
UNIT 3 INFORMAL CONVERSATION: FACE-TO-FACE

Structure

- 3.0 Objectives
- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Greetings: Enquiries About One's Health
- 3.3 Everyday Situations
- 3.4 Social Life
- 3.5 Other Informal Situations
- 3.6 Let Us Sum Up
- 3.7 Answers to Check Your Progress

3.0 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to develop the art/skills of making informal, social conversation which involves:

- greeting friends and enquiring about their health;
- discussing current social issues;
- carrying on a light conversation with guests at dinner;
- planning picnics and other expeditions; and
- asking and giving advise on various topics.

3.1 INTRODUCTION

In Unit 2 we discussed formal conversation, i.e. the type of conversation we require in formal situations—the use of public facilities and the transaction of business and other official work. In this unit, we are going to discuss informal conversation. Informal conversation may broadly be described as the type of conversation we have when talking to friends and relatives on personal or domestic matters. We also have informal conversation when we discuss topics of general interest with our friends.

Informal conversation will naturally differ from formal conversation in a number of ways. First, the topic of discussion in informal conversation will be more personal. Secondly, the language will be different. While formal conversation conforms to certain accepted rules and customs and the norms of correct behaviour associated with the conduct of official and business matters, in informal conversation we have the freedom to use the words and structures that suit us. There are bound to be a lot of colloquial words and expressions in an informal conversation because the speakers are intimate with each other and they speak naturally. There may even be abrupt transitions or diversions from the topic being discussed.

Informal conversation can often merge into intimate talk. Intimate conversation takes place on personal or domestic affairs like money matters, marriage problems, etc. It is not meant to be heard by a third person.

3.2 GREETINGS: ENQUIRIES ABOUT ONE'S HEALTH

In this section, we shall deal with the type of informal conversation that generally takes place at home with relatives and with friends or guests who come to see us. Nurses and patients also talk informally with each other.

Let's begin with a conversation between two friends who meet each other after a long time. Let's see how they greet each other and ask about each other's welfare.

Conversation

Shailaja: Hello! How are you?

Prabhu: Fine. Thank you. And you?

Shailaja: Getting along fine. How's your family?

Prabhu: The family is O.K. Thank you. What about your son, Ashok? He had a fever some time back. Is he all right now?

Shailaja: Oh, yes. He's all right now. He went to school this morning.

Prabhu: And where were you all these days? I didn't see you at office this week.

Shailaja: Well I caught the flu from my son.

Prabhu: Really! That's the way it is. One person gets it and then the whole family is down with it.

Vocabulary

'Hello', 'How are you', etc. are example of what is called '*phatic communication*,' that is, they are used to establish and strengthen social relations rather than to communicate any meaning. These short exchanges are necessary in social life.

Getting along fine: Doing well in general

O.K.: (informal) All right

Flu: (informal) Influenza

That's the way it is! This is usually the case

Down with: Ill with

A conversation on the same topic — enquiry about a person's health and her family can also take place in a formal situation. Here's one example of a formal conversation between a company executive and his P.A. We can contrast it with the informal conversation we have already studied.

Conversation

'Yes, Ms. Tandon. I understand you have been absent from the office for a week'.

'Yes, sir. I sent an application on the 6th for medical leave'.

'I know. I know. How are you now? You look a bit pulled down'.

'I'm all right now, but feel a bit weak. Actually my son had influenza too. So I had to attend to him even when I was ill myself.'

'Oh, that must have been a real problem for you. Anyway, how is he now?'

'He's all right, sir.'

'Good. Well, bring me file no X21, will you?'

'Yes, sir'.

Vocabulary

I understand: I have been informed

Pulled down: Weakened in health

You have been absent: The use of present perfect here indicates that she has been absent till the day she met the officer.

Attend to: Help

Now let's compare the two conversations we have just read.

The tone or the general attitude of the speakers to each other.

In the informal conversation, the two friends talk to each other as equals; they are colleagues in an office. The conversation is natural and chatty. For instance, 'Really!

