Chapter 13

Direct and Indirect Speeches

আমরা আমাদের দৈনন্দিন জীবনে একে অন্যের সঙ্গে নানা ধরনের কথা বলে থাকি। একজনের মুখ-নিঃসৃত কথাকে আবার তার শ্রোতা অন্য কাউকে বলতে পারে। যেমন, শান্তা তার বন্ধু শামীমকে বলেছিল :

I am feeling very tired now.

এটা হচ্ছে শান্তার মুখের কথা বা Shanta's actual utterance. এখন মনে কর, শান্তার এই speech বা উক্তিটা শামীম তার আরেক বন্ধু তারেকের কাছে উপস্থাপন করবে। সে তারেককে বলতে পারে :

Shanta said to me, "I am feeling very tired now".

অথবা

Shanta said to me that she was feeling very tired then.

এখানে প্রথম উপস্থাপনায় শামীম শান্তার actual utterance-কে কোন রকম পরিবর্তন না করে তার ব্যবহৃত শব্দগুলোকেই হুবহু quote করেছে এবং quotation-এর নিয়ম অনুসারে শান্তার মুখ-নিঃসৃত কথাগুলোর শুরুতে এবং শেষে quotation marks ব্যবহার করেছে। এটাই হচ্ছে direct speech বা প্রত্যক্ষ উক্তি। লক্ষ কর, শামীমের ব্যবহৃত পুরো বাক্যটা একটা Compound sentence যার মধ্যে তার নিজের বলা clause-টা (Shanta said to me) একটা independent clause এবং শান্তার মুখ-নিঃসৃত clause-টাও (I am feeling very tired now) একটা independent clause.

পক্ষান্তরে, দ্বিতীয় উপস্থাপনায় শামীম শান্তার শব্দগুলোকে হুবহু quote করেনি। সে তার নিজের মত করে কিছু grammatical পরিবর্তন এনে শান্তার দেয়া তথ্যটাকে একটু ভিন্নভাবে উপস্থাপন করেছে। অন্য কথায় উপস্থাপনের এই style-টিকে indirect speech হিসেবে অভিহিত করা হয়। শামীমের ব্যবহৃত দ্বিতীয় বাক্যটি একটা Complex sentence যার মধ্যে প্রথম clause-টি (Shanta said to me) হচ্ছে একটা

independent clause এবং "that" দিয়ে শুরু হওয়া দ্বিতীয় clause-টি হচ্ছে একটা subordinate clause. এখন আমরা direct speech এবং indirect speech নিয়ে বিস্তারিত আলোচনা করব এবং পরে বিভিন্ন রকম actual utterance-কে কীভাবে indirect speech-এ রূপান্তরিত করা যায় তা উদাহরণসহ দেখাব।

Direct Speech

This is the style which is used in writing to report what a speaker said, without making any grammatical changes অর্থাৎ কোন বক্তার কোন উক্তিকে কোন রকম grammatical পরিবর্তন না করে সরাসরি প্রকাশ করার লেখ্য রীতিকেই direct speech বলা হয়। এই রীতিতে original বক্তার actual utterance-কে quotation marks-এর ভিতরে রাখা হয়। যেমন :

actual utterance : "You are my best friend."
direct speech : He said, "You are my best friend."

Direct speech একটা complete sentence যা দুই ভাগে বিভক্ত : Reporting part এবং Reported part. উপরের বাক্যটিতে "He said" হচ্ছে reporting part এবং "You are my best friend" হচ্ছে reported part. Reporting part-এ ব্যবহৃত verb-টিকে বলা হয় reporting verb. মনে রাখবে, reporting part-এর পরে একটা comma কিংবা colon ব্যবহার করতে হয়। Direct speech-এ অধিকাংশ ক্ষেত্রে reporting part-টা আগে বসে এবং reported part-টি দ্বিতীয় অবস্থানে বসে । যেমন :

She said to me, "You are a nice person."
They said : "We have won the game."

উপরের দু'টি direct speech-এই "said" হচ্ছে reporting verb. দু'টি বাক্যেই reporting part আগে বসেছে এবং reported part পরে বসেছে।

কিন্তু admit, answer, reply, complain, explain ইত্যাদি reporting verb-এর ক্ষেত্রে reporting part-টা সাধারণত পরে বসে। নীচের বাক্যগুলো লক্ষ কর :

"I should not have done it," he admitted.
"I am responsible for his failure," his father confessed.
"I will certainly help you," he promised.
"I'm feeling very sick," the patient complained.
"I enjoyed reading the article," she told me.

Reporting part-এর অবস্থান মধ্যবর্তীও হতে পারে। যেমন :

"I hope," he said, "you will prosper in life."
"Nisha," the teacher commented, "is the worst student in the class."

Indirect Speech

This is a style of writing in which the speaker's words are not quoted as they were actually said but are reported in the reporter's way with some grammatical changes অর্থাৎ লেখার এই রীতিতে বক্তার কথাকে হুবহু quote না করে রিপোর্টার নিজের মত করে পরিবর্তন করে উপস্থাপন করে। নীচের বাক্যগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Speaker's actual utterance : I shall invite you.
Direct speech : Raghib said, "I shall invite you."
Indirect speech : Raghib said that he would invite me.

লক্ষ কর, direct speech-এর মত indirect speech-ও একটা complete sentence যার মধ্যে দুইটা clause বা অংশ আছে : reporting part এবং reported part. উপরের indirect speech-টিতে "Raghib said" হচ্ছে reporting part এবং "that he would invite me" হচ্ছে reported part. এ ক্ষেত্রে পুরো বাক্যটা একটা complex sentence যার প্রথম পার্টটা হচ্ছে একটা independent clause এবং দ্বিতীয় পার্ট হচ্ছে একটা subordinate clause যা শুরু হয়েছে একটা subordinating conjunction (that) দ্বারা। Indirect speech-কে আমরা Reported speech-ও বলতে পারি। Indirect speech-এর reporting part-এ ব্যবহৃত verb-টিকেও reporting verb বলা হয়। নীচের speech দু'টি লক্ষ কর:

Raghib said to me, "How are you?"
Raghib asked me how I was.

এখানে প্রথম বাক্যটি একটা direct speech এবং structural pattern-এর দিক থেকে এটা একটা compound sentence. পক্ষান্তরে, দ্বিতীয় বাক্যটা একটা indirect speech এবং structural বিবেচনায় এটা একটা complex sentence. দু'টো বাক্যতেই একটা reporting এবং একটা reported clause রয়েছে। উভয় reporting clause-এ ব্যবহৃত verb-কে (*said* এবং *asked*) reporting verb বলা যাবে।

বাংলাদেশের বিভিন্ন level-এর (স্কুল, কলেজ এবং বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের) পরীক্ষায় ছাত্রদেরকে narration change (অর্থাৎ direct speech-কে indirect এবং indirect speech-কে direct) করতে বলা হয়। এ বিষয়ে সম্যক ধারণা দেয়ার জন্য আমরা এখন উদাহরণসহ বিভিন্ন ধরনের উক্তি পরিবর্তনের নিয়মাবলী বিস্তারিতভাবে আলোচনা করব।

Rules of Changing Direct Speeches into Indirect speeches

These rules include the following factors :

- Change of tense
- Change of personal pronouns / determiners
- Change of time/place adverbials
- Change of vocative case/parenthesis

এই factor গুলো সংক্রান্ত নিয়মগুলো direct speech-এ ব্যবহৃত যে কোন ধরনের বাক্যের (Assertive, Interrogative, Imperative, Optative এবং exclamatory) জন্যই প্রযোজ্য।

Change of Tense

When the reporting verb in the direct speech is in the present or future tense, no change of tense is necessary in the subordinate clause of the indirect speech অর্থাৎ direct speech-এ ব্যবহৃত reporting verb-টা যদি present কিংবা future-এর হয় তাহলে indirect speech-এর subordinate clause-এ tense-এর কোন পরিবর্তন দরকার হবে না। আরো স্পষ্ট করে বলতে গেলে, যে direct speech-টার reporting অংশে present অথবা future tense-এর verb থাকে সেই direct speech-কে indirect speech-এ রূপান্তরিত করার ক্ষেত্রে "Change of Tense" ব্যাপারটা প্রযোজ্য নয়। Direct speech-এর দুই অংশে যে tense ব্যবহার করা হয়েছে, indirect speech-এর দুই অংশেও ঐ tense-ই ব্যবহার করতে হবে। নীচের বাক্যগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Ruma says, "I have taken my lunch."
Ruma says that she has taken her lunch.

এখানে প্রথম (direct speech) বাক্যটির প্রথম অংশে present simple tense এবং দ্বিতীয় অংশে present perfect tense ব্যবহার করা হয়েছে। সেজন্য দ্বিতীয় (indirect speech) বাক্যটিতেও প্রথম অংশে present simple tense এবং দ্বিতীয় অংশে present perfect tense ব্যবহার করা হয়েছে। এ ক্ষেত্রে tense পরিবর্তনের কোন ব্যাপার নেই। নীচের উদাহরণগুলোও লক্ষ কর :

Neela says, "I shall attend the meeting."
Neela says that she will attend the meeting.
Nazma will say, "I am absolutely happy."
Nazma will say that she is absolutely happy.
He is saying, "I reached home in time."
He is saying that he reached home in time.

On the other hand, if the reporting verb in the reporting part of the direct speech is in the past tense, a change of tense is usually necessary in the reported part of the indirect speech অর্থাৎ direct speech-এর reporting অংশে যদি past tense-এর verb ব্যবহৃত হয় তাহলে indirect speech-এ reported অংশে সাধারণত tense-এর পরিবর্তন প্রয়োজন হয়। যেমন :

Direct speech : He said, "I am very unlucky."
Indirect speech : He said that he was very unlucky."

এখানে direct speech-এর reporting verb is in the past tense; সেজন্য indirect speech-এর reporting verb-ও একই। কিন্তু direct speech-এর reported clause-টি আছে present simple tense-এ; সেহেতু tense পরিবর্তনের নিয়ম অনুসারে indirect speech-এ এই clause-টি লিখতে হবে past simple tense-এ। যে নিয়মে এভাবে tense পরিবর্তন হয় (reported clause-এর) তাকে back-shift বলা হয়। মনে রাখবে, tense পরিবর্তনের নিয়ম শুধু reported clause-এর জন্য প্রযোজ্য। Back-shift অনুসারে, direct speech-এর reported clause-এর ব্যবহৃত কোন tense-এর বদলে indirect speech-এর reported clause-এ কোন tense লিখতে হবে তার একটা ধারণা এখানে দেয়া হলো :

a) Present simple-এর বদলে past simple.
b) Present continuous-এর বদলে past continuous.
c) Present perfect-এর বদলে past perfect.
d) Present perfect continuous-এর বদলে past perfect continuous.
e) Past simple-এর বদলে past perfect.
f) Past continuous-এর বদলে past perfect continuous.

[N. B. Direct speech-এর reported অংশে past perfect কিংবা past perfect continuous tense থাকলে indirect speech-এও ঐ tense-ই থাকবে।]

g) shall, will can এবং may-এর বদলে should, would, could এবং might.

নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Direct speech : He said, "I take a morning walk everyday."
Indirect speech : He said that he took a morning walk everyday.
Direct : She said, "I am suffering from fever."
Indirect : She said that she was suffering from fever.
Direct : They said, "We have finished the work."
Indirect : They said that they had finished the work.

Direct : He said, "I have been working here for two hours."
Indirect : He said that he had been working there for two hours.
Direct : I said, "I wrote a poem."
Indirect : I said that I had written a poem.
Direct : He said, "I was reading a novel then."
Indirect : He said that he had been reading a novel then.
Direct : She said, "I shall apply for a job."
Indirect : She said that she would apply for a job.
Direct : He said, "I may get the job."
Indirect : He said that he might get the job.

তবে direct speech-এর quoted utterance যদি কোন universal truth হয়, তাহলে indirect speech-এ back-shift-এর কোন প্রয়োজন হবে না। যেমন :

Direct : The teacher said, "The earth is round."
Indirect : The teacher said that the earth is round.
Direct : He said, "The sun rises in the east."
Indirect : He said that the sun rises in the east.

Direct speech-এর reported part-এ কোন unrealistic past action-এর উল্লেখ থাকলে সেটাও indirect speech-এ অপরিবর্তিত থাকে। যেমন :

Direct : He said, "I wish I were a bird."
Indirect : He said that he wished he were a bird.
Direct : She said, "It is time I left."
Indirect : She said that it was time she left.

Direct speech-এর reported part-এ কোন hypothetical conditional sentence থাকলে সেটা indirect speech-এ অপরিবর্তিত থাকে অর্থাৎ tense পরিবর্তনের প্রয়োজন হয় না। যেমন :

Direct : He said, "If she invited me, I would attend the party."
Indirect : He said that if she invited him, he would attend the party.
Direct : They said, "If we had won the game, we would have celebrated our victory."
Indirect : They said that if they had won the game, they would have celebrated their victory.

Obligation প্রকাশের জন্য should-এর ব্যবহারও উভয় speech-এ একই থাকে। যেমন:

He said, "I should visit my sick mother."
He said that he should visit his sick mother.

