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English for NURSING

As per the INC Syllabus

Sarumathi J

Foreword
Rajesh J

3rd Edition

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UNIT I Grammar

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CHAPTER 1

Review of Basic Grammar

Learning Objectives

- Explain the Parts of Speech.
- Understand Appropriate Use of Gender and Articles.
- Describe Tenses and Understand the Use of Appropriate Tense.

INTRODUCTION

English is a global and official language for 60 countries. It is also a link language for many countries in the world for commercial and trade purpose.

It is the primary language in UK, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Republic of Ireland.

In 2005, it was estimated that there were two billion speakers of English. About 220 million people others use it as their second language. English is an important language for Science and Technology as well as one of the essential language for the Health science.

Recent development of the English language include the usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The 21st century nurses needs to be able to cope up with critical thinking, problem solving and knowledge in access digital platform successfully.

Read English newspaper daily as the English newspapers are an indispensable habit to develop good English knowledge for communication, debate, etc., reading headlines, editorials, and current affairs and taking notes it will help the students to develop their English knowledge. It is important that a nursing student should have a medical dictionary and use it often to know more meaning of medical/nursing terminologies.

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The general English Dictionaries are available in various sizes from pocket to large one. Knowledge of vocabulary will improve your language skill, which is an important tool for your working environment. Apart from English newspaper, reading of scientific fiction, medical journals, biography of great personalities, speeches of world leaders, literary personalities, etc., will help you to gain more English knowledge.

PARTS OF SPEECH

There are eight parts of speech.

1. Noun
2. Adjective
3. Pronoun
4. Verb
5. Adverb
6. Preposition
7. Conjunction
8. Interjection

Noun

There are five kinds of nouns:

1. Proper noun
2. Common noun
3. Collective noun
4. Material noun
5. Abstract noun

Proper Noun

The *proper* noun is a word used as the *name of a person, place or thing.*

Examples:

- *Asoka* was a great *king.*
- *Taj Mahal* is on the bank of *river Yamuna.*
- The *jasmine* smells *sweet.*

Note: *Sometimes, the proper noun can be used as a common noun, such as:*

- Subramania Bharati was a great Tamil poet (Proper Noun).
- Kalidas was the Indian Shakespeare (Common Noun).

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Common Noun

The common noun denotes a person, place or city in particulars.

Examples:

- The boys had an exciting time.
- Our girls have been singing.
- A joint family consists of grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers and sisters.

Collective Noun

A noun of such kind generally talks of a group of persons/places/things in particular.

Examples:

- A herd of elephants.
- A bunch of keys.
- A bouquet of roses.

Material Noun

The material noun deals with nouns that talk of the material of the object.

Examples:

- A log of wood was floating in the water.
- Some sweets are made from milk.

Abstract Noun

Whenever a noun denotes one thing, it is called singular and whenever it denotes more than one thing, it is plural.

Examples:

Singular	Plural
Lion	Lions
Church	Churches
Fly	Flies
City	Cities

Contd…

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Contd…

Singular	Plural
Dog	Dogs
Girl	Girls
Half	Halves
Mischief	Mischiefs
Leaf	Leaves
Wolf	Wolves
Ray	Rays
Mouse	Mice
Foot	Feet
Passer-by	Passers-by
Brother-in-law	Brothers-in-law
Analysis	Analyses

However some plural words end with 's'/'es'/ves/ies.

Some words ending with 'y' take the 'ies' while certain words which end with 'f' take the 'ves.'

Note: Words such as furniture, sheep and deer remain the same in singular and plural.

Nature of Gender

When we talk of a single man we use the word 'he.' Similarly, when we talk of the feminine gender, we use the word 'she.' A neuter gender can always be referred as 'it.'

There are four types of genders:

1. Masculine gender refers to the males only.
2. Feminine gender refers to the females only.
3. Common gender refers to both males and females.
4. Neuter gender refers to lifeless objects.

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Examples:

Masculine	Feminine
Bull	Cow
Dog	Bitch
Horse	Mare
King	Queen
Cock	Hen
Husband	Wife
Bachelor	Spinster
Hero	Heroine
Sultan	Sultana
Director	Directress

Student, servant, neighbor, child, pupil, parent, friend, etc., are called common gender.