That's the way it is' shows sympathy.

In the second conversation, the language changes. The bare minimum of emotion is shown when the officer says, 'Oh that must have been a real problem for you.' After a formal enquiry about her son's health, he gets back to his role as an executive by ordering her, 'Well, bring me file no. X21, will you?' Notice that Ms. Tandon says 'influenza' instead of 'flu' and while talking to the boss, she just answers his questions.

Check Your Progress 1

We are going to present two conversations on the same topic. The first is an informal conversation and the second a formal one. Read the two carefully.

Informal Conversation

'How many are you in the family?'

'Oh, it's large family. We're ten altogether, including Mum and Dad.'

'And you're the eldest among the brothers and sisters?'

'I'm the eldest among the sisters. But my brother Suresh is older than me.'

'And does Suresh do anything?'

'Do anything! All he does is strum his guitar and laze in the house.'

'So that means you're the only one working in an office?'

'No. My sister Sunita is working, too. She knits pullovers and sells them to shops.'

'That's not what you call working in an office.'

Formal Conversation

'How many members are there altogether in your family?'

'Ten including my parents.'

'Are you the eldest among the children?'

'No, the second eldest. My brother Suresh is the eldest.'

'And is Suresh employed?'

'No. At present he's not employed anywhere.'

'So you're the only member earning for the family?'

'No; my sister Sunita knits and sells pullovers.'

'But she's not employed in an office or a factory.'

Now compare the language in the two conversations, using two columns, like this.

Informal Conversation	Formal Conversation
Mum and Dad	My parents

3.3 EVERYDAY SITUATIONS

People spend a great part of their life at home with their relatives and friends. They talk about domestic problems with each other or entertain guests at dinner, etc. They also discuss their daily life, their hobbies and interests. This helps them to feel they belong to a community. In this section, we shall study conversations, which revolve around these topics.

Let's begin with a conversation between a husband and his wife. They are discussing some domestic issue that often engages their minds.

Conversation

(Mr. and Mrs. Bhargava in their drawing room)

Mr. Bhargava: Is Prमित back?

(Mrs. Bhargava carries on knitting. She seems pre-occupied and doesn't answer.)

Mr. Bhargava: Sunaina! Did you hear me? Is Prमित back?

Mrs. Bhargava: (looks up) Oh, I'm sorry. Did you say something?

Mr. Bhargava: Yes! Where's Prमित?

Mrs. Bhargava: He hasn't returned from school yet. Why?

Mr. Bhargava: D'you think we should let him go to Mussoorie?

Mrs. Bhargava: You mean with the school group? For a holiday?

Mr. Bhargava: Yes, for a holiday.

Mrs. Bhargava: I've said 'no' a hundred times. His final exams begin next month. And all he's busy with is his cricket.

Mr. Bhargava: There's nothing wrong with playing cricket.

Mrs. Bhargava: And who's going to help him get admission to a college, if he doesn't do well in the exams? You? You're the one who's spoiling him.

Mr. Bhargava: Don't be silly, Sunaina. He's not going to fail if he goes to Mussoorie. It'll give him a change. He can come back and devote himself to his studies with a fresh mind.

Mrs. Bhargava: Fresh mind, my foot! Last time he came back with a fresh mind, he went straight to the cricket field.

Mr. Bhargava: Oh...

Mrs. Bhargava: No, he's not going! That's all.

Vocabulary

Preoccupied: with the mind fixed on something else

I've said 'no' a hundred times: an exaggeration

My foot! (informal) I don't believe it.

Check Your Progress 2

- 1) a) How does Mrs. Bhargava behave towards her husband?
.....
.....
 - b) What is Mr. Bhargava's nature? Illustrate your answer with sentences from the conversation.
.....
.....
 - c) Rewrite Mrs. Bhargava's speech 'And who's going to help him ... spoiling him' in a different way to indicate that she is a kind and considerate woman and explains gently to her husband why Prमित should not be allowed to go to Mussoorie.
- 2) Read this conversation between two housewives chatting about their daily routine. Then answer the questions below.