Change of Personal Pronouns/Determiners

Direct speech-এর quoted অংশের মূল বক্তা (a) তার/তাদের নিজের জন্য I, we, me, us, my, our, mine, ours জাতীয় personal pronoun গুলো ব্যবহার করেন, (b) যার/যাদের সাথে কথা বলছেন তার/তাদের জন্য you, your, yours জাতীয় pronoun ব্যবহার করেন এবং (c) যার/যাদের সম্পর্কে কথা বলেন তাঁর / তাঁদের জন্য he, she, they, his, her, their, him, them জাতীয় pronoun ব্যবহার করেন। যেমন :

Karim said to Kona, "I shall always help you."

এখানে মূল speaker হচ্ছে Karim এবং তার উক্তিতে সে নিজের জন্য "I" ব্যবহার করেছে। বক্তা যার সঙ্গে কথা বলেছে (the person spoken to) তার জন্য সে "you" ব্যবহার করেছে। এখন কে Karim-এর এই উক্তিটিকে পরে কোন এক সময় report করবে তার উপর নির্ভর করবে pronoun গুলোর পরিবর্তন। Reporter যদি Karim নিজেই হয়, তাহলে সে বলবে : I said to Kona that I would always help her. Reporter যদি Kona হয় তাহলে সে বলবে : Karim said to me that he would always help me. আবার reporter যদি অন্য কেউ হয় তাহলে সে বলবে : Karim said to Kona that he would always help her. অর্থাৎ direct speech-এ reported অংশে ব্যবহৃত pronoun বা determiner-এর ব্যবহার নির্ভর করবে মূল বক্তার দৃষ্টিকোণের উপর এবং indirect speech-এর যে কোন অংশে ব্যবহৃত pronoun / determiner নির্ভর করবে reporter-এর দৃষ্টিকোণের উপর। এরকম personal pronoun বা determiner-এর পরিবর্তনগুলো নীচের উদাহরণগুলোতে লক্ষ কর :

Direct : Raghib said to me, "I can lend you my book."
Indirect : Raghib said to me that he could lend me his book.

[এই বাক্য দু'টিতে কোনগুলো pronoun এবং কোনগুলো determiner সেটা তোমরা নিজেরাই বুঝতে চেষ্টা কর।]

Direct : They said to Mira, "You may accept our proposal."
Indirect : They said to Mira that she might accept their proposal.

Direct : The teacher said to me, "I am glad that you have passed the exam."
Indirect : The teacher said to me that he/she was glad that I had passed the exam.

Ambiguity বা দ্ব্যর্থবোধকতা পরিহার করার জন্য indirect speech-এ অনেক সময় pronoun-এর পরিবর্তে noun ব্যবহার করতে হবে। যেমন :

Habib said, "He could not pass the exam."
Habib said that he could not pass the exam.

এখানে প্রথম বাক্যটিতে কোন ambiguity বা দ্ব্যর্থবোধকতা নেই। এখানে পরিষ্কার বুঝা যাচ্ছে, "he" pronoun-টি Habib-কে refer করে না। হাবিব "he" ব্যবহার করে অন্য একটা ছাত্রের কথা বলেছে। কিন্তু দ্বিতীয় বাক্যটিতে (indirect speech) ambiguity আছে। এই বাক্যের পাঠক "he" বলতে হাবিবকেও বুঝতে পারে অন্য কোন ব্যক্তিকেও বুঝতে পারে। এই দ্ব্যর্থবোধকতা দূর করার জন্য "he"-এর বদলে হাবিব যার কথা বলেছে তার নাম ব্যবহার করতে হবে। বাক্যটি হতে পারে এরকম :

Habib said that Himu could not pass the exam.

মনে রাখবে, speech পরিবর্তনে pronoun-এর বদল indirect speech-এর verb-কে প্রভাবিত করতে পারে। যেমন :

Direct : He says, "I know the man."
Indirect : He says that he knows the man.
Direct : She has said, "I shall study medicine."
Indirect : She has said that she will study medicine.

Direct speech-এর ব্যবহৃত this/that/these/those-কে determiner হিসেবে indirect speech-এ নানাভাবে পরিবর্তন করা সম্ভব। যেমন :

He said, "I have read this/that book."
He said that he had read the book.
They said, "We want to buy these pens."
They said that they wanted to buy those pens.
or,
They said that they wanted to buy the pens near them.

Change of Time / Place Adverbials

Speech change-এর ক্ষেত্রে সময় ও স্থান সম্পর্কিত adverbial পরিবর্তনের বিষয়টা একটু জটিল। এখানে direct speech-এ ব্যবহৃত adverbial নির্ভর করে বক্তা কখন কোথা থেকে উক্তিটি করেছে তার উপর। পক্ষান্তরে, indirect speech-এ ব্যবহৃত adverbial নির্ভর করে reporter কখন কোথা থেকে রিপোর্টটা করেছে তার উপর। এক্ষেত্রে সাধারণ grammatical rules না মেনে time এবং place adverbials ব্যবহারে logical consideration মাথায় রাখতে হবে। এ ধরনের consideration আলোচনা করার আগে Direct speech-এ ব্যবহৃত কোন্ adverbial-এর পরিবর্তে

indirect speech-এ কোন্ adverbial সাধারণত ব্যবহার করতে হয় তার একটা তালিকা এখানে দেয়া হলো। বিভিন্ন পরীক্ষায় speech পরিবর্তন সংক্রান্ত প্রশ্নোত্তরে এরকম পরিবর্তনই প্রত্যাশা করা হয়।

Direct speech		Indirect speech
ago	—	before
two days ago	—	two days before
now	—	then
today	—	that day
tomorrow	—	the next/following day
yesterday	—	the day before or the previous day
the day before yesterday	—	two days before
the day after tomorrow	—	in two days' time
next week	—	the following week
last week	—	the previous week
here	—	there
in this village	—	in that village

এ ধরনের adverbials পরিবর্তনের কিছু উদাহরণ নীচে লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said, "I shall see you tomorrow."
Indirect : He said that he would see me the following day.
Direct : She said, "It is rainy here today."
Indirect : She said that it was rainy there that day.
Direct : They said, "We are taking rest now."
Indirect : They said that they were taking rest then.
Direct : He said, "I went to Dhaka last week."
Indirect : He said that he had gone to Dhaka the previous week.
Direct : He said, "I saw her two days ago."
Indirect : He said that he had seen her two days before.

এবার আমাদের প্রাত্যহিক জীবনের conversation-এ কখন কোন্ বিবেচনায় indirect speech-এ কোন adverbial ব্যবহার করতে হবে সেটা লক্ষ কর :

ধর আজ শনিবার সকালে তোমার বন্ধু হামিদ তোমাকে টেলিফোনে বলেছে : I shall see you tomorrow. এক্ষেত্রে direct speech হবে :

Hamid said to me, "I shall see you tomorrow."

এখন তুমি কখন এই উক্তিটা অন্যের কাছে রিপোর্ট করবে তার উপর নির্ভর করবে তুমি tense এবং adverb পরিবর্তন করবে কিনা। তুমি যদি আজকেই এটা রিপোর্ট কর, তাহলে তুমি বলতে পারবে :

Hamid said to me that he will/would see me tomorrow.

অর্থাৎ এ ক্ষেত্রে tense পরিবর্তন optional কিন্তু adverb-এর পরিবর্তন মোটেই বাঞ্ছনীয় নয়।

আবার তুমি যদি হামিদের উক্তিটা পরের দিন রোববারে (অর্থাৎ তার দেখা করার দিন) রিপোর্ট কর তাহলে তোমাকে বলতে হবে :

Hamid said to me that he will/would see me today.

এক্ষেত্রেও tense-এর পরিবর্তন ঐচ্ছিক কিন্তু adverb-এর পরিবর্তন আবশ্যক। এখানে তুমি tomorrow ব্যবহার করলে তার দেখা করার দিনটা সোমবার হয়ে যাবে যেটা সে আদৌ mean করেনি।

আবার তুমি যদি ঐ উক্তিটা সোমবারে (অর্থাৎ যেদিন সে দেখা করবে বলে বলেছিল তার পরের দিন) রিপোর্ট কর তাহলে তোমাকে বলতে হবে :

Hamid said to me that he would see me yesterday.

এ ক্ষেত্রে tense এবং adverbial দু'টোরই পরিবর্তন আবশ্যক। এভাবে তোমার perspective বা দৃষ্টিকোণ থেকে তুমি time adverbial বিবেচনা করবে। এভাবে তোমার দৃষ্টিকোণ থেকে direct speech-এ উল্লিখিত সময়কে refer করতে তুমি tomorrow-এর পরিবর্তে the day before yesterday, last Sunday, on the following day ইত্যাদি time adverbial-ও ব্যবহার করতে পারো।

Place adverbial-এর বেলায়ও এরকম বিবেচনা প্রযোজ্য। যেমন, হামিদ তোমাকে একটা জায়গা দেখিয়ে বলেছিল, "You can sit here." এখন তুমি যদি একটু পরেই ঐ জায়গা দেখিয়ে তার উক্তিটা অন্যের কাছে কর তাহলে তুমি বলতে পারো :

Hamid said that I could sit here.

কিন্তু তুমি যদি দূরে গিয়ে ঐ জায়গা নির্দেশ কর, তাহলে তোমাকে বলতে হবে :

Hamid said that I could sit there.

হামিদ যদি "here" বলতে তার পাশের আসনটা বুঝিয়ে থাকে তাহলে তুমি এটাও বলতে পারবে :

Hamid said that I could sit beside him.

সুতরাং আমরা বলতে পারি, speech পরিবর্তনের ক্ষেত্রে time/place adverbials পরিবর্তনের ধরা-বাঁধা কোন নিয়ম নেই। বাস্তবতার নিরিখে বিবেচনা করে তোমাকে suitable একটা adverbial ব্যবহার করতে হবে।

Change of Vocative/Parenthesis

Vocative is a noun or noun phrase which is used in a sentence to address someone অর্থাৎ কোন বাক্যে যে noun বা noun phrase ব্যবহার করে কাউকে address বা সম্বোধন করা হয় তাকে vocative বলা হয়। যেমন :

Students, keep quiet.
May I come in, sir?

On the other hand, a parenthetical clause is a nonessential clause inserted into a main clause and set off by commas or dashes on its both sides অর্থাৎ কোন একটা main clause-এর ভিতরে যখন একটা অনাবশ্যক clause ঢুকিয়ে দেওয়া হয় এবং তার দুই দিকে comma কিংবা dash ব্যবহার করে তাকে মূল clause থেকে আলাদা করা হয় তখন সেই clause-টিকে parenthetical clause বলা হয়।

Direct speech-এ vocative থাকলে indirect speech-এ এটাকে সাধারণত reporting verb-এর object হিসেবে ব্যবহার করা হয়। নীচের উদাহরণ দু'টি লক্ষ কর:

Direct : We said, "Boys, don't make a noise."
Indirect : He ordered boys not to make a noise.

Direct : The teacher said, "Students, listen to me attentively."
Indirect : The teacher told students to listen to him attentively.

Vocative-এর মত direct speech-এ যদি কোন parenthetical clause থাকে, clumsiness পরিহার করার জন্য সেটাকেও indirect speech-এ পরিহার করা হয়। নীচের উদাহরণ দু'টি লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said to me, "Our English teacher, to tell you very frankly, is not a good teacher at all."
Indirect : He said to me that our English teacher was not a good teacher at all.

Direct : He said, "I am, as you know, deeply in love with Shanta."
Indirect : He said that he was deeply in love with Shanta.

আমরা জানি, function অনুসারে, sentences are of five categories. They are : Assertive sentences, Interrogative sentences, Imperative sentences, Optative sentences and Exclamatory sentences. Direct speech-এর quoted অংশে এ ধরনের sentence-গুলো থাকলে সেগুলোকে কীভাবে indirect speech-এ রূপান্তর করা হয় সেটাই আমরা এখন এই অধ্যায়ের following

section-এ আলোচনা করব। এই অধ্যায়ে এখন পর্যন্ত speech সংক্রান্ত যে সমস্ত নিয়ম-কানুন আলোচনা করা হয়েছে সেগুলো সব ধরনের sentence-এর জন্য প্রযোজ্য হলেও উদাহরণ হিসেবে আমরা দু'একটা ব্যতিক্রম ছাড়া শুধু Assertive sentence-ই ব্যবহার করেছি। সেজন্য Assertive sentence নিয়ে আমরা following section-এ বিস্তারিত আলোচনা করব না। শুধু আরো কিছু উদাহরণ দেব।

Change of Assertive Sentences

Direct Speech : Karim will say, "I can do everything for my friend."
Indirect Speech : Karim will say that he can do everything for his friend.
Direct : Everybody says, "The election has not been fair."
Indirect : Everybody says that the election has not been fair.
Direct : Adib said to me, "You are really a genius."
Indirect : Adib said to me that I was really a genius.
Direct : You said, "It must have rained last night.
Indirect : You said that it must have rained the previous night.
Direct : Rina and Bina said, "We took the initiative together."
Indirect : Rina and Bina said that they had taken the initiative together.
Direct : He said, "I have made a big mistake."
Indirect : He said that he had made a big mistake.
Direct : She said, "Every mother loves her child."
Indirect : She said that every mother loves her child.
Direct : I said to her, "I shall always be with you."
Indirect : I said to her that I would always be with her.
Direct : He said, "I have no objection to walking."
Indirect : He said that he had no objection to walking.
Direct : They said, "We must kill the snake."
Indirect : They said that they must kill the snake.
Direct : The teacher said, "Aristotle was a Greek philosopher."
Indirect : The teacher said that Aristotle had been a Greek philosopher.
Direct : He said to me, "You should obey your teachers."
Indirect : He advised me that I should obey my teachers.

