

Television vs. Newspapers

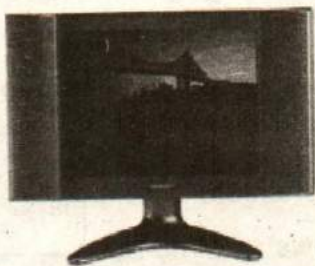
Learning Outcomes

After completing this unit students will:

- illustrate the use of first conditional sentences
- present and explain their points of view clearly
- structure ideas and arguments in a coherent logical fashion
- summarize the main points of the discussion for the benefit of the whole group
- write a comparative essay on the given topic

Pre-reading

- ◆ What kind of programmes do you like to watch on television?
- ◆ What kind of news do you like to read in newspapers?
- ◆ Which medium of information is more important? Why?



For the Teacher:

- Use pre-reading activity to help students predict the content of the text from the title, pictures and by using their prior knowledge of media.

- (1) News coverage over television is different from reading newspapers. Newspapers were primarily established to cover the news and later on they added entertainment. On the other side television was mainly invented for entertainment and then it became an effective news medium. Now television news has become a powerful rival to newspapers. Though both of these mediums cover the news effectively, there are distinct differences in the way they do it.
- (2) Newspapers do not require us to sit at a place and read the news. Busy people may read the papers anytime of the day. They may read the news that is important to them early in the morning, and carry the paper with them to read in the bus or van. They may also choose to omit certain aspects of the news that they are not interested in.
- (3) Television, on the other hand, requires its viewers to be at a certain place, at a certain time in order to watch and listen to the news. If they are busy people, they will miss the news. They cannot choose to read it on the move or throughout the day. They cannot even choose which piece of news they wish to skip. One way could be to record it and watch it later. But the point here is that it is not that convenient.
- (4) Television brings laziness in us. We can view the news with a little or no effort since it is practically a form of entertainment. If we have the leisure time, we can view the television news anytime of

What is one good thing about newspapers?

How does television make us lazy?

For the Teacher:

- More while-reading questions may also be generated for better understanding of the role of media.

Help students identify details which make/show comparison and contrast between Newspapers and Television. Ask them to look carefully at the descriptions and other details that the author includes in the text.

the day and night. It broadcasts the news as it is happening. Much mastery of language is not necessary for the person who prefers to view the news on television because everything is visual and auditory. A person with a basic knowledge of the broadcast language will be able to view and understand it. In comparison, the reader of a newspaper needs to be proficient in the language in order to understand it better.

Although television can give us the most updated news and visuals, (5) newspapers can give us more in-depth coverage. Editorials and column writers can give us their expert views and analysis that we can digest slowly as we read them. Many people also opt to read more than one newspaper a day so as to get different viewpoints of the story and to check its validity. Readers can also give feedback to the articles by writing to the forum pages. Viewers of television news do not have this luxury as the news flies too fast for any feedback to be relevant.

Have you ever given your views on any article?

Each medium has strengths that the other does not. Each makes (6) use of strong points that the other lacks. Television news is like having a fast food meal whereas reading newspapers is like having a ten course dinner. The ideal seems to be, if one has the time, to both read the news and watch it on television.

Which simile has the author used and why?

THEME

Role of Print and Electronic Media in our life is very significant, we know the national and international news because of media. Electronic media brings awareness. Print media also plays a vital role in this respect.

GLOSSARY

| | | |
|----------------------|-------|--|
| broadcast | | to transmit a program on television or radio |
| coverage | | the action of covering something for the press; |
| distinct | | marked |
| entertainment | | performances that people enjoy |
| leisure | | the state of having time at one's own disposal |
| luxury | | delight |
| omit | | leave somebody or something out |
| proficient | | very skillful at something |
| skip | | not do something, but to do the next thing instead |

VOCABULARY

A. Give the meaning of each word as used in the lesson.

primarily, distinct, aspects, leisure, auditory, coverage, luxury

B. Form a noun with each of the following words and use the nouns in sentences.

relevant, interested, require, convenient, effective

READING COMPREHENSION**Analysis of patterns of text organization**

A. Choose the correct option.



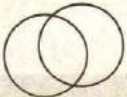
- In paragraph 1, the topic sentence is supported through _____.
 a. facts b. examples c. definitions
- Paragraph 2 shows that watching news on television is _____.
 a. not as convenient b. trouble-free
 c. more convenient than reading newspapers

For the Teacher:

Reading Comprehension A: Guide students to read the text silently to extract main/key idea and supporting details of paragraphs. As each paragraph carries separate thought, ask students to appropriately analyze these paragraphs. Help the students grasp contextualized meaning from English dictionary.