Conversation

Mrs. Arora: Jayanti, what do you do after the kids have gone to school?

Mrs. Jayanti Majumdar: Oh, I've plenty of things to do. In fact, the moment I come out of bed, I'm rushed through so many things.

Mrs. Arora (takes a long sigh): Don't take life so seriously, Jayanti.

Mrs. Majumdar: It's easy for you to say that because in your house it's your husband who does all the work.

Mrs. Arora: Doesn't your husband help you with the cooking?

Mrs. Majumdar: Help me? He's in such a temper if he doesn't get breakfast on time.

Mrs. Arora: What time do you normally get up?

Mrs. Majumdar: At about 5.30

Mrs. Arora: You'll only kill yourself like that (sighs). I get up at 9. By that time Chandan has already sent the kids to school and the omelette's sizzling on the fire.

Mrs. Majumdar: Hmm! I have to get not only the kids ready, but the husband, too.

Mrs. Arora: But you can relax now that they've all gone.

Mrs. Majumdar: And who's going to get the lunch ready? Ashok will be waiting for a warm packed lunch at 12.30.

Mrs. Arora: Why can't he take it at the canteen like my hubby does? Anyway, what do you do after lunch? I hope you take your siesta? It's what I call beauty sleep.

Mrs. Majumdar: Well, the kids are back at 1.30. They need their lunch. Then I've got to help them with their homework.

Mrs. Arora: Silly! You can ask your husband to help them when he comes back. After all it's his duty. What about the evenings? Do you watch the TV serials? I like the one called 'Miyani Biwi ke kisse'.

Mrs. Majumdar: I browse through a few colourful magazines and knit for a while. I sometimes watch the serial 'Pareshaniyan.'

Mrs. Arora: When do you have dinner?

Mrs. Majumdar: At 9 sharp! Then we're off to bed.

Mrs. Arora: Oh, we go to bed quite late. I'm feeling so sleepy today. Let me go and have a little snooze.

Vocabulary

In a temper: Angry

Sizzling: Making a hissing sound as of food cooked in hot fat

Hubby: (informal) Husband

Siesta: (Spanish) A short sleep in the afternoon

Snooze: A short sleep

Grammar

'But you can relax now that they've all gone.' Notice the use of 'now that' to mean 'considering that'

- a) Fill in the blanks in these sentences with phrases from the conversation above. Change the tense, if necessary:
 - i) I only the book because I didn't have time to read it all.
 - ii) It was a short visit to the museum. We were many different rooms showing different objects of Queen Victoria's reign.
 - iii) You must be punctual. You must reach the office at.....
 - iv) Don't so seriously. Have a picnic for a change during the weekend. Otherwise you'll only with hard work.
- b) Write the sentences in a different way according to the hint given:
 - i) Now that the kids have gone to school, I can relax. (Change by using 'as')
.....
 - ii) Help me? (Change by beginning with 'No'.)
.....
 - iii) After all it's his duty. (Change by using 'you must remember'.)
.....
- c) Point out some of the words and sentences that make this an informal conversation between intimate friends.
.....
.....
.....
- d) i) List the phrases, which indicate that Mrs. Arora is 'work-shy.'
.....
.....
.....

- ii) What sentences indicate that Mrs. Majumdar is grumbling about her husband not being helpful?

.....
.....
.....

- 3) Write a brief conversation in which two friends discuss their hobbies. (100 words)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3.4 SOCIAL LIFE

There are various situations in our daily life when we have to express our feelings and reactions to the situations. Thus we show surprise, anger, annoyance, joy, excitement, etc.

Let's begin with a brief conversation in which Bina is complimenting Asad.

Conversation

Bina: 'Hi' Asad! What a fine tie you've got on. Where did you buy it?

Asad: My brother brought it for me from the States.

Bina: Hmm! It goes so well with your shirt. The magenta tie over the mauve background of your shirt.