Change of Direct Questions

Direct speech-কে indirect speech-এ রূপান্তরের জন্য যে সব rules আলোচনা করা হয়েছে সেগুলো সবই Questions পরিবর্তনের জন্যও প্রযোজ্য। এর বাইরে আরো কিছু rules questions বদলের জন্য প্রয়োজন হয়। যেমন, direct speech-এ ব্যবহৃত interrogative clause-টি indirect speech-এ interrogative থাকে না; এটা হয়ে যায় embedded / indirect question. Embedded question-এর form-টা তখন assertive হয়ে যায়। এছাড়া direct speech-এর reporting verb-টা পরিবর্তিত হয়ে indirect speech-এ ask/inquire হয়ে যায়। নীচের উদাহরণ দু'টি লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said, "How far is the post office?"
Indirect : He asked how far the post office was.

এখানে "How far is the post office?" হচ্ছে একটা direct question কিন্তু "how far the post office was" হচ্ছে একটা indirect/embedded question.

Direct : He said to me, "Are you married?"
Indirect : He asked me if I was married.

লক্ষ কর, direct speech-এ "said"-এর পরে "to" থাকলেও indirect speech-এ "asked"-এর পরে "to" নেই। Indirect speech-এ "if I was married" একটা embedded question.

আমরা জানি, ইংরেজিতে তিন ধরনের questions আছে : verbal questions, wh-questions এবং tag questions. A question that begins with a verb is called a verbal question. For example :

Are you a student?
Do you know me?
Can you lend me some money?

Yes/No ব্যবহার করে এই প্রশ্নগুলোর উত্তর দিতে হয় বলে এগুলোকে yes/no question-ও বলা হয়।

A question which begins with a "wh" question word is called a "wh" question. For example :

What is your name?
Where are you from?
When did you come here?

A tag question is not a full question. It is a short question that follows a statement or imperative clause. For example :

You are a student, aren't you?
Your father works here, doesn't he?
You did not go there, did you?
Take your seat, won't you?

এখন আমরা দেখাব, direct speech-এ ব্যবহৃত এই তিন ধরনের questions-কে কীভাবে indirect speech-এ embedded questions হিসাবে রূপান্তর করতে হয়।

Verbal Questions

Direct speech-এ reported clause-এ verbal question থাকলে indirect speech-এর embedded question টাকে if/whether দিয়ে শুরু করতে হয়। যেমন:

Direct : He said to me, "Have you finished your work?"
Indirect : He asked me if I had finished my work.
Direct : I said to her, "Are you interested in politics?"
Indirect : I asked her if/whether she was interested in politics.

Indirect question-এর শুরুতে "if" এবং "whether"-কে interchangeably (একটার পরিবর্তে আরেকটা) ব্যবহার করা গেলেও যেখানে দু'টো জিনিসের মধ্যে একটাকে বেছে নেয়ার ব্যাপার নেই সেখানে "if"-ই বেশি ব্যবহৃত হয়। পক্ষান্তরে, 'or' ব্যবহার করে সেখানে দু'টো জিনিসের মধ্যে একটা choose করার option দেয়া হয় সেখানে "whether"-ই বেশি appropriate হিসেবে বিবেচনা করা হয়। নীচের উদাহরণ দু'টি লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said to her, "Will you take tea?"
Indirect : He asked her if she would take tea.
Direct : He said to me, "Will you take tea *or* coffee?
Indirect : He asked me whether I would take tea or coffee.

Direct speech-এ ব্যবহৃত verbal question-এর মধ্যে যদি কোন if clause থাকে তাহলে "if"-এর পনুরাবৃত্তি পরিহার করার জন্য indirect question-এর শুরুতে whether ব্যবহার করা হয়। যেমন :

Direct : He said to me, "Will you go out in the evening if you are free?"
Indirect : He asked me whether I would go out in the evening if I was free.
Direct : I said to her, "If you need any money, can I help you?"
Indirect : I asked her whether I could help her if she needed any money.

Direct speech-এ verbal question ব্যবহার করে advice, suggestion, permission, request বা offer প্রকাশ করা হলে indirect speech-এ if বা whether ব্যবহারের প্রয়োজন হয় না। নীচের বাক্যগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said to me, "Would you please close the door?" (request)
Indirect : He requested me to close the door.
Direct : He said to his teacher, "May I ask you a question?" (seeking permission)
Indirect : He sought his teacher's permission to ask him (teacher) a question.

Wh-questions

Direct speech-এ wh-question থাকলে ঐ question-টা যে wh-word দিয়ে শুরু হয়েছে, indirect speech-এর embedded question-টাও ঐ wh-word দিয়েই শুরু হবে। এখানে embedded question-টা হবে assertive form-এ। নীচের speech পরিবর্তনের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said to me, "Where do you come from?"
Indirect : He asked me where I came from.
Direct : He said, "Who will drive the car?"
Indirect : He asked who would drive the car.
Direct : She said to me, "How many children do you have?"
Indirect : She asked/inquired/enquired how many children I had.

মনে রাখবে, Indirect speech-এ reporting verb হিসেবে ask অথবা enquire/inquire ব্যবহার করা হয়। তবে "ask"-এর পরে me/you/him জাতীয় object ব্যবহার করা গেলেও enquire-এর পরে এ ধরনের indirect object ব্যবহার করা যাবে না। "He enquired me" জাতীয় expression গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়। তুমি বলতে পারো :

She asked where the bus stand was.
She asked me where the bus stand was.
She inquired where the bus stand was.

কিন্তু তুমি বলতে পারবে না যে,

She inquired me where the bus stand was.

Tag questions

Tag questions কী ধরনের questions তা আমরা আগেই বলেছি। Direct speech-এর quoted অংশে কোন statement-এর পরে tag question থাকলে indirect speech-এ statement অংশকে বাদ দেয়া হয় কিন্তু ঐ statement-এর উপর ভিত্তি করে tag question টিকে একটা পূর্ণাঙ্গ verbal question-এ রূপান্তর করা হয় এবং সে হিসেবেই verbal question রূপান্তরের নিয়ম অনুসারে সেটা indirect speech-এ রিপোর্ট করা হয়। যেমন :

Direct speech : He said to me, "You sing modern songs, don't you?"

এই বাক্যটির quoted অংশে "You sing modern songs" হচ্ছে একটা statement এবং "don't you?" হচ্ছে tag question. Statement-এর ভিত্তিতে এই short question-টির পূর্ণাঙ্গ রূপ হচ্ছে, "Don't you sing modern songs?" এখন এই verbal question-টিকে মাথায় রেখেই indirect speech-এ-এর embedded রূপ দিতে হবে এভাবে :

He asked me if I did not sing modern songs.

Tag questions পরিবর্তনের উদাহরণ হিসেবে নীচের বাক্যগুলোও লক্ষ কর :

Direct : She said, "It's very windy today, isn't it?"
Indirect : She asked if it was not windy that day.
Direct : He said to his mother, "I am not late, am I?"
Indirect : He asked his mother if he was late.
Direct : I said to him, "Your father works for a bank, doesn't he?"
Indirect : I asked him if his father did not work for a bank.

Direct speech-এ tag question-এর আগে যদি কোন imperative clause থাকে তাহলে indirect speech গঠনের সময় tag question-টিকেই ignore করতে হবে এবং imperative অংশের function (order, request, proposal ইত্যাদি) অনুসারে ব্যবস্থা নিতে হবে। নীচের উদাহরণ দু'টি লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said to his servant, "Shut the door, will you?"
Indirect : He ordered his servant to shut the door.
Direct : He said to me, "Have a cup of tea, won't you?"
Indirect : He offered me a cup of tea.

এখনই আমরা Imperative sentence পরিবর্তনের নিয়মাবলী বিস্তারিতভাবে আলোচনা করছি।

Imperatives

Imperative sentence-এর সাধারণ function হচ্ছে কাউকে কিছু করতে বলা। কিন্তু এই করতে বলার ধরন নানা রকম হতে পারে। যেমন, আমরা কাউকে কিছু করতে order (আদেশ) করতে পারি, request (অনুরোধ) করতে পারি, proposal (প্রস্তাব) দিতে পারি, advice (উপদেশ) দিতে পারি কিংবা permission (অনুমতি) দিতে পারি। Direct speech-এ reporting verb হিসেবে "say" থাকলেও imperative-এর ধরন বিবেচনা করে indirect speech-এ order /ask/ tell/ advise/ request/ suggest/ propose জাতীয় reporting verb ব্যবহার করতে হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর:

Direct : He said to me, "Listen to me."
Indirect : He asked me to listen to him.
Direct : She said to her students, "Keep quiet."
Indirect : She ordered her students to keep quiet.
Direct : He said, "Don't make a noise."
Indirect : He ordered us not to make a noise.

[Direct speech-এ কাউকে কিছু করতে বলা হয়েছে সেটার উল্লেখ করা না হলেও indirect speech-এ reporting verb-এর object হিসেবে কাউকে উল্লেখ করতে হবে।]

Direct : She said to her friend, "Read silently."
Indirect : She told her friend to read silently.
Direct : He said to us, "Please take your seats."
Indirect : He requested us to take our seats.
Direct : The doctor said, "Give up your smoking habit."
Indirect : The doctor advised me to give up my smoking habit.
Direct : He said to me, "Would you please not smoke here?"
Indirect : He requested me politely not to smoke here/there.
Direct : They said to us, "Let us arrange a picnic."
Indirect : They proposed (to us) that we should arrange a picnic.
Direct : I said to her, "Drink a lot of water."
Indirect : I suggested (to her) that she (should) drink a lot of water.

[মনে রাখবে, "He proposed / suggested me to do it" বাক্যটি acceptable নয়।]

Direct speech-এ imperative-এর শুরুতে "you" কিংবা "do" থাকলে indirect speech-এ সেটাকে avoid করতে হয়। যেমন :

Direct : He said to me, "You/Do stop talking."
Indirect : He asked me to stop talking.

Direct speech-এ কোন negative order থাকলে সেটাকে indirect speech-এ দু'ভাবে প্রকাশ করা যায়। যেমন :

Direct : He said to me, "Don't walk on the grass."
Indirect : He ordered me not to walk on the grass.
অথবা He forbade me to walk on the grass.

Optative Sentences

Direct speech-এর quoted/reported clause ব্যবহার করে কারো জন্য কোন আনুষ্ঠানিক ইচ্ছা বা দোয়া প্রকাশ করা হলে indirect speech-এ ইচ্ছা বা দোয়ার ধরন অনুসারে wish / pray / bless জাতীয় reporting verb ব্যবহার করা হয় এবং অধিকাংশ ক্ষেত্রে wish কিংবা prayer প্রকাশক clause-টিকে statement হিসেবে treat করা হয়। নীচের speech গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Direct : Mother said to me, "May you live long."
Indirect : Mother wished / prayed that I should live long.

এক্ষেত্রে indirect speech-টিকে ছোট করে এভাবেও বলা যায় :

Mother wished me a long life.

Direct : He said, "May God bless you."
Indirect : He prayed that God might bless me.

Wish/prayer-এর ধরন অনুসারে Indirect speech-টা simple এবং complex উভয় রকমই হতে পারে। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said, "May you prosper in life."
Indirect : He wished that I should prosper in life. (complex sentence)
Or, He wished me a prosperous life. (simple sentence)
Direct : He said to me, "Happy birthday to you."
Indirect : He wished that I should have a happy birthday. (complex)
He wished me a happy birthday. (simple)
Direct : I said to them, "Good morning."
Indirect : I bade them good morning. (formal)
I said good morning to them. (informal)
Direct : He said, "Good bye."
Indirect : He bade farewell to me. (formal)
He said good bye to me. (informal)

Direct : I said to her, "Good night. Have a good sleep."
Indirect : I said good night to her and wished her a good sleep.

[শেষের দুটি বাক্যই compound কারণ এদের মধ্যে একাধিক independent clause রয়েছে।]

Exclamations

Direct speech-এর reported অংশে exclamatory clause থাকলে indirect speech-এ reporting verb হিসেবে "exclaim" ব্যবহার করা হয় এবং তার সঙ্গে with + joy/sorrow/ anger জাতীয় অনুভূতির নাম যোগ করতে হয়। এরপর subordinate clause-এর শুরুতে conjunction হিসেবে "that" ব্যবহার করে exclamatory part-কে statement-এ রূপান্তরিত করা হয়। exclamation-এর সাথে alas / hurrah জাতীয় interjection থাকলে indirect speech-এ সেটা পরিহার করা হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said, "How lovely the flower is!"
Indirect : He exclaimed with joy that the flower was very lovely.
Direct : She said, "Alas! I have lost my son."
Indirect : She exclaimed with sorrow that she had lost her son.
Direct : Hamlet said, "What a piece of work is man!"
Indirect : Hamlet exclaimed with a sense of wonder that man was a wonderful piece of work.
Direct : They said, "Hurrah! We have won the game."
Indirect : They exclaimed with delight that they had won the game.

