well.
  - g. One of the speakers wants to ..... to Canada.
- C. If you were asked to choose between Sweden and Canada, which country would you choose to visit? Why? Talk to your friends.

## Reading II

### Look at the picture and answer these questions.

- a. How would you feel if you were there in the picture?
- b. What do you think; life is short or long?

## Long Life

Life is too short to be spent  
gripping about the past,  
things you don't have,  
places you haven't seen,  
things you haven't done.



Life is too short to be spent  
holding grievances against another,  
finding fault in your brother,  
counting the wrongs done on you.

Life is just long enough  
to enjoy the beauty of a sunrise,  
the smell of wet earth,  
and the sound of laughter,  
after a long day's work.

Life is just long enough  
to practice compassion and generosity,  
to comfort the grieving,  
to lend strength to the fainthearted,  
and direction to the lost.

- *Tricia Mae Chua*

**A. Match the words in column A with their meanings in column B.**

<b>Column A</b>	<b>Column B</b>
a. griping	i. sympathy and concern for others' feelings
b. grievances	ii. feel intense sorrow
c. fault	iii. complaints
d. compassion	iv. kindness with giving time, help, money, etc.
e. generosity	v. lacking courage
f. fainthearted	vi. moaning about something
	vii. error, defect, flaw

**B. Complete the summary of the poem with the suitable words given below.**

past   compassion   faults   waste   beauty   enjoy

Life could be both short and long depending on how you perceive it. It is too short to ..... our time in taking worries about the ....., finding others' ..... and wrong doings. But it is long enough to ..... nature-made ..... and have ..... and kindness to the needy.

**C. Answer these questions.**

- How do people make their lives short?
- What can we do with our life if it is long enough?
- Who does the word 'you' refer to?
- How would you like to live your life?

**D. Do you agree with the poet's views about life? Give your opinion.**

## Grammar II

### A. Study the following pairs of sentences. Do they have similar or different meanings?

- a. i. Life is **too short** to spend on luxuries.  
ii. Life is **not long enough** to spend on luxuries.
- b. i. Kanchan's sister is **too young** to get married.  
ii. Kanchan's sister is **not old enough** to get married.
- c. i. It's **not late enough** to go to school.  
ii. It's **too early** to go to school.
- d. i. The box is **heavy enough** for them to lift.  
ii. The box is **too light** for them to lift.
- e. i. The dress is **loose enough** to wear.  
ii. The dress is **not too tight** to wear.

### B. Choose the correct words from the brackets to complete these sentences.

- a. Akash was ..... enough to lift the suitcase. (strong/strength)
- b. They aren't too ..... to deal with. (sociable/sociably)
- c. My friend is ..... enough to help me with maths. (intelligent/intelligence)
- d. Seema is ..... enough to solve the problems. (smartness/smart)
- e. The baby is too ..... to sit. (weakness/weak)
- f. I'm worried. It's too ..... to buy. (expensive/expense)

### C. Rewrite the following sentences so that they have similar meanings. Use the words given in the brackets. One example is given.

*Example: The tea is too hot to drink. (cold enough)*

*The tea is not cold enough to drink.*

- a. I can't reach there on time. It's too far. (near enough)
- b. Samata can't wear a saree. She is too young to wear it. (old enough)
- c. My bag is light enough to carry. (too heavy)
- d. Sangam is too young to drive a motorbike. (old enough)
- e. Priya isn't tall enough to reach the ceiling. (too short)

## Writing II

### A. Punctuate the following paragraph correctly.

How do you spend your holiday I usually do a lot of activities clean rooms do shopping visit new places watch movies etc Yesterday I cleaned my room My best friend's parents like the quality of my cleaning Last year they visited our house and saw my cleaning He said Wow I love the way you decorate your room While I was cleaning I dropped an ink bottle It broke into pieces It was really tough to clean the floor as the floor turned red because of the smashed bottle I wiped a painting which was gifted to me by my uncle on my birthday We celebrated it on January 22 2023 the day was a memorable one

### B. Some people prefer to have food from restaurants while others prefer homemade food. What is your preference? Write an essay giving your opinion.

## Project work

Work in groups. Make a survey of the opinion of your friends on the following topics. Then, present it to the class.

## Survey form

Topics	Friend 1	Friend 2	Friend 3	Friend 4	Friend 5
a. What is the best way to learn English?					
b. What is your favourite subject?					
c. What clothes do you like the best?					
d. What is the easiest way to make friends?					

*Extra bit*

## Pronouns in English

	Subject	Object	Possessive pronouns	Possessive determiners	Reflexives
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I/we	me/us	mine/ours	my/our	myself/ourselves
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	you	us	yours	your	yourself/yourselves
3 <sup>rd</sup> person	he/she/it/they	him/her/it/them	his/hers/its/their	his/her/its/theirs	himself/herself/itself/themselves