Bus, table, machine, gun, almirah, etc., are called neuter gender.

The gender of a noun is recognized by the pronoun, for example, he/she/it.

Adjective

An adjective is a word used to add something to the meaning, it is also called as a describing word of a noun.

Examples:

- Alexander was a brave king.
- The grass is green.

Here king and grass are nouns, the adjective brave and green adds some quality to the noun.

Types of Adjectives

There are three important types of adjectives **(Table 1.1)**. They are:

1. Positive
2. Comparative
3. Superlative

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TABLE 1.1: Types of adjectives with examples.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Bright	Brighter	Brightest
Great	Greater	Greatest
Sweet	Sweeter	Sweetest
Thin	Thinner	Thinnest
Red	Redder	Reddest
Careful	More careful	Most careful
Beautiful	More beautiful	Most beautiful
Good	Better	Best
Much	More	Most
Dry	Drier	Driest
Happy	Happier	Happiest
Deep	Deeper	Deepest
Jolly	Jollier	Jolliest
Fat	Fatter	Fattest
Hot	Hotter	Hottest

Never use double comparative or superlatives.

Example:
She is more wiser than you are.

The above sentence is wrong, because there are two comparatives more and wiser. Hence, the right sentence is "She is wiser than you".

Example:

- He is the most cleverest man.

The above sentence is wrong, because there are two superlatives most and cleverest. Hence, the right sentence is "He is the cleverest man".

The words junior, senior, superior, prior, anterior, interior, posterior, etc. are followed by, 'to' instead of 'than' in the sentences.

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Examples:
- She is not senior to me.
- These apples are inferior to those.
- This cloth is superior to muslin.
- I reached there prior to her arrival on the stage.

Kinds of Adjectives

Adjective of quality: This shows the kind or quality of a person or a thing.

Examples:
- Raja is a tall boy.
- Lalitha is a sweet girl.
- He is an old man.
- She has a red car.

Adjective of quantity: This shows how much of a thing is meant.

Examples:
- I want some salt.
- I do not drink much coffee.
- She spent all the money.
- We have not enough money.

Adjective of number: This shows how many persons or things are meant.

Examples:
- I have two sisters.
- She has many books.
- She got the first prize.
- He came second in the race.

Pronoun

A pronoun is a word used to say something about some person, place or thing or rather a pronoun is used instead of a noun.

Example:
Kamala was absent, because she was ill.

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Kinds of Pronoun

- The personal pronoun: He, she, they, you, it.
- The interrogative pronoun: What, why, etc.
- The relative pronoun: Who, where, that, as, etc.
- The demonstrative pronoun: This, that, there.
- The reflexive pronoun: Myself, himself.
- The distributive pronoun: Each, every, either, etc.
- Indefinite pronoun: Each, every, all, one.

Correct Usage of Pronoun

- *Incorrect*
  - One should love his country.
  - One must do her work.
  - He and myself went there.
  - Myself will do it.

  In recent times, we have often found people introducing themselves as 'Myself is Shyam,' it is wrong, the correct sentence is 'I am Shyam.'
- *Correct*
  - One should love one's country.
  - One must do one's work.
  - He and I went there.
  - I myself will do it.

Verb

A verb is a word which speaks of an action. No sentence is considered to be complete without a verb. In simple words, the verb is used when we expresses an action of a noun.

Examples:

- Nancy *wrote* a letter to her aunt.
- Chennai was *hit* by a tsunami.
- I *wear* cotton clothes.
- The gardener *plants* the trees.
- God *is* everywhere.

Here it has to be noted that *wrote*, *hit*, *wear* are all action words and are verbs.

Thus, "is, are, am, has, have, did, does, shall, will, may, should, would, can, could" are the helping verbs.

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Use of "Shall" and "Will"

"Shall" is used with the first person.

Examples:

- We shall meet tomorrow.
- I shall go to school tomorrow.

"Will" is used with second and third person.