Short exclamation-কে অন্যভাবেও report করা যায়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Direct : He said, "Excellent!"
Indirect : He gave an exclamation of pleasure/satisfaction.
Direct : She said, "Ugh!"
Indirect : She expressed disgust.
Direct : I said to him, "Congrats!"
Indirect : I congratulated him.
Direct : He said to them, "Happy Christmas!"
Indirect : He wished them a happy Christmas.
Direct : He said to me, "Welcome home!"
Indirect : He welcomed me home.

Change of Mixed Sentences

Direct speech-এর quoted অংশে ভিন্ন ধরনের একাধিক sentence থাকতে পারে। যেমন :

He said to me, "I am very hungry. Will you give me some food?"

এই speech-টির quoted অংশে দু'টি আলাদা বাক্য রয়েছে। প্রথমটা একটা statement এবং দ্বিতীয়টা একটা question. এক্ষেত্রে indirect speech-এ এই দু'ধরনের বাক্যকে report করতে দু'টো ভিন্ন reporting verb-এর প্রয়োজন হবে। সে হিসেবে indirect speech-টা হবে এরকম :

He said to me that he was very hungry and asked me if I would give him some food.

এরকম statement এবং question-এর যৌথ reporting-এর আরো দু'টো উদাহরণ লক্ষ কর :

Direct : I said to her, "You look tired. What have you been doing?"
Indirect : I told her that she looked tired and asked her what she had been doing.

Direct : She said to the man, "I can't recognize you. Would you please introduce yourself?
Indirect : She said to the man that she could not recognize him and asked him politely to introduce himself.

শুধু statement এবং question নয়, direct speech-এর quoted অংশে অন্য ধরনের sentence-এরও combination হতে পারে। যেমন :

Direct : They said, "It is raining outside. Let us not go out."
Indirect : They said that it was raining outside and proposed that they should not go out.

Direct : The teacher said to me, "You have got the highest grade. Congratulations!"
Indirect : The teacher told me that I had got the highest grade and congratulated me.

Practice Part

1. Study the following pair of sentences and answer the questions below :
He said to me, "Can you speak any foreign language?"
He asked me if I could speak any foreign language.

Questions:

a) Which one is the direct question?
b) Identify the indirect question.
c) Identify the reporting verbs in the sentences.
d) Of the two sentences, which one is complex and which one is compound? Give reasons for your answer.
e) Identify the reported clauses in the two sentences. How are they different from each other?

2. Change the narrative mode of the following sentences :
   a) He will definitely say, "I am very honest."
   b) She is saying that she has done the work.
   c) The girl said, "My mother is no more."
   d) They said that they were feeling helpless.
   e) I said that it might rain that night.
   f) He said, "I have been waiting here for more than an hour."
   g) She said to me, "I have never told you a lie."
   h) He told me that I was his best friend.

3. Change the following speeches into their opposite modes :
   a) I said to him, "Do you like pop music?"
   b) She asked me if there was any toilet around there.
   c) He says, "Where can I sleep?"
   d) I asked them who taught them grammar.
   e) He said to the man, "You need my help, don't you?"
   f) She asked me how long I would stay abroad.
   g) He said to his friend, "Can you accompany me to the market?"
   h) The beggar said, "May I have some alms?"
   i) I said, "Why should I learn English?"
   j) He asked me if I had gone shopping the previous day.

4. Rewrite the following sentences in indirect speeches :
   a) The commander said, "Stand at ease."
   b) He said to me, "Don't move."
   c) I said to her, "Let us watch a movie."
   d) You said to him, "Obey your parents."
   e) He said to me, "May you have a speedy recovery."

Chapter 14

Transformation of Sentences

Transformation of sentences means changing the words or form of a sentence without changing its meaning অর্থাৎ transformation of sentences বলতে আমরা বুঝি অর্থ পরিবর্তন না করে কোন বাক্যের word বা form-এর পরিবর্তন করা। ইংরেজিতে নানাবিধ বাক্যকে নানাভাবে transform করা যায়। এই অধ্যায়ে আমরা বিভিন্ন category-এর transformation উদাহরণসহ আলোচনা করব :

1. From Affirmatives into Negatives

a) Affirmative বাক্যে adjective থাকলে বিপরীত adjective ব্যবহার করে sentence-টিকে অর্থ ঠিক রেখে negative করা যায়। যেমন :

Affirmative : Man is mortal.
Negative : Man is not immortal.
Affirmative : They are a happy couple.
Negative : They are not an unhappy couple.
Affirmative : You should be frugal in your habits.
Negative : You should not be prodigal in your habits.
Affirmative : I am well today.
Negative : I am not unwell today.
Affirmative : He is a very strong candidate.
Negative : He is not a weak candidate at all.

b) কোন affirmative বাক্যে noun phrase থাকলে অর্থ ঠিক রেখে সেটাকে negative করতে হলে interrogative form ব্যবহার করতে হয়। যেমন :

Affirmative : He is a doctor.
Negative : Is he not a doctor?
Affirmative : He leads a happy life.
Negative : Does he not lead a happy life?

Affirmative : He passed the driving test.
Negative : Did he not pass the driving test?
Affirmative : We love our country.
Negative : Do we not love our country?
Affirmative : You should respect your teachers.
Negative : Should you not respect your teachers?

c) Affirmative sentence-এর verb-এর antonym ব্যবহার করেও negative sentence তৈরি করা যায়। যেমন :

Affirmative : Everybody hates a liar.
Negative : Nobody likes a liar.
Affirmative : He passed the exam.
Negative : He did not fail the exam.
Affirmative : Everybody believes him.
Negative : Nobody disbelieves him.
Affirmative : You should obey your parents.
Negative : You should not disobey your parents.
Affirmative : Remember the address.
Negative : Don't forget the address.

d) Affirmative sentence-এ "only" থাকলে negative sentence-এ "none/nothing + but" ব্যবহার করতে হয়। যেমন :

Affirmative : Only the brave deserve the fair.
Negative : None but the brave deserve the fair.
Affirmative : I ate only bread and butter.
Negative : I ate nothing but bread and butter.
Affirmative : Only a strong man can lift this box.
Negative : None but a strong man can lift this box.
Affirmative : I need a hammer only.
Negative : I need nothing but a hammer.

ক্ষেত্র বিশেষে "only"-এর পরিবর্তে negative বাক্যে "not more than" ব্যবহৃত হয়। যেমন :

Affirmative : Only ten people attended the meeting.
Negative : Not more than ten people attended the meeting.

e) Affirmative sentence-এ "and" কিংবা "both .... and" থাকলে negative sentence-এ "not only ... but also" ব্যবহার করতে হয়। যেমন :

Affirmative : I like fish and vegetables.
Negative : I like not only fish but also vegetables.
Affirmative : He meets me both on Fridays and Mondays.
Negative : He meets me not only on Fridays but also on Mondays.
Affirmative : My father is both a teacher and a writer.
Negative : My father is not only a teacher but also a writer.
Affirmative : She speaks English correctly and fluently.
Negative : She speaks English not only correctly but also fluently.
Affirmative : The woman is fair and true.
Negative : The woman is not only fair but also true.

f) Affirmative sentence-এ must / have to / be to থাকলে negative sentence-এ "cannot but" অথবা "cannot help + gerund" ব্যবহার করতে হয়। যেমন:

Affirmative : You must go there.
Negative : You cannot but go there.
Affirmative : I was to do the work.
Negative : I could not but do the work.
Or,
I could not help doing the work.
Affirmative : He has to visit a doctor.
Negative : He cannot but visit a doctor.
Or,
He cannot help visiting a doctor.
Affirmative : They had to obey me.
Negative : They could not but obey me.
Or,
They could not help obeying me.
Affirmative : You must drink pure water.
Negative : You cannot but drink pure water.

g) Affirmative থেকে negative করার আরো কয়েকটা উদাহরণ লক্ষ কর :

Affirmative : He is too weak to speak.
Negative : He is so weak that he cannot speak.
Affirmative : The problem was too difficult for me to solve.
Negative : The problem was so difficult that I could not solve it.

Affirmative : Every mother loves her child.
Negative : There is no mother but loves her child.
Affirmative : Every malady has a remedy.
Negative : There is no malady but has a remedy.
Affirmative : As soon as he reached the station, the train left.
Negative : No sooner had he reached the station than the train left.
Affirmative : She is less beautiful than her sister.
Negative : She is not as beautiful as her sister.
Affirmative : Nazma is taller than any other girl in the class.
Negative : No other girl in the class is as tall as Nazma.

2. From Statements into Questions

a) কোন positive statement-এ কারো সম্পর্কে কিছু বলা থাকলে question form-এ সেটা প্রকাশ করতে question-টিকে negative হতে হয়। যেমন :

Statement : Shakespeare was a great dramatist.
Question : Was Shakespeare not a great dramatist?

এখানে positive statement-টির মাধ্যমে Shakespeare সম্পর্কে যে ধারণা প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে, question-টির মাধ্যমে সেই একই ধারণা প্রকাশ করা হয়েছে। নীচের transformation গুলোও লক্ষ কর :

Statement : Honey tastes sweet.
Question : Doesn't honey taste sweet?
Statement : It's raining very hard.
Question : Is it not raining very hard?
Statement : I talked to the chairman.
Question : Did I not talk to the chairman?
Statement : He is a minor poet.
Question : Is he not a minor poet?

b) কোন negative statement-এর sense question-এর মাধ্যমে প্রকাশ করতে হলে question-টিকে positive হতে হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Statement : He is not a poet at all.
Question : Is he a poet at all?
Statement : That was not a good film.
Question : Was that a good film?

Statement : He did not play well in the last match.
Question : Did he play well in the last match?
Statement : He will never help you.
Question : Will he ever help you?
Statement : She has never done any good job.
Question : Has she ever done any good job?

c) Every/Everyone/Everybody দিয়ে কোন statement শুরু হলে সেটার question form হয় নিম্নরূপ :

Statement : Everyone knows this man.
Question : Who does not know this man?
(অর্থাৎ সবাই তাকে চেনে।)
Statement : Everybody hates a corrupt person.
Question : Who likes a corrupt person?
Statement : Every mother loves her child.
Question : Is there any mother who does not love her child?

d) Assertive sentences বা statements-এর question form-এ রূপান্তরের আরো কয়েকটা উদহারণ লক্ষ কর :

Statement : None/Nobody can deny the truth.
Question : Who can deny the truth?
Statement : Anyone can solve this problem.
Question : Who can't solve this problem?
Statement : There is no use of this bag.
Question : What is the use of this bag?
Statement : I said nothing about you.
Question : Did I say anything about you?

3. From Statements into Imperatives

আমরা জানি, assertive sentence বা statement শুরু হয় subject দিয়ে কিন্তু imperative sentence শুরু হয় verb দিয়ে, এর subject উহ্য থাকে। Imperative দিয়ে কাউকে কিছু করতে বলা হয়। নীচের transformation গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Statement : I am ordering you to shut the door.
Imperative : Shut the door.
Statement : I order you not to smoke here.
Imperative : Don't smoke here.

Statement : I command you to raise your hands.
Imperative : Raise your hands.
Statement : I am requesting you to give me a cup of tea.
Imperative : Please give me a cup of tea.
Statement : I request you not to litter this place.
Imperative : Please don't litter this place.
Statement : I propose that we should go out for a walk.
Imperative : Let us go out for a walk.

4. From Statements into Optatives

আমরা জানি, optative sentence-এর function হচ্ছে কারো জন্য শুভেচ্ছা বা দোয়া করা। নীচের transformation গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Statement : I wish you a long life.
Optative : May you live long.
Statement : I pray to God that He should bless you.
Optative : May God bless you.
Statement : I wish that you will have a safe journey.
Optative : Have a safe journey.
Statement : I wish you many happy returns of the day.
Optative : Many happy returns of the day
Statement : I wish you a good morning.
Optative : Good morning.

5. From Statements into Exclamations

Exclamatory sentence-এর কাজ হচ্ছে সুখ, দুঃখ, বিস্ময় ইত্যাদি অনুভূতি প্রকাশ করা। এ ধরনের বাক্যের structure একটু আলাদা। যেমন :

How beautiful the bird is!

এখন নীচের transformation গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Statement : The weather is very awful.
Exclamation : How awful the weather is!
Statement : The scenery was very beautiful.
Exclamation : How beautiful the scenery was!
Statement : We rejoice that we have won the match.
Exclamation : Hurrah! We have won the match.

Statement : We are shocked to hear that his father is no more.
Exclamation : Alas! His father is no more.
Statement : I curse the weather.
Exclamation : Curse this weather!

6. From Positive into Comparative Degrees

আমরা জানি, gradable adjective-এর তিনটা form/degree থাকে : Positive, Comparative এবং Superlative. অর্থ ঠিক রেখে এ ধরনের degree-এরও transformation সম্ভব। নীচের transformation গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Positive : Nazma is as tall as her sister.
Comparative : Nazma is not taller than her sister.
Positive : Karim and Rahim are equally intelligent.
Comparative : Karim is not more intelligent than Rahim.
Positive : Belal is not as brave as Helal.
Comparative : Belal is less brave than Helal.
Or,
Helal is braver than Belal.
Positive : Rima is not so beautiful as Sima.
Comparative : Sima is more beautiful than Rima.
Or,
Rima is less beautiful than Sima.
Positive : No other boy in the class is as good as Raghib.
Comparative : Raghib is better than any other boy in the class.