Vocabulary

Hi!: an informal greeting

The States: the U.S.A.

magenta: dark purplish red

mauve: of a pale purple colour

Check Your Progress 3

- 1) Imagine Bina is wearing a lovely sari. Write a brief conversation to show how Asad would compliment her on her choice.

.....
.....
.....
.....

- 2) Here are some short dialogues. What do you think is:

- i) the relationship between the speakers,
- ii) the probable situation, and
- iii) the attitude of the speakers?

Speaking Skills

- a) 'I'm sorry I forgot to bring your book.'
That's all right. Do bring it the next time, though.'
.....
- b) 'I'm sorry I didn't see you coming.'
'Please be careful when you're on the road.'
.....
- c) 'Has my son Prem done well in the exam?'
I'm sorry he's done very poorly.'
.....
- d) 'My uncle died last month'
'I'm very sorry to hear that.'
.....
- e) A man puts a coin in a blind man's tin.
Blind man: But sir, this coin is bad. It won't pass.
Man: But you're blind. How did you know?
Blind man: Sorry, sir, I'm not blind. I'm sitting here for my friend who is actually blind.
Man: And where has he gone?
Blind man: To the see the movies.
.....

3) Here are some dialogues. The context will tell you the mood in which the exclamations are made — anger, annoyance, disappointment, surprise, etc. Read the dialogues and say what mood is expressed by the exclamations.

- a) That fool Naresh got the prize.
Really!
.....
- b) There's no electricity. We can't watch the video programme.
How annoying!
.....
- c) Why do you waste so much money on clothes?
That's none of your business!
.....
- d) They're demoting him for helping the contractor without taking a bribe.
This is simply ridiculous!
.....
- e) I don't want your help any more.
You're making a big mistake, Mr. Smith!
.....

We formally introduce two people who are strangers to each other, but if both people are friends of ours, the following conversation might take place.

Conversation

Mr. Roy: Meet Shefali. Shefali Roy. She's a cousin of mine working at Tatas. (Shefali smiles)

Bhanu: Glad to meet you.

Shefali: So am I. Your face seems familiar.

Bhanu: Have you seen me somewhere?

Shefali: Now where could it be? Are you a member of the Lions club?

Bhanu: No.

Shefali: Then Did you come to the Government School to deliver a lecture.

Bhanu: That's right. On the 16th — their annual day. You must have seen me there.

Vocabulary

cousin: we don't use the expression 'cousin brother' (or 'cousin sister') in English.

Now here's a conversation between two friends who are parting from each other after spending some time at the coffee house.

Conversation

Asha (Looking at her watch): I'm getting late! I must be off now.

Vivek: So soon? Stay a little longer.

Asha: Oh, I enjoyed talking to you, but I really must go now. I'll miss my last bus home.

Vivek: But I can drop you by car.

Asha: Oh, don't worry. We'll meet again soon.

Vivek: Well, then. Bye for the moment.

Asha: Bye. See you.

Usage

I must be off now: Another phrase is 'I'd better make a move now'

Bye: Short for 'good bye'.

Check Your Progress 4

- 1) Continue the above conversation with one person inviting the other to his house and giving directions as to how to get there.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

- 2) There are other occasions when informal conversation take place. Let's begin with a conversation inside the dining room. You have invited a guest to dinner. Read the conversation and answer the questions that follow.

Conversation

Mr. Sethi: Please sit down here, Gulab.

Gulab: Thank you.

Mr. Sethi: Rama, you sit here. Dinesh there. That's right. Now Gulab, would you like 'poori' or 'pulao' to begin with?

Gulab: I'd prefer pulao.

Mr. Sethi: Well, help yourself.

Gulab: Hmm! It's delicious.

Mrs. Sethi: Please have some more.

Gulab: No, no! I've already taken so much.

Mrs. Sethi: So what! Have some more. You're still young.

Gulab: Yes, but look at my size. I would make two of you. In fact, I was going to ask you, Rama, if you were dieting. You are so thin.

Mr. Sethi: Dieting is the last thing she'll do. She eats the most, but never grows.....