Examples:

- He will render him help.
- She will undergo the operation.
- They will go to hospital tomorrow.

But "will" and "shall" change their places if they denote promise, determination, threat or intention.

Examples:

- I will render him help.
- They shall meet their fate.

Active and Passive

A sentence is spoken in two forms. They are:

1. Active voice
2. Passive voice

When the subject is shown as acting, the verb in the sentence is said to be active voice, such as:

- Mohan is writing a letter.

Here Mohan is a writer, who is the subject.

When the subject is shown as being acted upon, then, the verb in the sentence is shown as the passive voice.

Example:

A letter is being written by Mohan.

Active voice	Passive voice
I like this pen	This pen is liked by me
Rama mends a pencil	A pencil is mended by Rama
He will kick up a row	A row will be kicked up by him
The milkman supplies milk	Milk is supplied by the milkman

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Verb in the Simple Present Tense

Active	Passive
Selva helps me	I am helped by Selva
Ruby writes a story	A story is written by Ruby

Verb in the Simple Past Tense

Active	Passive
Nancy killed the snake	The snake was killed by Nancy
Lily wrote two poems	Two poems were written by Lily

Verb in the Simple Future Tense

Active	Passive
Govind will help me	I shall be helped by Govind
My teacher will solve the problem	The problem will be solved by my teacher

Verb in the Present Continuous Tense

Active	Passive
Rekha is answering the question	The question is being answered by Rekha
Koli is watching the match	The match is being watched by Koli

Verb in the Past Continuous Tense

Active	Passive
That man was cutting the cloth	The cloth was being cut by that man
The boys were painting the chair	The chair was being painted by the boys

Verb in the Present Perfect Tense

Active	Passive
Sam has painted the window	The window has been painted by Sam
Rani has thrown the pins	The pins have been thrown by Rani

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Verb in the Past Perfect Tense

Active	Passive
Raj had taken the books	The books had been taken by Raj
Rosy had cleaned the room	The room had been cleaned by Rosy
The postman had delivered the letters	The letters had been delivered by the postman

Adverb

An adverb is a word used to add something to the meaning of a verb, an adjective or another adverb. Usually words ending with 'ly' are taken as adverbs.

Examples:
- She wrote the examination *quickly*.
- The Moon is *very* beautiful.
- Roy pronounced the word *quite* correctly.

Preposition

A preposition is a word used with a noun or a pronoun to show the person or thing denoted by the noun or pronoun stands in relation to something else.

Examples:
- Charu is fond *of* music.
- There is a crow *on* the tree.
- Pinky sat *under* a tree.

Correct Usage of Preposition

- *Incorrect*
  - He accused me for cheating.
  - The prisoner was accused for murder.
  - My small sister is afraid for dogs.
- *Correct*
  - He accused me of cheating him.
  - The prisoner was accused of murder.
  - My small sister is afraid of dogs.

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Conjunction

A conjunction is a word used to join words or sentences.

Examples:

- Rani *and* Mala are cousins.
- Rani understands *but* cannot speak.
- I have neither written to her nor spoken to her.
- He has either a pen or a pencil.
- He speaks neither English nor German.
- Come here between ten and twelve.
- Both Ram and Sam are here.
- She loves you more than I.
- I have no other friend than you.
- I advise you to go to school.
- The window of his class is open.
- I have a brother who is at school.
- He made one mistake in dictation.
- I am going to have my hair cut.
- Are you married or single?

Some More Conjunctions

- "Or"
  Examples:
  - You must work or else you will fail.
  - You may choose this car or that one.
- "Since"
  Examples:
  - Since you wish it, it shall be done.
  - Since you will not work, you shall not eat.
- "If"
  Examples:
  - If he is there, I shall see him.
  - If that is so, I am content.

Correct Usage of Conjunction

- *Incorrect*
  - He had hardly or scarcely, gone then his friend arrived.
  - He had hardly heard the news then he wept aloud.

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- *Correct*
  - He had hardly or scarcely gone when his friend arrived.
  - He had hardly or scarcely hardly heard the news when [(or) before] he wept aloud.

Interjection

An interjection is a word which expresses a sudden feeling or emotion.