Adjective-এর মত adverbs of manner-এরও degree পরিবর্তন করা যায়। যেমন :

Positive : I cannot walk as quickly as Karim can.
Comparative : Karim can walk more quickly than me.
Positive : It did not rain as hard today as (it did) yesterday.
Comparative : It rained harder yesterday than (it did) today.

7. From Comparative into Superlative Degrees

Comparative degree ব্যবহার করে সাধারণত two people or things-এর তুলনা করা হয়। যেমন :

Belal is taller than Hamid.
This pen is better than that one.
Dhaka is bigger than Rajshahi.

এই বাক্যগুলোকে Superlative degree-তে রূপান্তর করা সম্ভব নয়, কারণ superlative degree ব্যবহৃত হয় তিন বা ততোধিক জিনিসের মধ্যে উচ্চতম degree বুঝাতে। কিন্তু একটা জিনিসকে যখন দুই বা ততোধিক জিনিসের সঙ্গে তুলনা করা হয় তখনও comparative degree ব্যবহার করা যায়। যেমন :

He is older than his two friends.
He is older than any other boy in the class.

এই বাক্য দু'টিকে Superlative degree ব্যবহার করে rewrite করা সম্ভব এভাবে:

Of the three friends he is the oldest.
He is the oldest boy in the class.

এখন comparative থেকে superlative degree-তে transformation-এর আরো কিছু উদাহরণ লক্ষ কর :

Comparative : Gold is more precious than any other metal.
Or,
Gold is more precious than all other metals.
Superlative : Gold is the most precious of all metals.
Comparative : Shakespeare was greater than most other dramatists of the world.
Superlative : Shakespeare was one of the greatest dramatists of the world.
Comparative : Robin is less intelligent than all other boys or any other boy in the class.
Superlative : Robin is the least intelligent boy in the class.
Comparative : Jamal is poorer than most other people in the village.
Superlative : Jamal is one of the poorest people in the village.

এবার positive, comparative এবং superlative degree-এর এক সঙ্গে রূপান্তরের example লক্ষ কর :

Positive : No other city in Bangladesh is as big as Dhaka.
Comparative : Dhaka is bigger than any other city in Bangladesh.
Or,
Dhaka is bigger than all other cities in Bangladesh.
Superlative : Dhaka is the biggest city in Bangladesh.
Or,
Dhaka is the biggest of all cities in Bangladesh.

Positive : Only a few cricketers in the world are as great as Sakib.
Comparative : Sakib is greater than most/many other cricketers in the world.
Superlative : Sakib is one of the greatest cricketers in the world.

8. Transformation of the Voice

সপ্তম অধ্যায়ে আমরা voice নিয়ে বিস্তারিত আলোচনা করেছি এবং voice change-এর নিয়ম-কানুনও বিস্তারিতভাবে ব্যাখ্যা করেছি। এই অধ্যায়ের পূর্ণতার খাতিরে voice রূপান্তরের আরো কিছু উদাহরণ প্রদান করা হলো :

Active : The Romans did not build Rome in a day.
Passive : Rome was not built in a day.
Active : We have extinguished the fire.
Passive : The fire has been extinguished.
Active : Who made the noise?
Passive : By whom was the noise made?
Or,
Who was the noise made by?
Active : Don't do the work right now.
Passive : Let the work not be done right now.
Active : I request three days' casual leave.
Passive : Three days' casual leave is requested.
Active : Please help me with some money.
Passive : May I please be helped with some money?
Active : Police made a lot of arrests on that day.
Passive : A lot of arrests were made by police on that day.
Passive : May you be blessed by Allah.
Active : May Allah bless you.
Passive : Who was the car purchased by?
Active : Who purchased the car?
Passive : Has the road been repaired?
Active : Have they repaired the road?
Passive : This disease is borne by water.
Active : Water bears this disease.
Passive : He was sacked from his job.
Active : His employer sacked him from his job.

9. Transformation of Speech

Speech-কে কীভাবে transform করতে হয় তা পূর্ববর্তী অধ্যায়েই বিস্তারিতভাবে আলোচনা করা হয়েছে। এখানে শুধু আরো কয়েকটা উদাহরণ লক্ষ কর :

Direct Speech : He said, "I am suffering from fever."
Indirect Speech : He said that he was suffering from fever.
Direct : Ruma said to me, "Have you submitted your assignment?"
Indirect : Ruma asked me if I had submitted my assignment.
Direct : I said to the foreigner, "Which country are you from?"
Indirect : I asked the foreigner which country he was from.
Indirect : He requested me to lend him some money.
Direct : He said to me, "Will you please lend me some money?"
Indirect : She exclaimed with sorrow that her father was no more.
Direct : She said, "Alas! My father is no more."

10. From Simple into Complex Sentences

তোমরা আগেই জেনেছ, a simple sentence is a one-clause sentence অর্থাৎ একটা simple sentence-এ শুধু একটা independent clause থাকে। পক্ষান্তরে, a complex sentence contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses অর্থাৎ একটা complex sentence-এ একটা independent clause থাকে এবং তার সঙ্গে এক বা একাধিক dependent clause থাকে। সুতরাং কোন একটা simple sentence-কে complex-এ transform করার সময় এই ব্যাপারটাই বিশেষভাবে মনে রাখতে হবে। অর্থাৎ simple sentence-এর একটা phrasal অংশকে clause-এ রূপান্তরিত করে complex sentence গঠন করতে হবে। নীচের বাক্যটি লক্ষ কর :

I shall go home after completing this work.

এটি একটা simple sentence এবং-এর প্রধান অংশ হচ্ছে "I shall go home". এই অংশের পরে একটা time phrase (after completing this work) ব্যবহার করা হয়েছে। এখন এই বাক্যটিকে complex করার প্রক্রিয়ায় প্রধান অংশকে Principal clause হিসেবে ধরে নিয়ে time phrase-টিকে adverbial clause-এ রূপান্তর করতে হবে। তখন বাক্যটি হবে এরকম :

I shall go home after I complete this work.

এবং এটা একটা complex sentence কারণ-এর মধ্যে দু'টো clause আছে : একটা Principal এবং আরেকটা subordinate. Simple sentence-কে complex করার আরো দু'টি প্রক্রিয়া নীচে লক্ষ কর :

The boy standing there is my cousin.

এই simple বাক্যটির প্রধান অংশ হচ্ছে : The boy is my cousin; মাঝখানে "standing there" হচ্ছে একটা participial adjective phrase যার সাহায্যে "boy" noun-টিকে modify করা হয়েছে। এই বাক্যটিকে complex করতে হলে "The boy is my cousin"-কে Principal clause হিসেবে ব্যবহার করতে হবে এবং মধ্যবর্তী adjective phrase-টিকে expand করে একটা adjective clause তৈরি কতে হবে। তখন sentence-টা হবে এরকম :

The boy who is standing there is my cousin.

এটা একটা complex sentence কারণ এর মধ্যে একটা Principal clause এবং একটা subordinate adjective clause রয়েছে।

আবার, "The teacher suggested an extra class for us." বাক্যটিও simple এবং-এর মধ্যে transitive verb-এর পরে object হিসেবে একটা noun phrase (an extra class for us) ব্যবহার করা হয়েছে। এটাকে complex করতে হলে এই noun phrase-টিকে একটা noun clause-এ রূপান্তরিত করতে হবে। সেটা হতে পারে এরকম :

The teacher suggested that we should attend an extra class.

এবার simple sentence-এর ধরন অনুসারে বিভিন্ন রকম রূপান্তর (অর্থাৎ complex বাক্যে বিভিন্ন রকম subordinate clause-এর ব্যবহার সম্বলিত) লক্ষ কর :

Simple : I requested you to give me a job
Complex : I requested that you should give me a job.
Simple : We proposed a picnic for us.
Complex : We proposed that we should go on a picnic.
Simple : The convict confessed his guilt.
Complex : The convict confessed that he was guilty.
Simple : I don't know her name.
Complex : I don't know what her name is.
Simple : We know the expected time of his arrival.
Complex : We know when he is expected to arrive.
Simple : Every parent loves their children.
Complex : There is no parent but loves their children.

Simple : Don't disturb the sleeping baby.
Complex : Don't disturb the baby who is sleeping.
Simple : The books on the table are mine.
Complex : The books that are on the table are mine.
Simple : The people working here are all very poor.
Complex : The people who are working here are all very poor.
Simple : The people wounded in the accident were hospitalized.
Complex : The people who were wounded in the accident were hospitalized.
Simple : The guests to be invited to the party have not been selected yet.
Complex : The guests who will be invited to the party have not been selected yet.
Simple : I shall go there after lunch.
Complex : I shall go there after I finish lunch.
Simple : The patient died before the arrival of the doctor.
Complex : The patient had died before the doctor arrived.
Simple : We started our journey immediately after sunrise.
Complex : We started our journey immediately after the sun had risen.
Simple : Wait here until my return.
Complex : Wait here until I return.
Simple : His father died ten years ago.
Complex : Ten years have passed since his father died.
Simple : I got your letter a week ago.
Complex : It has been a week since I got your letter.
Simple : You can sit anywhere.
Complex : You can sit anywhere you like.
Simple : It is raining very hard.
Complex : It is raining like the sky is falling.
Simple : Do the work in my way.
Complex : Do the work as I am doing it.
Simple : I can say something on condition of anonymity.
Complex : I can say something if my name is not mentioned.
Simple : In case of bad weather, we will postpone the picnic.
Complex : If the weather is bad, we will postpone the picnic.

Simple : The delay of the flight was due to foggy weather.
Complex : The flight was delayed because the weather was foggy.
Simple : He could not attend the meeting owing to his illness.
Complex : Since he was ill, he could not attend the meeting.
Simple : In spite of illness, he went to office.
Complex : He went to office although he was ill.
Simple : He fell asleep in spite of himself.
Complex : He fell asleep although he did not want to.
Simple : Despite his unwillingness, he accompanied me to Dhaka.
Complex : He accompanied me to Dhaka although he was unwilling.
Simple : She is taller than me.
Complex : She is taller than I (am).
Simple : He is too weak to speak.
Complex : He is so weak that he cannot speak.
Simple : The problem was too difficult for me to solve.
Complex : The problem was so difficult that I could not solve it.
Simple : She studied hard to pass the exam.
Complex : She studied hard so that she could pass the exam.

11. From Complex into Simple Sentences

যে পদ্ধতি ব্যবহার করে একটা simple sentence-কে একটা complex sentence-এ রূপান্তর করা হয়, ঠিক তার বিপরীত পদ্ধতি ব্যবহার করে complex sentence-কে simple-এ রূপান্তর করতে হবে। অর্থাৎ complex sentence-এ ব্যবহৃত subordinate clause-টিকে একটা phrase-এ রূপান্তর করতে হবে, কারণ simple sentence-এ কোন subordinate clause থাকে না। একটা simple sentence-এ একাধিক subject এবং একাধিক predicator থাকতে পারে না। নীচের বাক্যটি লক্ষ কর :

The girl who is wearing sunglasses is my cousin.

এটি একটা complex sentence, কারণ-এর মধ্যে একটা Principal clause (The girl is my cousin) এবং একটা subordinate clause (who is wearing sunglasses) রয়েছে। Subordinate clause-টির কাজ হচ্ছে Principal clause-এ subject (The girl)-কে modify করা অর্থাৎ functionally এটা একটা adjective clause. এবার এই clause থেকে subject এবং auxiliary verb বাদ দিয়ে আমরা লিখতে পারি :

The girl wearing sunglasses is my cousin.

এটা এখন একটা simple sentence হয়ে গেছে। "Girl"-কে modify করতে এখানে একটা participial adjective phrase ব্যবহার করা হয়েছে। এভাবেই কোন subordinate clause-কে phrase বানিয়ে তোমরা যে কোন complex sentence-কে simple sentence-এ transform করতে পারো। নীচের transformation গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Complex : I suggested that he should have a medical check-up.
Simple : I suggested a medical check-up for him.
Complex : It is difficult to shoot a bird when it is flying.
Simple : It is difficult to shoot a flying bird.
Complex : There are many guests who have not yet turned up.
Simple : Many guests are yet to turn up.
Complex : I don't know why he is silent.
Simple : I don't know the cause of his silence.
Complex : Nobody knows whether he is married or not.
Simple : Nobody knows anything about his marital status.
Complex : What we know about the country is inadequate.
Simple : Our knowledge about the country is inadequate.
Complex : It seems that he was once very poor.
Simple : He seems to have been very poor once.
Complex : Nobody will believe that you have killed your friend.
Simple : Nobody will believe the story of your killing your friend.
Complex : That they are in love is an open secret.
Simple : Their being in love is an open secret.
Complex : Do you know when the plane will fly?
Simple : Do you know the time of the flight?
Complex : Do you know how many people admire you?
Simple : Do you know the number of your admirers?
Complex : Allah helps those who help themselves.
Simple : Allah helps the self-helping people.
Complex : I want to help the people who are needy.
Simple : I want to help the needy people.
Complex : The roads that are damaged should be repaired soon.
Simple : The damaged roads should be repaired soon.
Complex : This is the place where I was born.
Simple : This is my birth place.