3. The key idea of paragraph 4 is _____.
- reading newspaper is more convenient than watching television
 - watching television and reading newspaper are equally convenient
 - Television viewing is more convenient than reading newspaper
4. Paragraph 5 _____.
- gives arguments in favour of television
 - gives arguments in favour of newspapers
 - shows both mediums are equally advantageous
5. Television news is like having a fast food meal whereas reading newspapers is like having a ten course dinner. This sentence is an example of _____.
- metaphor
 - simile
 - personification
6. Paragraph 6 concludes that _____.
- we should use both mediums of information
 - television news should be given preference
 - reading newspapers is more important

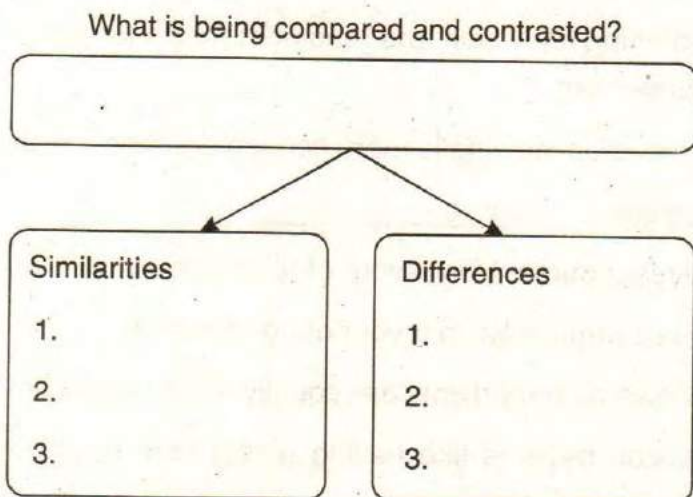
Patterns of Text Organization

|  Text structure |  Signal words | Signal to reader |
|---|--|---|
| Compare and contrast  | like, unlike, in contrast, on the other hand, however, both, also, too, as well as | Similarities and differences are being discussed. |

For the Teacher:

Reading Comprehension B: Have students look for the clue words (transitional devices) which signal that the author is comparing or contrasting items/ideas.

- B. Read the text again and put information from the text into the graphic organizer showing comparison and contrast.



- C. Answer the following questions.

1. How is a newspaper more convenient medium of news?
2. How does a viewer get restricted while watching TV news?
3. In what way viewing news on TV is easier than reading a newspaper?
4. How do newspapers give us more in-depth coverage?
5. Why do some people read more than one newspapers?
6. How can readers give feedback to the newspaper articles?
7. Which medium do you prefer for news? Why?

For the Teacher:

Reading Comprehension B: Help students analyze the paragraphs to identify words, phrases or sentences that support the main idea through comparison and contrast. Help them organize information using organizational patterns of comparison and contrast.

GRAMMAR**Modal Verbs****A. Put appropriate modal verbs into the gaps.**

1. We _____ to borrow umbrellas; so we didn't get wet.
2. I was so far from the stage that I _____ see very well.
3. He sees very badly; he _____ wear glasses all the time.
4. You _____ drive fast; there is a speed limit here.
5. We _____ drive fast; we have plenty of time.

Active and Passive Voice**B. Put in the correct form of the verb to complete the following sentences in passive voice.**

1. A letter _____ by Ahsan. (*to write - Present continuous*)
2. The words _____ by the teacher today. (*to explain - Present indefinite*)
3. This road _____ because of snow. (*already/to close - Present indefinite*)
4. The dishes _____ by my brother. (*not/to wash - Present continuous*)
5. I _____ by the principal. (*not/ called- Present indefinite*)

**For the Teacher:**

Grammar A: Help students illustrate the use and function of modal verbs learnt earlier.

Grammar B: Help students recall the rules to change active voice into passive voice.

The First Conditional Sentences

The first conditional sentences are used to speculate about possible situations that can really happen at present or in future.

Example: If they are busy people, they will miss the news.