Examples:
- Hurray! We got the rolling shield.
- Alas! They lost in the match.
- Ah! Me.

Errors in the use of Article

'A', 'An' and 'The' are Articles.

A and *an* do not point out to any particular or definite person or things. So therefore these are called Indefinite Articles.

'The' is called Definite Article, because it refers to a particular person or thing.

Examples:
- A boy was riding a bicycle. (Indefinite Article)
- The sun rises in the East. (Definite Article)

"An" is used before the words that begin with a vowel (a, e, i, o, u) or the word sounds like a vowel, such as:

An eye, an owl, an umbrella, an ass, an inkpot, etc.

An honest man, an heir, an MP, an MLA (In case of honest and heir, 'h' remains silent).

"The" is used when we refer to a particular object or a person or persons.

Examples:
The Bhagwat Gita, The Bible, The Kuran, The Himalayas, The Indian Ocean, The Punjab, The United States, The rich, The poor, The Hindus, The Muslims, The Christians.

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Position of Articles

- Give me a book.
- That is the box.
- Here is an umbrella.
- These are the boys.
- This is a good book.
- That is the new box.
- All the boys are here.
- I want such a pen.
- Both the friends have gone.
- Such a boy will not succeed.
- What a fine day!
- How beautiful are the stars!
- She is a fine lady!
- It is too good an attempt.

Use of Articles

- A cat eats meat.
- It is an elephant.
- He has a hat.
- She wants the ink I bought.
- Where are the pens he gave me?
- The tiger is beautiful!

Use of "The"

Look at the following:

- *The* Hindus.
- *The* Gita.
- *The* President of India.
- *The* Director.
- *The* Ganga.
- *The* Bible.
- *The* Kuran.
- *The* Vedas.

"The" is called as Definite Article.

When we speak of a particular person or thing or one already referred to/as.

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Examples:

- Raja is the tallest boy in the class.
- He plays the tabla.
- The rich should help the poor.
- Who invented the radio?
- The girls of this class are good.
- This is the house I lived in.
- She caught him by the arm.
- I wanted to see the principal.
- Where is the nurse?

TENSES

In English language, tenses are important. Tenses denote the time of action.

They are:

- Present tense:
  - Present continuous.
  - Present perfect.
  - Present perfect continuous.
- Past tense:
  - Past continuous.
  - Past perfect.
  - Past perfect continuous.
- Future tense:
  - Future continuous.
  - Future perfect.
  - Future perfect continuous.

Present Tense

Present tense is a verb that denotes to present time is *Present Tense.*

Examples: I write, I get up, My watch keeps.

Singular: He writes.

Plural: We write.

- **Present continuous:** Present continuous is using to express an action taking place at the time of speaking.

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Example:
- He is writing a letter.
- Raman running the bicycle.
- Nancy giving injection to the patient.

- **Present perfect:** Present perfect is using to show an action that started in the past at the time of speaking.
  Example:
  - Lara has written a letter to her friend.
  - Lara has not written that letter to her friend.
- **Present perfect continuous:** This tense shows the action which started in the past and is still continuing.
  Example:
  - Lara has been writing a letter since morning.
  - Ramu has been riding the cycle for an hour.

Past Tense

- **Simple past**: It denotes the action happened in the past.
  Example:
  - Smitha wrote a letter to her friend.
  - Ram ride the bicycle.
  - Chetan sang the cinema song yesterday.
  - Bhagath wrote a short story last month.
- **Past continuous tense**: It describes the action completed before a certain movement in the past.
  Example:
  - Lara was writing a letter to Saru.
  - Ram was waiting in the railway station for his friend.
  - Nancy was giving the tablets to the patient.
- **Past perfect tense:** It describes that one action took place before another action in the past.
  Example:
  - I had fallen asleep before 8 O'clock
  - By the time I returned home, he had already left.
  - I had lived in Mumbai before I moved to Delhi.

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Future Tense

Future tense describe about an action which has not occurred yet and will happen in future.