Vocabulary

prefer: like better

I would 'make' two of you: I'm twice as fat as you are

Grammar

Notice there is no verb in the sentence 'Dinesh there,' because it is understood from the previous sentence.

- i) What do you think is Gulab's attitude when she says 'No, no! I've already taken so much'? Is she being formal?
.....
- ii) What sentences indicate that the Sethis are playing the good hosts here?
.....
- iii) Sometimes the intention of a speaker is different from what the words seem to convey. 'You're still young' for instance is said merely to encourage Gulab to eat more.

What is the intention behind these sentences?

- a) 'Hmm! It's delicious.'
.....
 - b) 'You are so thin.'
.....
 - c) 'Dieting is the last thing she'll do.'
.....
- 3) Here's a conversation in which some parts are missing. Complete the dialogue with the help of the context. Indicate a possible situation.

A: Fine weather

B.

A: May I put my bag here?

B: if you like.

A: By the way, where

B: To Jalandar. And you?

A:

B:

A: At 5.30

B:

A: No, thank you, I've had my dinner.

3.5 OTHER INFORMAL SITUATIONS

There are so many other situations when we have to take part in informal conversations. We may have to plan picnics, advise friends and relatives on where to buy things, suggest where to stay on a journey, etc. We also need to describe events that have taken place, or narrate stories we have read or seen in films.

Let's begin with a conversation in which two persons are planning their shopping.

Conversation

Charu: Tomorrow's Sunday, Kalyani. I'm going for my usual shopping.

Kalyani: D'you mind if I come with you?

Charu: Not at all. It'll be a pleasure. You could carry some of my bags for me when they are full.

Kalyani: Oh! What are the things you want to buy?

Charu: All sorts of things. I have to buy provisions at Khan Market, and a cake and some toys for my daughter's birthday. Then I have to go to the tailor's to get some clothes made.

Kalyani: Where do you usually get your clothes made?

Charu: There's only one tailor who understands me — 'Saheli' at Raj Market.

Kalyani: I want to get my children's shoes repaired somewhere. Is there a place for this on the way?

Charu: Oh, there are some cobblers on the roadside.

Kalyani: Where shall we have lunch?

Charu: Ah! You're going to stand me an ice cream, and I'll treat you to a good Chinese lunch at 'Chung Wah'

Kalyani: Done! Then, what time d'you think we'll be back?

Charu: Not before 5... I want to visit my beauty parlour and get my hair dyed.

Kalyani: How do we go?

Charu: Let's catch the bus at the turning here and buy a day pass. Then we can travel as we like.

Vocabulary

who understands me: who knows my style of clothes

stand me: pay the cost for me

treat you to: pay for your (food)

done!: agreed

day pass: a ticket that enables one to use any city bus during that day.

Grammar

Shopping: used here as a noun. It is derived from the verb ‘shop’ and can be called a verbal noun or a **gerund**. Similarly we say Do you like **driving**?

Tailor’s: tailor’s shop. It is customary to say ‘at the baker’s ‘at the shoemaker’s’, ‘at the butcher’s’, etc.

‘to get some clothes made’

‘to get my children’s shoes repaired’

‘get my hair dyed’

When we want to say that the work will done for us by someone else, we use the construction

get + noun object + past participle

Let’s catch the bus: When we make a suggestion, ‘let’s’ is used inviting someone to do something along with us.

Check Your Progress 5

1) a) What sentences show that the two women have to get some work done by others?

.....
.....

b) Why does Charu say ‘my’ beauty parlour? Does she own it?

.....
.....

c) ‘Catch a bus’. Can you think of another phrase with the word ‘catch’?

.....
.....

2) Imagine that Charu has returned from shopping and describes her experience to her mother. Write a brief conversation in about 100 words. Begin: ‘So Charu, what did you do in the market today?’

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

- 3) Two friends are planning a picnic. Write a brief conversation in about 100 words.
Begin: 'Manoj, we must leave home by 6 in the morning.'

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

- 4) Now here's a conversation in which a parent is advising his son about his future career. Read it and answer the questions given below.