Structure: if + present tense + future tense

C. Put the correct form of the verbs to make first conditional sentences.

1. If you _____ (get) back late, I _____ (be) angry.
2. If we _____ (wait) here, we _____ (be) late.
3. If we _____ (go) on holiday this summer, we _____ (go) to Ziarat.
4. If the weather _____ (not / improve), we _____ (not / have) a picnic.
5. They _____ (go) to the party if they _____ (be) invited.

Silent Letters

In many English words, you will come across some letters that are spelled but not pronounced. Here is a list of common silent letter combinations.

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Silent B</p> <p>B is not pronounced when following M at the end of a word.</p> <p>climb, crumb, dumb, comb</p> | <p>Silent C</p> <p>C is not pronounced in the ending "scl".</p> <p>muscle</p> | <p>Silent D</p> <p>D is not pronounced in the following common words.</p> <p>handkerchief, Wednesday</p> | <p>Silent E</p> <p>E is not pronounced at the end of words and usually makes the vowel long. hope, drive, gave, write, site</p> |
| <p>Silent G</p> <p>G is often not pronounced when followed by an N.</p> <p>foreign, sign, feign</p> | <p>Silent GH</p> <p>GH is not pronounced before T and at the end of many words.</p> <p>thought, through, light, might, right, fight, weigh</p> | <p>Silent H</p> <p>H is not pronounced when following W.</p> <p>what, when, why, where, whether</p> | <p>Silent H</p> <p>H is not pronounced at the beginning of many words.</p> <p>hour, honest, honour, heir, herb</p> |
| <p>Silent K</p> <p>K is not pronounced when followed by N at the beginning of a word.</p> <p>knife, knee, know, knock, knowledge</p> | <p>Silent L</p> <p>L is often not pronounced before L, D, F, M, K.</p> <p>calm, half, talk, walk, would, should</p> | <p>Silent N</p> <p>N is not pronounced following M at the end of a word.</p> <p>Autumn, hymn</p> | <p>Silent P</p> <p>P is not pronounced at the beginning of many words using the suffix "psych" and "pneu".</p> <p>Psychology, pneumonia,</p> |
| <p>Silent S</p> <p>S is not pronounced before L in the following words.</p> <p>island, isle</p> | <p>Silent T</p> <p>T is not pronounced in these common words. castle, fasten, listen, often, thistle, whistle</p> | <p>Silent W</p> <p>W is not pronounced at the beginning of a word followed by an F.</p> <p>wrap, write, wrong</p> | <p>Silent W</p> <p>W is not pronounced with these three pronouns.</p> <p>who, whose, whom</p> |

D. Read paragraph 5 and find words that contain silent letters.

E. Silent Letters Game

Form groups. Speak out words with silent letters. Each group will alternately speak a word with silent letter e.g. **gh**. The first group to run out of words will lose the game.

ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Form groups and discuss the following.

People are influenced by what they see on television and in films. Do you agree? Support your answer by giving relevant examples.

Useful expressions to show agreement

- ◆ *There are many reasons for ...*
- ◆ *There is no doubt about it that ...*
- ◆ *I simply / must agree with that.*
- ◆ *I am of the same opinion as ...*
- ◆ *I completely/absolutely agree with ...*