- **Simple future**
  Example:
  - Gopi will write a letter.
  - Devi will not meet her friend.
  - Khanna will not go to office due to fever.
- **Future continuous:** It is used to express an ongoing or continued action in future.
  Example:
  - Ram will be writing a letter by this time.
  - Will Renu be writing a letter to her friend?
  - Janu will not be writing a letter.
  - Will Guru not be writing a letter.
- **Future perfect tense**: It is used to express an action which will happen or occur in future and will be completed by a certain time.
  Example:
  - Theresa will have written the letter by Saturday noon.
  - Vivaan will have completed his homework by Sunday noon.
  - Hemu will not be completed her homework by Sunday.

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EXERCISE 1

I. Fill in the blanks with suitable adjectives using words given in the bracket:

(Bluish, lonely, good, main, fresh, pale, famous, windy, cloudy, holy)

1. This is _____ food.
2. Ram has got _____ eyes.
3. She turned _____.
4. The film was not very _____.
5. It was a _____ and dark night.
6. This is the _____ road of Chennai.
7. She is a _____ actor.
8. It was a cold, wet and _____day.
9. The *Ramayana* is a _____ book.
10. Sometimes I feel _____.

II. Fill in the blanks with suitable verbs using words given in the bracket:

(likes, attend, runs, is, has, write, are, watch, is, know, give, cure, drives, is)

1. What we need most _____ books.
2. Each child _____ an ice-cream.
3. Two plus two _____ four.
4. A child _____ sweets.
5. Cows _____ us milk.
6. I will _____ a letter.
7. There _____ a bus at 10 a.m.
8. The train _____ on the tracks.
9. Does the boy _____ English?
10. One of my friend _____ a car.
11. The children love to _____ the match.
12. The doctors _____ the patients.
13. The Ganga _____ a holy river.
14. The nurses _____ to the patients.
15. One of Mr Das's sons _____ a doctor.

III. Write only the correct form of the verbs given in brackets in each of the sentences below.

1. I _____ (work) in this office since six years.
2. You should _____(complete) the job by now.

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3. If you _____ (help) him tomorrow, you _____ (support) by his friends in the coming election.
4. If you (stay) there for two days more last year, the manager _____ (impress) with your patience.
5. Yesterday, when Mohan _____ (enter) the room he was surprised to find that students (disappear) already.

IV. From the given adverb, choose the most appropriate one in the blanks in each of the following sentences:

1. Mr Gupta was very busy_____ letters.
   (A. to write B. write C. writing D. written)
2. We don't allow _____ in the office.
   (A. to smoke B. smoke C. smoking D. smoked)
3. He was fined for _____ without lights.
   (A. drive B. driving C. driven D. to be driven)
4. Do you object to _____ on Sunday.
   (A. work B. be worked C. working D. have worked)

V. Put "a" or "an" in the following phrases*:*

1. _____ happy man.
2. _____ interesting play.
3. _____ university teacher.
4. _____ English name.
5. _____ H.E. school.
6. _____ Urdu teacher.
7. _____ honorable man.
8. _____ Australian team.

VI. Put "a", "an" or "the", wherever necessary:

1. _____ dog is _____ animal.
2. He became _____ great man.
3. She is _____ good girl.
4. I shall be back in _____ hour.
5. The brick hit him in _____ face.
6. He is not _____ Shakespeare.
7. Please open _____ window.
8. I have caught _____ cold.
9. _____ rich are not always _____ happiest.

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10. Mr Madan is _____MSc, from _____University of Madras.
11. Give me _____ onion.
12. He bought _____ history book.
13. There was _____ legged man.
14. _____ truth about that matter is unknown.
15. Most of _____ students are good.
16. Rani is one of_____ best students.
17. He is _____ honorable man.
18. He is _____ MLA.
19. I am going to _____ station.
20. I sent it on _____ 4th of March.

VII. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions

Example:

He introduced me _____ Mr Sam.

Answer: He introduced me to Mr Sam.

1. I prefer pups _____ cats.
2. We came _____ school.
3. He tied his horse _____ a tree.
4. They are busy _____ their work.
5. I know nothing _____ the affair.
6. It may result _____ trouble.
7. I paid a visit _____ my friend.
8. I was filled _____ joy as I watched him.
9. It was allotted _____ me.
10. He lives _____ Mumbai _____ India.