Conversation

Rajat: Papa, I don't know what subject to take up at college. I have to choose my subject now.
Papa: Well, haven't you decided what you want to do in life? I thought you told me you wanted to take up medicine?
Rajat: Yes, papa. But I want your advice.
Papa: Well, my advice is to take what you enjoy studying. What subject do you like studying most?
Rajat: I enjoy Biology the most.
Papa: Well then, go ahead and take Biology and some related science subjects.
Rajat: But you know that the tests for admission to medical colleges are very tough.
Papa: That you can't avoid. Besides, I can't afford to make any donation. So you'll have to prepare well for the test.
Rajat: That I'll certainly do.
Papa: Well, go ahead and fill in your form.

- a) What is the father's attitude to his son's choice of career? Is he determined like most parents to impose his own choice or is he willing to let the boy decide? What words in the conversation show this?

.....
.....
.....

- b) Rajat has already decided on the medical profession, yet he wants his father's advice. Why?

.....
.....
.....

- c) 'You told me you wanted to take up medicine.' Write in direct speech what Rajat must have said, i.e. his exact words.

.....
.....

5) Here is a conversation in which one person is narrating the story of a film to another.

Kajal: Om, did you see 'Paar'?

Om: No. But I hear it's a tragic story. What is it in short?

Kajal: Well you have this very poor couple. They lead a miserable life going from one small job to another. The woman becomes pregnant and they need money badly. Someone offers them Rs. 16 if they take a herd of pigs across the river. They do the job against their will. But the woman has a miscarriage because of the exertion.

Vocabulary

tragic: sad

exertion: effort

Notice the use of simple present in story telling. This helps to give the feeling that when the story is narrated it is taking place before you. Now narrate in about 100 words any other story you have read or seen in a film.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3.6 LET US SUM UP

In this unit, you learnt how to:

- take part in different types of informal conversations;
- express your feelings; and
- talk on social occasions.

3.7 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Check Your Progress 1

Informal Conversation	Formal Conversation
Mum and Dad	My parents
And does Suresh do anything?	And is Suresh employed?
All he does is strum his guitar and laze in the house.	At present he's not employed anywhere.
That's not what you call working in an office.	She's not employed in an office or a factory.

Check Your Progress 2

- 1) a) She is a stern woman who refuses to accept her husband's suggestion that Prमित should be allowed to go to Mussoorie. Her language is rough and shows little respect for her husband, e.g., 'And who's going to.... You?' 'My foot!'

- b) Mr. Bhargava is gentle and does not force his views on his wife. He says, 'Do you think we should let him go to Mussoorie?' not 'We must let him go.'
- c) 'You know, Shushil, Prami's got his final exams beginning next month. He must stop playing cricket for some time.' 'It might be difficult for him to get admission to a college if he fails.'
- 2) a) i) browse through
ii) rushed through
iii) 10 sharp
iv) take life; kill yourself
- b) i) As the kids have gone to school, I can relax now.
ii) No, he doesn't help me at all.
iii) You must remember that it's his duty.
- c) 'Kids', 'hubby' and 'snooze' are all words used in informal speech.
Use of the first name 'Jayanti' shows intimacy:
'You'll only kill yourself like that' is meant to show concern.
'Silly!' is said in an informal style.
'8 is the ideal time to go to bed, dear' ... the last word 'dear' shows intimacy.
- d) i) 'Don't take life so seriously, Jayanti.'
'I get up at 9. By that time Chandan ... fire.'
'But you can relax now...'
'Why can't he take it at the canteen like my hubby does?'
'Silly! You can ask your husband to help them...'
- ii) 'Help me? He's in such a temper if he doesn't get breakfast in time.'
'Hmm! I have to get not only the kids ready, but the husband, too.'

3) Possible conversation

Bhanu: Hi, Reena! How do you spend your evenings?

Reena: Well, I do a bit of gardening. I have a small plot of land in front of our house. I've filled it with roses and dahlias. And what do you do?

Bhanu: Well, I'm fond of philately. That's another name for stamp collecting.

Reena: How many stamps have you got?