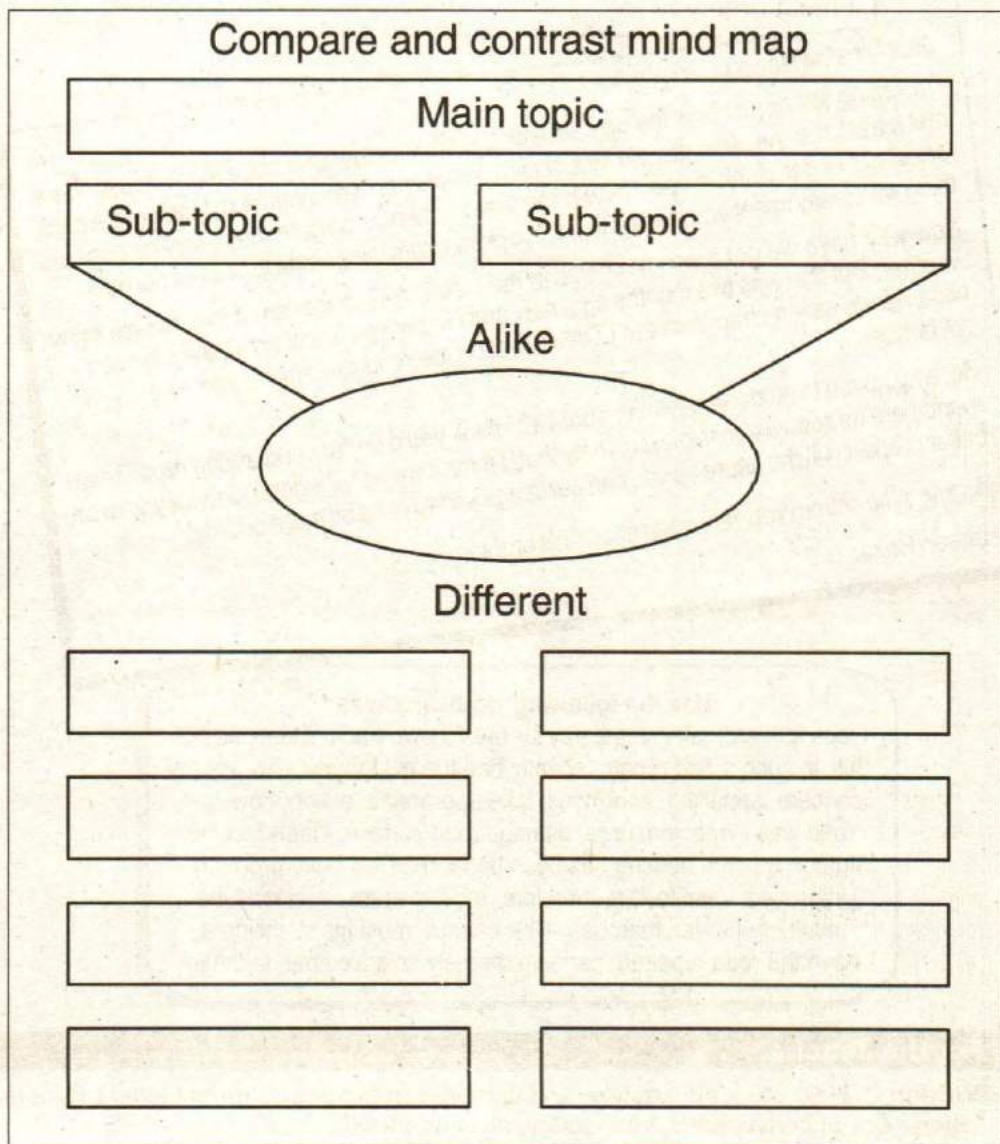
For the Teacher:

Oral: Guide students to present and explain their point of view clearly and to support their opinion with reasons.

WRITING SKILLS

- A. Write a précis of paragraph 4.
- B. Write a comparative essay on "The Influence of Electronic Media on Print Media". (220-250 words) Sample Rubric

First make an outline with the help of a mind map given below.



- C. Hassan Raza is writing a letter of complaint to Mr Haq Nawaz, the Chairman of the Lahore Development Authority. The information in his letter is correct but the style is informal. Rewrite the letter in a formal style and include the phrases in the boxes below.

I am writing to express my concern about ...

I must insist that you ...

I must urge you to ...

Dear Mr. Haq Nawaz

I'm writing to say just how fed up I am with the state of the road outside my house. It's a real mess! Just the other day old Mrs. Nasim, the woman who lives next door, got the back wheel of her car stuck in one of the huge great pot-holes outside my gate. The poor old thing was really upset and we had to get two chaps from the garage to pull her car out! Now why have we got these pot-holes in the road? Well, because of that terrible rainy weather. But that was two months ago, now and I know you know about the situation because we saw a chap from the LDA inspecting the road just after the weather got better.

So, why haven't you done anything about it? I think you'd better send a road repair team round here as soon as possible. Not only that, I think it would be a good idea for you to be better prepared in the future so you can get things sorted out a bit more quickly!

Hoping to hear from you very soon about this problem.

Hassan Raza

Use the following words/phrases:

I look forward, take steps, pay for breakdown truck, situations like this, in such a bad repair, recently had the misfortune, express my concern, appalling, enormous, take appropriate action, however, road was inspected, urge, damage/road surface, indeed, in the future, ensure, nothing has been done, rectified more promptly, improved, despite/fact, therefore, most distressed, clearly the result, moreover, member of the council, must insist, incident, have the road repaired, period/extremely cold weather, faithfully

For the Teacher:

Writing C: Help students analyze and compare informal and formal letters to note differences of conventions, vocabulary, style and tone.