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ANSWER KEY

I.					
1. fresh	2. Bluish	3. pale	4. good	5. cloudy	6. main
7. famous	8. windy	9. holy	10. lonely		
II.					
1. are	2. has	3. is	4. likes	5. give	6. write
7. is	8. runs	9. know	10. drives	11. watch	12. cure
13. is	14. attend	15. is			
III.					
1. have been working 2. have completed 3. help, will be supported 4. had stayed, might/would have been impressed 5. entered, had disappeared					
IV.					
1. C. writing	2. C. smoking	3. B. driving	4. C. working		
V.					
1. A	2. An	3. A	4. An	5. A	6. An
7. An	8. An				
VI.					
1. A, an	2. a	3. a	4. an	5. the	6. a
7. the	8. a	9. The, the	10. an, the	11. an	12. a
13. a	14. the	15. the	16. the	17. an	18. an
19. the	20. the				
VII.					
1. and	2. to	3. to	4. in	5. about	6. in
7. to	8. with	9. to	10. in, in		

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EXERCISE 2

(Do this exercise carefully, it will improve your knowledge in using tenses and verbs)

I. Fill in the blanks with the simple present and present continuous form of verb in the brackets

1. The girls are usually ----------(play) in the school playground.
2. The vegetable vendor ……(come) every day at 10 am.
3. The cost of living in Delhi ……..(rise) very fast. Everything will go up every year.
4. Rohit, you are very careless. You ……(always/ forget) to do your shoe polish.
5. Excuse me sir, I ……(look) for a lodge.

II. Fill in the blanks with the simple past or past continuous form of the verb in brackets.

1. Khanna ……(sleep) when his wife ……(come).
2. I ……..(see) Aadhi at the dancing hall. He ……(wear) a blue jeans.
3. We were ……..(listen) to the songs all the evening.
4. The light went out while I was……(read).
5. When I reached the airport, the flight engine …… (start) so I could not enter the airport inside.
6. Radha ----------(written) the letter, before Gopi arrived.

III. Complete the sentences using the past perfect or the past perfect continuous.

1. By the time I reached the birthday party hall, they……..……. (eat) all the chocolates and cakes.
2. Chetan, at that time he ……..(wrote) a novel for the past two months.
3. Our HM retired at an early years, but he …….(work) hard all the years.

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IV. Complete the sentence using future continuous tense.

1. Jagat shall be …….(read) the English newspaper then.
2. When Radha get home, her children ……. (playing) at home.

V. Complete the sentence using future perfect tense.

1. I shall have …….(finish) my exercise by that time.
2. Before you go to see Ramu, he (will) left the place.
3. Susila shall have …….(finish) her bath by this morning.

VI. Complete the sentence using future perfect continuous tense.

1. By next year we (shall) ……living here for two years.
2. When Raghav gets his undergraduate degree, he will…….(have) studying in Stanford University for five years.

ANSWER KEY

I.					
1. Play.	2. Comes.	3. Is rising.	4. Are always forget-ting.	5. Am looking	
II.					
1. Sleeping, came	2. Saw, was wearing	3. Listening	4. Reading	5. had started	6. had written
III.					
1. Had eaten	2. Had been writing	3. Had been working			
IV.					
1. Reading	2. Will be play-ing				
V.					
1 . have finished	2. will have	3. finished			
VI.					
1. shall have been	2. will have been				

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Sarumathi J, who holds a Master's degree from the University of Madras, is the Managing Director of Agile and Agility Incorporation. She has been instrumental in serving numerous client organizations across the United States, Canada, and Europe. A distinguished winner of multiple debates, essay, and poetry competitions in English, Sarumathi is also an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) topper, reflecting her exceptional proficiency in the English language. Her passion for English inspired her to write this book, specifically tailored for nursing students. With extensive experience in coaching and training professionals, including doctors and nurses, she has dedicated herself to enhancing their English reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills, empowering them to excel in their education and careers.

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