Bhanu: Oh, about 3000.

Reena: How do you get them?

Bhanu: I have pen friends in 25 countries all over the world. We exchange letters in which we post a few stamps to each other.

Check Your Progress 3

- 1) Asad: What a lovely sari you're wearing today!

Bina: Really? My husband bought it for me on our first anniversary.

Asad: The navy blue embroidery on the border goes so well with the sky-blue of the sari.

- 2) a) Friends
One is apologizing. The other is considerate.
- b) Strangers who bump into each other on the road. While the first speaker apologizes for his mistake, the other shows he is annoyed.
- c) A pupil's parent and the class teacher.
The parent enquires about his son's examination results. The teacher shows sympathy but says the results are bad.
- d) Two friends.
One informs the other of the sad news. The other shows sympathy.
- e) A man, who pretends to be blind, is begging in the street and talks to a passer-by.
The 'blind' man grumbles or complains.
The passer-by is at first surprised that the blind man has been able to see that it is a bad coin.
The 'blind' man apologises and explains why he is sitting there.
The passer-by enquires about the person who is supposed to be blind.
The 'blind' man informs him.
- 3) a) The exclamation 'Really!' shows surprise.
b) Shows annoyance or irritation.
c) The speaker is annoyed at the interference in his personal affairs.
d) Shows indignation or very strong feelings.
e) A warning or threat.

Check Your Progress 4

- 1) Vivek: Why don't you drop in some day with your family?
Asha: Sure. How do I get to your house?
Vivek: That's easy. Just take bus no. 30 to Central Park. After getting off, turn left and walk to the petrol station. Just in front of it is a multistoried building called 'Sunview Apartments'. We are on the fifth floor. The flat number is 506.
- 2) a) She is being careful because of her overweight.
b) 'Would you like 'pooris' or 'pulao' to begin with?'
'Help yourself.'
'Please have some more,' 'Have some more.'
- c) i) to express appreciation of the food.
ii) to show concern for Rama's health and encourage her to eat more.
iii) light-hearted banter or joking.
- 3) B: Yes, isn't it?
B: Yes, if you like.
A: By the way, where are you going?

A: To Ambala.

B: When does the train reach Ambala?

B: Would you like to share some of this food?

The conversation takes place in a train.

Check Your Progress 5

- 1) a) I have to go to the tailor's to get some clothes made.

I want to get my children's shoes repaired.

I want to get my hair dyed.

- b) 'my' refers to the parlour Charu usually goes to.

- c) 'catch a cold'

- 2) Conversation

Mother: So Charu, what did you do in the market today?

Charu: I bought provisions at the market, a cake for Neena's birthday and some toys. Here they are.

Mother: What a lovely cake! Did you go to the tailor's to get the clothes made?

Charu: Yes, Mother. But they say they can only give them to us after a week. I got Neena's and Rahul's shoes repaired, while we had lunch at Chung Wah. Finally I got my hair dyed.

- 3) Conversation

Himmat: Manoj, we must leave home by 6 in the morning.

Manoj: Yes. And we mustn't forget to pack everything for lunch tonight. We'll cook the rice in the forest. It'll be fun to collect dry-wood and twigs for a fire.

Himmat: We'll sing and play the guitar. We can also climb up the hill to the temple.

Manoj: It'll, be great fun!

- 4) a) He is willing to let the boy decide. 'My advice is to take what you enjoy studying.'

- b) Because he respects his Papa and wants his approval.

- c) 'I want to take up medicine.'

- 5) Possible answer

'David Copperfield' has a very interesting plot. David is born after his father's death. As a small child he goes for a holiday to his nurse Pegotty's house. When he returns, his mother is already married to a cruel man called Mr. Murdstone. He ill-treats David and sends him to a boarding school. This is a wretched school, where David is not treated well. David has to discontinue his studies on his mother's death. He goes to London to earn a living. He goes from one sad situation in life to another. Finally, a great aunt of his arranges for his education. He becomes a lawyer's apprentice and finally leads a happy life.