Complex : There is no chair on which I can sit.
Simple : There is no chair for me to sit on.
Complex : We had started our journey before the sun rose.
Simple : We started our journey before sunrise.
Complex : I walked as far as I could.
Simple : I walked as far as possible.
Complex : It has been quite long since I met you last.
Simple : I met you last quite a long time ago.
Complex : If it rains very hard, this area goes under water.
Simple : In case of a hard rain, this area goes under water.
Complex : As the weather was inclement, we did not go out.
Simple : We did not go out because of the inclement weather.
Complex : Although he is rich, he is miserly in his habit.
Simple : *In spite of /Despite* being rich, he is miserly in his habit.
Complex : He was so young that he could not say 'no' to a woman.
Simple : He was too young to say 'no' to a woman.

12. From Simple into Compound Sentences

আমরা জানি, একটা simple sentence-এ শুধু একটা Principal clause থাকে কিন্তু একটা compound sentence-এ দুই বা ততোধিক principal clause থাকে। Simple কিংবা compound sentence-এ কোন প্রকার dependent clause থাকে না। Compound sentence-এর clause গুলো একই rank-এর হয় এবং তাদেরকে সংযুক্ত করতে একটা co-ordinating conjunction-এর সাহায্য নিতে হয়। এক বা একাধিক simple sentence-কে কীভাবে একটা compound sentence-এ transform করা যায় তার কিছু উদাহরণ নীচে লক্ষ কর :

Simple : Despite his poverty, the man is honest.
Compound : The man is poor but (he is) honest.

[সংক্ষিপ্ততার খাতিরে দ্বিতীয় clause-এর subject (যদি সেটা প্রথম clause-এর subject-এর সঙ্গে identical হয়) এবং verb (যদি সেটা প্রথম clause-এর verb-এর অনুরূপ হয়)-কে পরিহার করা হয়।]

Simple : He is a small boy. He can chop wood.
Compound : He is a small boy but he can chop wood.
Simple : He could not pass the driving test. His brother could not pass it either.

Compound : Neither he nor his brother could pass the driving test.
Simple : They fell in love at first right.
Compound : They saw each other and fell in love right away.
Simple : The girl is beautiful and intelligent.
Compound : The girl is not only beautiful but she is intelligent also.
Simple : You have damaged my garden. Or your brother has done it.
Compound : Either you or your brother has damaged my garden.
Simple : I don't like pop music. Neither does she.
Compound : Neither I nor she likes pop music.
Simple : Despite working hard, he could not pass the exam.
Compound : He worked hard, nevertheless he could not pass the exam.
Simple : The patient was too weak to walk.
Compound : The patient was very weak and so he could not walk.
Simple : The doctor came after the death of the patient.
Compound : The patient died and then the doctor came.
Simple : I shall eat lunch after taking a bath.
Compound : I shall take a bath and then eat lunch.

13. From Compound into Simple Sentences

যে পদ্ধতিতে এক বা একাধিক simple sentence-কে একটা compound sentence-এ রূপান্তর করা হয় ঠিক তার বিপরীত পদ্ধতি অবলম্বন করে কোন compound sentence-কে এক বা একাধিক simple sentence-এ রূপান্তর করা যায়। মনে রাখতে হবে, একটা simple sentence-এ একটা মাত্র subject এবং একটা মাত্র finite verb থাকবে এবং এর মধ্যে কোন co-ordinating conjunction থাকবে না। নীচের transformation গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Compound : He went to Dhaka and met his friend.
Simple : After going to Dhaka he met his friend.
Compound : He suddenly fell ill and could not go to his work.
Simple : He could not go to his work owing to his sudden illness.

Compound : Teaching is a noble profession and everybody should respect it.
Simple : Everybody should respect the noble profession of teaching.
Compound : Neither Karim nor his brothers are rich.
Simple : Karim is not rich. His brothers are not rich either.
Compound : He was charged with theft and dismissed from his service.
Simple : Being charged with theft, he was dismissed from service.

14. From Complex into Compound Sentences

আমরা জানি, complex এবং compound উভয় ধরনের বাক্যেই একাধিক clause থাকে, তবে তাদের nature আলাদা। A complex sentence contains only one principal clause and one or more subordinate clauses. For example :

We shall start the journey/before the sun rises.

এই বাক্যটিতে একটা principal clause এবং একটা subordinate clause আছে। কিন্তু,

We decided /that we would start the journey / before the sun rose.

এই বাক্যটিতে একটা principal clause এবং দুইটা subordinate clause রয়েছে।

পক্ষান্তরে, a compound sentence contains two or more independent clauses but it contains no subordinate clause. যেমন :

His father was a teacher but he is a doctor.

কোন complex বাক্যকে compound structure-এ রূপান্তর করার সময় compound sentence-এর বৈশিষ্ট্যটাই ভালভাবে মনে রাখতে হবে। নীচের transformation গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Complex : I am sure that you will get a scholarship.
Compound : You will get a scholarship and I am sure about it.
Complex : Everybody knows that the earth is round.
Compound : The earth is round and everybody knows it.
Complex : The doctor suggested that I should give up smoking.
Compound : I should give up smoking and this is the suggestion of the doctor.

Complex : You are writing a book, which is not an easy job.
Compound : You are writing a book; this is not an easy job.
Complex : I killed the mosquito which was biting me.
Compound : A mosquito was biting me and I killed it.
Complex : All the people who were injured were hospitalised.
Compound : Many people were injured and all of them were hospitalised.
Complex : There are many needy people whom we should help.
Compound : There are many needy people and we should help them.
Complex : I shall go home after I finish this work.
Compound : I shall finish this work first and then (I shall) go home.
Complex : The patient had died before the doctor came.
Compound : The patient died and then the doctor came.
Complex : Five years have passed since I met you last in London.
Compound : I met you last in London and it happened five years ago.
Complex : If you meet the girl, you will certainly like her.
Compound : Meet the girl and you will certainly like her.
Complex : If the weather is rainy tomorrow, we shall postpone our programme.
Compound : The weather is likely to be rainy tomorrow and in that case we shall postpone our programme.
Complex : The accident occurred, because the weather was very foggy.
Compound : The weather was very foggy and this caused the accident.
Complex : As he got the scholarship, he was very happy.
Compound : He got the scholarship and that made him very happy.

Complex : Although he is very rich, he is not happy.
Compound : He is very rich but (he is) not happy.
Complex : Though she worked very hard, she did not get the job.
Compound : She worked very hard, nevertheless she did not get the job.
Complex : If you do not walk faster, you will miss the bus.
Compound : You must walk faster, otherwise you will miss the bus.
Complex : He ate so much that he suffered from indigestion.
Compound : He ate too much and, therefore, suffered from indigestion.
Complex : We eat good food so that we can stay healthy.
Compound : We want to stay healthy, so we eat good food.

15. From Compound into Complex Sentences

যে প্রক্রিয়ায় কোন complex sentence-কে compound sentence-এ রূপান্তর করা হয় ঠিক তার বিপরীত প্রক্রিয়া অবলম্বন করে compound sentence-কে complex sentence-এ রূপান্তর করতে হবে। মনে রাখতে হবে, complex sentence-এ একটা মাত্র Principal clause থাকবে এবং তার সঙ্গে subordinating conjunction দ্বারা যুক্ত এক বা একাধিক subordinate clause থাকতে পারে। নীচের transformation গুলো লক্ষ কর :

Compound : He saw the girl and fell in love with her at the very first sight.
Complex : As soon as he saw the girl, he fell in love with her.
Or,
No sooner had he seen the girl than he fell in love with her.
Compound : The man was found guilty, yet he was exempted from punishment.
Complex : Although the man was found guilty, he was exempted from punishment.
Compound : His father passed away and about six months have passed since then.
Complex : About six months have passed since his father passed away.

Compound : The food was delicious and we all ate our fill.
Complex : As the food was delicious, we all ate our fill.

Compound : They played very well but could not win the match.
Complex : Although they played very well, they could not win the match.

Compound : He was taking a morning walk and in the middle of his walk he saw a snake.
Complex : While he was taking a morning walk, he saw a snake.

Compound : He wanted to become a doctor; so he studied medicine.
Complex : He studied medicine so that he could become a doctor.

Compound : He was talking with a girl and she was extraordinarily beautiful.
Complex : The girl he was talking with was extraordinarily beautiful.

Compound : Walk faster, otherwise you will miss the bus.
Complex : Unless you walk faster, you will miss the bus.

Practice Part

Transform the following sentences as directed :

1. He always speaks the truth. (into negative)
2. They lost the battle. (into negative)
3. He was not a minor poet. (into positive)
4. I did not fail any exam in my life. (into positive)
5. Everybody loves him. (into interrogative)
6. Nobody likes a cheat like him. (into interrogative)
7. Can anybody catch a falling star? (into assertive)
8. Did I not meet you? (into assertive)
9. You are asked not to shout. (into imperative)

10. You are requested to close the door. (into imperative)
11. How fast the bus runs! (into statement)
12. How stupid of you! (into statement)
13. I wish I had the wings of a bird. (into exclamation)
14. It is very tragic that he died so young. (into exclamation)
15. My house is as big as yours. (into comparative degree)
16. She is as tall as I am. (into comparative degree)
17. He is richer than any other farmer in this village. (into positive degree)
18. She is more beautiful than most other girls. (into positive degree)
19. Shakespeare was greater than most other dramatists of his time. (into superlative degree)
20. No other student in the class is as bright as Raghib. (into superlative degree)
21. The cow gives us milk. (into passive voice)
22. Who broke the glass? (into passive voice)
23. The thief was beaten by the mob. (into active voice)
24. I was not being listened to. (into active voice)
25. He said to me, "Can you lend me some money?" (into indirect speech)
26. I said to the man, "Don't smoke here." (into indirect speech)
27. I requested him to listen to my advice. (into direct speech)
28. I asked her if she was interested in pop music. (into direct speech)
29. We eat to live. (into complex)
30. I remember the time of his death. (into complex)
31. Everybody loves flowers. (into complex)
32. Do you know his workplace? (into complex)
33. I know where he was born. (into simple)
34. He suggested that I should apply for the job. (into simple)
35. It has been quite long since we settled here. (into simple)
36. He was so indifferent that he could not realise my presence in the room. (into simple)

37. It is important that all our students should get proper medical facility. (into compound)
38. Although he has a lot of money, he never helps the poor people of his village. (into compound)
39. Salma is taller than her sister. (into compound)
40. If the weather is bad, we shall cancel our programme. (into compound)
41. He walked quite fast but failed the bus. (into complex)
42. I took an extra class and all the students attended it. (into simple)
43. He came to Rajshahi but did not see me. (into complex)
44. She insisted that I should buy her a new dress. (into simple)
45. He worked very hard to get the job. (into complex)
46. I want that you should wait here until I come back. (into simple)
47. The essay is long but it is a good read. (into complex)
48. The sun rises in the east and sets in the west. (into simple)
49. The man was trying to escape but the mob caught him. (into complex)
50. He will certainly succeed in doing the work. (into compound)

Chapter 15

Common Grammatical Mistakes

আমরা আমাদের দৈনন্দিন জীবনে ইংরেজি বলতে এবং লিখতে গিয়ে প্রায়ই নানা ধরনের grammatical mistakes করে থাকি। এই অধ্যায়ে আমরা ভুলগুলোর শ্রেণিবিভাগ করে তাদের উদাহরণ দেব এবং একই সঙ্গে তাদের শুদ্ধ রূপগুলোও সরবরাহ করব :

1. Mistakes in Using Nouns

এক্ষেত্রে অধিকাংশ ভুল সংঘটিত হয় uncountable noun-এর ব্যবহারে। An uncountable noun is always singular in form; it has no plural form. Singular হলেও এর আগে কখনো সরাসরি a/an/one ব্যবহার করা যায় না। uncountable noun-এর পরিমাণ বুঝাতে এর আগে একটা উপযুক্ত partitive (বা measure words) ব্যবহার করতে হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : He gave me a news / two newses.
Correct : He gave me a piece of news / two pieces of news.
Incorrect : These informations are wrong.
Correct : This information is wrong.
Incorrect : Mother gave me many advices.
Correct : Mother gave me a lot of advice.
Incorrect : Can you give me a soap?
Correct : Can you give me a bar/cake of soap?
Incorrect : We have bought many new furnitures.
Correct : We have bought a lot of new furniture.
Incorrect : Her hairs are very long.
Correct : Her hair is very long.
Incorrect : I need some more sugars in my tea.
Correct : I need some more sugar in my tea.

Incorrect : I prefer chickens to beefs.
Correct : I prefer chicken to beef.
Incorrect : Can you give me a paper? I need to write an application.
Correct : Can you give me a sheet of paper? I need to write an application.
Incorrect : I need a chalk.
Correct : I need a stick of chalk.

A singular countable noun cannot be used without a determiner before it অর্থাৎ কোন singular countable noun-এর আগে অবশ্যই একটা determiner ব্যবহার করতে হয়। তবে plural noun-এর আগে determiner অত্যাবশ্যক নয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : I write letter every day.
Correct : I write a letter every day.
Or,
I write letters everyday.
Incorrect : I am fond of reading novel.
Correct : I am fond of reading novels / a novel.
Incorrect : This is good book.
Correct : This is a good book.
Incorrect : I want chair to sit on.
Correct : I want a chair to sit on.
Or,
We need chairs to sit on.
Incorrect : He sent me birthday gift.
Correct : He sent a birthday gift.
Or,
He sent me birthday gifts.

ইংরেজিতে কোন কোন noun সব সময়ই plural; তাদের কোন singular form নেই। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : He wears a sunglass.
Correct : He wears sunglasses.
Incorrect : Where is my glass /spectacle?
Correct : Where are my glasses / spectacles?
Incorrect : He bought a trouser/pant.
Correct : He bought a pair of trousers/pants.

Incorrect : A cattle is grazing in the field.
Correct : A herd of cattle is grazing in the field.
Or,
Cattle are grazing in the field.

2. Mistakes in Using Verbs

Present simple tense-এ auxiliary verb হিসেবে 'does' ব্যবহৃত হলে মূল verb-এর base form ব্যবহার করতে হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : He does not goes to school regularly.
Correct : He does not go to school regularly.
Incorrect : Does it often rains here?
Correct : Does it often rain here?
Incorrect : How quickly does the bus runs?
Correct : How quickly does the bus run?

একইভাবে, past simple tense-এও auxiliary verb হিসেবে "did" ব্যবহার করা হলে মূল verb-এর base form ব্যবহার করতে হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : It did not rained here yesterday.
Correct : It did not rain here yesterday.
Incorrect : Did you sought my permission to go there?
Correct : Did you seek my permission to go there?
Incorrect : How much money did you needed?
Correct : How much money did you need?

যে কোন tense-এ modal auxiliary verb-এর পরে মূল verb-এর *bare infinitive* (to ছাড়া infinitive) form বসে। যেমন :

Incorrect : He can to speak English fluently.
Correct : He can speak English fluently.
Incorrect : It might rained / to rain to-night.
Correct : It might rain to-night.
Incorrect : You had better to leave/left the place.
Correct : You had better leave the place.

"Let" এবং "make"-কে transitive verb হিসেবে ব্যবহার করলে object-এর পরে non-finite verb হিসেবে "to" ছাড়া base form বসে, কিন্তু "allow" verb-এর পরে to + base form বসে। যেমন :

Incorrect : He won't let me to go there.
Correct : He won't let me go there.

Incorrect : She made me to wait for her.
Correct : She made me wait for her.
Incorrect : Please allow me sit for the exam.
Correct : Please allow me to sit for the exam.

কোন intransitive কিংবা linking verb-কে কখনও passive voice-এ ব্যবহার করা যায় না। কিন্তু অনেকেই এক্ষেত্রে ভুল করে থাকে। যেমন :

Incorrect : The accident was happened near the bridge.
Correct : The accident happened near the bridge.
Incorrect : My father was died last year.
Correct : My father died last year.
Incorrect : This book is belonged to me.
Correct : This book belongs to me.
Incorrect : He was become a doctor.
Correct : He became a doctor.
Incorrect : I was felt nervous before the board.
Correct : I felt nervous before the board.

3. Mistakes in the Use of Pronouns

আমরা জানি, ইংরেজিতে personal pronoun গুলোর কয়েকটা form আছে : subject form, object form এবং দু'টি possessive form. এগুলোর সঠিক ব্যবহারে অনেক সময়ই ভুল হয়ে থাকে। যেমন :

Incorrect : This is mine book.
Correct : This is my book.
Or,
This book is mine.
Incorrect : Our is a beautiful country.
Correct : Ours is a beautiful country.
Or,
Our country is beautiful.
Incorrect : He loves you and I equally.
Correct : He loves you and me equally.

দু'টো জিনিসের উভয়কে বুঝাতে "both" এবং দু'য়ের বেশি সবগুলো জিনিস বুঝাতে "all" pronoun-টি ব্যবহৃত হয়। যেমন :

Incorrect : Three mangoes were there; I ate both of them.
Correct : Three mangoes were there; I ate all of them.

Incorrect : There are two questions for you; answer all.
Correct : There are two questions for you; answer both.

দু'টো জিনিসের মধ্যে 'কোনটাই না' বুঝাতে "neither" এবং দু'য়ের বেশি জিনিসের মধ্যে 'কোনটাই না' বুঝাতে pronoun হিসেবে "none" ব্যবহৃত হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : I called Belal and Helal but none of them responded.
Correct : I called Belal and Helal but neither of them responded.
Incorrect : Three people were standing there; neither of them was known to me.
Correct : Three people were standing there; none of them was known to me.
Incorrect : They offered me two jobs but none of them was suitable for me.
Correct : They offered me two jobs but neither of them was suitable for me.

বাক্যের শুরুতে common gender-এর কোন singular noun বা pronoun থাকলে আধুনিক ইংরেজিতে তার পরিবর্তে gender discrimination পরিহার করার জন্য পরে plural pronoun ব্যবহার করা হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : Everybody should do his duty.

[এই বাক্যটিতে বুঝানো হয়েছে যে, "Everybody" does not include any female person. অতএব, এটা acceptable নয়।]

Correct : Everybody should do their duty.
Incorrect : A student should do his homework regularly.
Correct : A student should do their homework regularly.
Incorrect : Everyone loves himself.
Correct : Everyone loves themself.

Complex sentence-এ adjective clause-এর শুরুতে relative pronoun বসে। main clause-এর antecedent কোন ব্যক্তি (singular এবং plural উভয় ক্ষেত্রে), relative clause-এর subject হিসেবে "who" অথবা "that" ব্যবহার করা হয়। অন্যদিকে antecedent মানুষ ছাড়া অন্যকিছু হলে relative clause-এর subject হিসেবে "which/that" ব্যবহার করা হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : I know the man which is standing there.
Correct : I know the man who/that is standing there.
Incorrect : I killed the mosquito who was disturbing me.
Correct : I killed the mosquito which/that was disturbing me.

Incorrect : I met the girls those came here.
Correct : I met the girls who/that came here.
Incorrect : We should help the people those are needy.
Correct : We should help the people who/that are needy.

Adjective clause-এর শুরুতে object হিসেবেও relative pronoun ব্যবহৃত হয়। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : I know the boy which she loves.
Correct : I know the boy who/whom/that she loves.
Incorrect : I have read the book whom you gave me.
Correct : I have read the book which / that you gave me.
Incorrect : I love the gifts those you gave me.
Correct : I love the gifts which/that you gave me.

4. Mistakes in the Use of Determiners and Nouns

কোন্ determiner কোন ধরনের (singular countable, plural countable এবং uncountable) noun-এর আগে বসে সেটা জানা অত্যন্ত জরুরি। নীচের অশুদ্ধ ও শুদ্ধ বাক্যগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : We have five fingers on each hands.
Correct : We have five fingers on each hand.
Incorrect : Every students passed the exam.
Correct : Every student passed the exam.
Incorrect : I talked with each and every boys and girls.
Correct : I talked with each and every boy and girl.
Incorrect : I bought several new furniture last week.
Correct : I bought some new furniture last week.
Incorrect : I have a lot of friend.
Correct : I have a lot of friends.
Incorrect : He does not have many money.
Correct : He does not have much money.
Incorrect : Only a few student attended the class.
Correct : Only a few students attended the class.
Incorrect : I have little friends to assist me.
Correct : I have few friends to assist me.
Incorrect : He has few common sense.
Correct : He has little common sense.
Incorrect : There are trees on either sides of the road.

Correct : There are trees on either side of the road.
Incorrect : Neither proposals are acceptable.
Correct : Neither proposal is acceptable.
Incorrect : I have read his second assignments.
Correct : I have read his second assignment.
Incorrect : These news are false.
Correct : This news is false
Or, These pieces of news are false.
Incorrect : Both the three girls are naughty
Correct : All the three girls are naughty.

5. Mistakes in the use of Adjectives and Adverbs

আমরা জানি, adjective-এর কাজ হচ্ছে কোন noun বা pronoun-কে modify করা এবং adverb-এর কাজ হচ্ছে মূলত কোন verb-কে modify করা। কিন্তু ভুল করে আমরা অনেক সময়ই এদের ব্যবহারকে গুলিয়ে ফেলি। নীচের উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : I have done good in the exam.
Correct : I have done well in the exam.
Incorrect : He has done unwell/bad in the exam.
Correct : He has done badly in the exam.
Incorrect : Honey tastes sweetly.
Correct : Honey tastes sweet.
Incorrect : She is feeling nervously.
Correct : She is feeling nervous.
Incorrect : It is a globally problem.
Correct : It is a global problem.
Incorrect : His performance was miserable poor.
Correct : His performance was miserably poor.
Incorrect : She was not proper dressed.
Correct : She was not properly dressed.
Incorrect : She sings beautiful.
Correct : She sings beautifully.
Incorrect : This book reads very interestingly.
Correct : This book reads very interesting.
Incorrect : It is raining hardly.
Correct : It is raining hard.
Incorrect : He will reach here recently.
Correct : He will reach here shortly.

6. Mistakes in the Use of Prepositions

Non-native English speaker-দের জন্য preposition-এর ব্যবহার বেশ কঠিন। যথাস্থানে appropriate preposition ব্যবহার না করতে পারলে ঈপ্সিত অর্থ প্রকাশ করা যায় না। নীচের ভুল এবং শুদ্ধ উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : She looks beautiful at saree.
Correct : She looks beautiful in saree.
(শাড়িতে তাকে সুন্দর দেখায়।)

Incorrect : The saree in her is very expensive.
Correct : The saree on her is very expensive.
(তার পরনের শাড়িটা খুব দামী।)

Incorrect : I have no money near me.
Correct : I have no money on me.
(আমার কাছে কোন টাকা নেই।)

Incorrect : He cheated at the exam.
Correct : He cheated on the exam.

Incorrect : We have five fingers in/at each hand.
Correct : We have five fingers on each hand.
(আমাদের প্রত্যেক হাতে পাঁচটি আঙ্গুল আছে।)

Incorrect : He was accused for murder.
Correct : He was accused of murder.
(তার বিরুদ্ধে হত্যার অভিযোগ আনা হয়েছিল।)

Incorrect : He was used/accustomed with smoking.
Correct : He was used/accustomed to smoking
(তিনি ধূমপানে অভ্যস্ত ছিলেন।)

Incorrect : She took out her anger at me.
Correct : She took out her anger on me.
(সে আমার উপর রাগ ঝেড়েছিল।)

Incorrect : He was angry with the weather.
Correct : He was angry at the weather.
(সে আবহাওয়ার প্রতি রাগান্বিত ছিল।)

Incorrect : She was anxious for her health.
Correct : She was anxious about her health.
(সে তার স্বাস্থ্য নিয়ে উদ্বিগ্ন ছিল।)

Incorrect : I am anxious about my son's future.
Correct : I am anxious for my son's future.
(আমি আমার ছেলের ভবিষ্যৎ নিয়ে চিন্তিত।)

Incorrect : She is ashamed for her conduct.
Correct : She is ashamed of her conduct.
(সে তার আচরণের জন্য লজ্জিত।)

Incorrect : They boast for their riches.
Correct : They boast of/about their riches.
(তারা তাদের ধন-সম্পত্তির বড়াই করে।)

Incorrect : He goes to school by foot.
Correct : He goes to school on foot.
(সে পায়ে হেঁটে স্কুলে যায়।)

Incorrect : I sat with her on the car.
Correct : I sat with her in the car.
(আমি কারে তার পাশে বসেছিলাম।)

Incorrect : I met her in the bus/train.
Correct : I met her on the bus/train.
(তার সঙ্গে আমার বাসে/ট্রেনে দেখা হয়েছিল।)

Incorrect : I have no confidence about your ability.
Correct : I have no confidence in your ability.
(তোমার সামর্থ্যে আমার কোন আস্থা নেই।)

Incorrect : I congratulate you in your success.
Correct : I congratulate you on/for your success.
(তোমার সাফল্যে আমার অভিনন্দন।)

Incorrect : His family consists with five members.
Correct : His family consists of five members.
(তার পরিবার পাঁচজন সদস্য নিয়ে গঠিত।)

Incorrect : His son was deprived from his property.
Correct : His son was deprived of his property.
(তার ছেলে তার সম্পত্তি থেকে বঞ্চিত হয়েছিল।)

Incorrect : The two sisters are different with each other.
Correct : The two sisters are different from/than/to each other.
(বোন দু'টি পরস্পর ভিন্ন।)

Incorrect : I have no doubt with his honesty.
Correct : I have no doubt of/about his honesty.
(তার সততা নিয়ে আমার কোন সন্দেহ নেই।)

Incorrect : He was found guilty for murder.
Correct : He was found guilty of murder
(তিনি হত্যার দায়ে দোষী সাব্যস্ত হয়েছিলেন।)

Incorrect : He was jealous with me.
Correct : He was jealous of me.
(সে আমার প্রতি ঈর্ষান্বিত ছিল।)
Incorrect : Who will preside in the meeting?
Correct : Who will preside at/over the meeting?
(সভায় সভাপতিত্ব করবেন কে?)

7. Misuse of Infinitives

আমরা জানি, infinitive হচ্ছে base form of a verb. "To" ছাড়া infinitive-কে বলা হয় bare infinitive এবং "to" সহ infinitive-কে বলা হয় "to + infinitive". কখনো কখনো infinitive-কে gerund দ্বারা replace করা যায় কিন্তু সবক্ষেত্রে এ ধরনের replacement সম্ভব নয়। যেমন :

He started to shout.
He started shouting.

এখানে "to shout" এবং "shouting" interchangeable. কিন্তু, "He enjoys *to swim*" বাক্যটি শুদ্ধ নয়; বলতে হবে : He enjoys *swimming*. নীচের উদাহরণগুলোতে infinitive-এর ভুল ব্যবহারগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : Do your work without speak.
Correct : Do your work without speaking.
Incorrect : He was capable to do the work.
Correct : He was capable of doing the work.
Incorrect : He insisted to go abroad.
Correct : He insisted on going abroad.
Incorrect : I have no objection to walk.
Correct : I have no objection to walking.
Incorrect : I am looking forward to hear from you.
Correct : I am looking forward to hearing from you.
Incorrect : He succeeded to cross the river.
Correct : He succeeded in crossing the river.
Incorrect : They are used to smoke.
Correct : They are used to smoking.
Incorrect : You should avoid make/to make mistakes.
Correct : You should avoid making mistakes.
Incorrect : Have you finished to eat?
Correct : Have you finished eating?
Incorrect : He stopped to smoke. (বন্ধ করা অর্থে)
Correct : He stopped smoking. (তিনি ধূমপান ছেড়ে দিয়েছিলেন।)

[N. B. ভিন্ন অর্থে "He stopped to smoke". বাক্যটি correct. এর অর্থ হচ্ছে, তিনি ধূমপানের উদ্দেশ্যে থামলেন।]

Incorrect : He was busy to read.
Correct : He was busy reading.

8. Wrong Words at Wrong Places

কোন শব্দটা কোথায় appropriate তা না জানার ফলে আমরা অনেক সময়ই ভুল শব্দ ব্যবহার করি। ফলে আমাদের ইপ্সিত অর্থ প্রকাশ পায় না। নীচের উদাহরণগুলোতে ভুল এবং শুদ্ধ শব্দগুলো লক্ষ কর:

Incorrect : The food was very tasteful.
Correct : The food was very tasty. (সুস্বাদু অর্থে)
Incorrect : Give me a page of paper. (পৃষ্ঠা)
Correct : Give me a leaf of paper. (পাতা)
[N. B. এক পৃষ্ঠা কাগজ কেউ কাউকে দিতে পারে না।]
Incorrect : Our teacher will take an exam tomorrow.
Correct : Our teacher will give us an exam tomorrow.

[N. B. "Take an exam" অর্থ হচ্ছে পরীক্ষা দেয়া এবং "give an exam" অর্থ হচ্ছে পরীক্ষা নেয়া।]

Incorrect : You have done a mistake.
Correct : You have made a mistake.
Incorrect : Say me what you have done.
Correct : Tell me what you have done.
Incorrect : He spoke this.
Correct : He said this.
Incorrect : He is reading his prayer.
Correct : He is saying his prayer.
Incorrect : He holds a sexual view.
Correct : He holds a sexist view.

[N. B. According to the sexist view, women are inferior to men.]
Incorrect : He was in a terrific situation. (ভয়ংকর অর্থে)
Correct : He was in a terrible situation.
Incorrect : The weather was awesomely bad.
Correct : The weather was awfully bad.
Incorrect : The girl is fairly high/long.
Correct : The girl is fairly tall.

Incorrect : Her tallness is six feet.
Correct : Her height is six feet.
Incorrect : He treated us with proper hospitalization.
Correct : He treated us with proper hospitality.
Incorrect : Open your mask.
Correct : Take off your mask.
Incorrect : He gave me a nice presentation.
Correct : He gave me a nice present.
Incorrect : I have applied for lecturership in a college.
Correct : I have applied for lectureship in a college.
Incorrect : Did you talk with the Register?
Correct : Did you talk with the Registrar?
Incorrect : I talked with a police.
Correct : I talked with a policeman.
Incorrect : He is a literal man.
Correct : He is a literate man.
Incorrect : This essay has no literal value.
Correct : This essay has no literary value.
Incorrect : I have a lot of works to do today.
Correct : I have a lot of work to do today.
Incorrect : I shall await for you at the school gate.
Correct : I shall await you at the school gate.
Incorrect : They live upstair/downstair.
Correct : They live upstairs/downstairs.
Incorrect : We were boating upstreams/downstreams.
Correct : We were boating upstream/downstream.

9. Mistakes in the Use of Tense

কোন্ ধরনের কাজের জন্য আমরা কোন্ tense ব্যবহার করব সে সম্পর্কে সঠিক ধারণা থাকা অত্যন্ত জরুরি। নীচের উদাহরণ গুলোতে অশুদ্ধ ও শুদ্ধ tense-এর ব্যবহার লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : This book is belonging to me.
Correct : This book belongs to me.
Incorrect : The rule is not applying here.
Correct : That rule does not apply here.
Incorrect : I am knowing him for a long time.
Correct : I have known him for a long time.
Incorrect : It is raining since morning.
Correct : It has been raining since morning

Incorrect : I have visited him yesterday.
Correct : I visited him yesterday.
Incorrect : The road is under water. It had rained very hard.
Correct : The road is under water. It has rained very hard.
Incorrect : I am here for two years.
Correct : I have been here for two years.
Incorrect : I was not liking his plan.
Correct : I did not like his plan.
Incorrect : Did you ever go to England?
Correct : Have you ever been to England?
Incorrect : We had started the journey before the sun had risen.
Correct : We had started the journey before the sun rose.
Incorrect : Wait here until I returned.
Correct : Wait here until I return.
Incorrect : I shall go home after I shall finish this work.
Correct : I shall go home after I finish this work.
Incorrect : Two years passed since I saw you last.
Correct : Two years have passed since I saw you last.
Incorrect : I might have done the work tomorrow.
Correct : I might have done the work yesterday.
Incorrect : He had died ten years ago.
Correct : He died ten years ago.
Incorrect : I reached the station after the train left.
Correct : I reached the station after the train had left.
Incorrect : If you will invite me, I shall attend your party.
Correct : If you invite me, I shall attend your party.
Incorrect : If you did not take this medicine, you would have died.
Correct : If you had not taken this medicine, you would have died.
Incorrect : He talks as if he knows everything.
Correct : He talks as if he knew everything.
Incorrect : She asked me if I am married.
Correct : She asked me if I was married.
Incorrect : He wanted to know where I shall go.
Correct : He wanted to know where I would go.
Incorrect : I wish I am a bird.
Correct : I wish I were a bird.
Incorrect : He worked hard so that he can pass the exam.
Correct : He worked hard so that he could pass the exam.

10. Subject–verb Agreement Issue

Subject-verb agreement বলতে আমরা বুঝি, subject singular হলে verb singular হবে এবং subject plural হলে তার সঙ্গে plural verb ব্যবহার করতে হবে। কিন্তু কোন বাক্যের subject singular নাকি plural এ নিয়ে অনেক সময় confusion হয় এবং তার ফলে verb-এর ব্যবহারে ভুল সংঘটিত হয়। নীচে subject-verb-এর disagreement এবং agreement-এর উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : Ten years are quite a long time.
Correct : Ten years is quite a long time.

[Ten years বলতে এখানে দশটা জিনিসকে বুঝানো হয়নি, বুঝানো হয়েছে একটা সময়ের ব্যাপ্তি। অতএব, অর্থের দিক থেকে এটা singular.]

Incorrect : Fifty miles are a long distance.
Correct : Fifty miles is a long distance.
Incorrect : Economics are an interesting subject.
Correct : Economics is an interesting subject.
Incorrect : Where is my glasses? (চশমা বুঝাতে)
Correct : Where are my glasses?
Incorrect : The colour of her eyes are blue.
Correct : The colour of her eyes is blue.
Incorrect : Karim with his friends were present there.
Correct : Karim with his friends was present there.
Incorrect : The number of guests were not big.
Correct : The number of guests was not big.
Incorrect : All that glitters are not gold.
Correct : All that glitters is not gold.
Incorrect : The jury was divided in their opinions.
Correct : The jury were divided in their opinions.
Incorrect : The alms was given to poor people.
Correct : The alms were given to poor people.
Incorrect : There is a couple of things for me to do.
Correct : There are a couple of things for me to do.
Incorrect : Measles are an infectious disease.
Correct : Measles is an infectious disease.
Incorrect : A pair of scissors are required to cut this cloth.
Correct : A pair of scissors is required to cut this cloth.

11. Mistakes in the Order of Words

ইংরেজি ভাষার syntax অনুসারে কোন্ শব্দের পর কোন্ শব্দ বসবে তার এক systematic ক্রম আছে। A sentence is not a haphazard string of words. নিয়ম ভেঙ্গে শব্দ সাজালে বাক্য গ্রহণযোগ্য হয় না। নীচের অশুদ্ধ ও শুদ্ধ উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : He speaks the truth always.
Correct : He always speaks the truth.
Incorrect : It rains here hardly. (কদাচিৎ)
Correct : It hardly rains here.
Incorrect : She wrote yesterday her assignment.
Correct : She wrote her assignment yesterday.
Incorrect : His parents are both bankers.
Correct : Both his parents are bankers.
Incorrect : Is the room enough large for you?
Correct : Is the room large enough for you?
Incorrect : Did not he come here yesterday.
Correct : Did he not come here yesterday.
Or, Didn't he come here yesterday?
Incorrect : Never I have seen such a lovely bird.
Correct : Never have I seen such a lovely bird.
Or, I have never seen such a lovely bird.
Incorrect : He wrote badly the paragraph.
Correct : He wrote the paragraph badly.
Incorrect : No sooner I had reached home than it began to rain.
Correct : No sooner had I reached home than it began to rain.
Incorrect : I bought for my son a new shirt.
Correct : I bought my son a new shirt.
Or, I bought a new shirt for my son.
Incorrect : The fan is moving very fast; Please turn down it.
Correct : The fan is moving very fast; please turn it down.

[N.B. Verb + adverbial particle বিশিষ্ট Phrasal verb-এর object-টা যদি noun হয় তাহলে সেটা দুই position-এই ব্যবহার করা যায়। যেমন : Please turn down the fan. অথবা Please turn the fan down.]

Incorrect : This is an alive fish.
Correct : This fish is alive.
Incorrect : He is a well man.
Correct : He/The man is well.

12. Is a Preposition Necessary or Unnecessary?

আমরা জানি, transitive verb-এর পরে object হিসেবে সরাসরি একটা nominal বসে যার আগে কোন preposition ব্যবহার করা যায় না। কিন্তু intransitive verb-এর পরে preposition phrase-কে adverbial হিসেবে ব্যবহার করা সম্ভব। নীচের অশুদ্ধ এবং শুদ্ধ উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : He reached at the station.
Correct : He reached the station.
Incorrect : She arrived the station.
Correct : She arrived at the station.
Incorrect : They went to home/abroad.
Correct : They went home/abroad.
Incorrect : He goes school regularly.
Correct : He goes to school regularly.
Incorrect : He carried her bags to upstairs.
Correct : He carried her bags upstairs.
Incorrect : He presented me a pen.
Correct : He presented me with a pen.
Incorrect : You did not co-operate me.
Correct : You did not co-operate with me.
Incorrect : The committee comprises of five members.
Correct : The committee comprises five members.
Incorrect : The committee is comprised five members.
Correct : The committee is comprised of five members.
Incorrect : This book belongs me.
Correct : This book belongs to me.
Incorrect : There is no chair here to sit.
Correct : There is no chair here to sit on.
Incorrect : I have no pen to write.
Correct : I have no pen to write with.
Incorrect : He has recovered his long illness.
Correct : He has recovered from his long illness.
Incorrect : She accompanied with me to the market.
Correct : She accompanied me to the market.
Incorrect : I am suffering fever for the last two days.
Correct : I am suffering from fever for the last two days.

Incorrect : He provided me a lot of information.
Correct : He provided me with a lot of information.
Incorrect : I could not communicate them.
Correct : I could not communicate with them.
Incorrect : In case of any problem, please contact with me.
Correct : In case of any problem, please contact me.
Incorrect : Please inform me any change in the plan.
Correct : Please inform me of /about any change in the plan.
Incorrect : Please explain me the matter.
Correct : Please explain the matter to me.
Incorrect : Don't look down the poor.
Correct : Don't look down upon the poor.
Incorrect : I can't put up such an insult.
Correct : I can't put up with such an insult.

13. Miscellaneous Mistakes

আমরা আমাদের ইংরেজি ব্যবহারে আরো অনেক ধরনের ভুল করে থাকি। এর মধ্যে কিছু কিছু ভুল হয় আবার আমাদের মাতৃভাষা বাংলার প্রভাবে। নীচের অশুদ্ধ ও শুদ্ধ উদাহরণগুলো লক্ষ কর :

Incorrect : He is cutting swim in the pond.
Correct : He is swimming in the pond.
Incorrect : We gave a walk along the river bank.
Correct : We took/had a walk along the river bank.
Incorrect : I do a bath every morning.
Correct : I take/have a bath every morning.
Incorrect : She did me a lot of questions.
Correct : She asked me a lot of questions.
Incorrect : They have done me a request.
Correct : They have made me a request.
Incorrect : He eats cigarettes.
Correct : He smokes cigarettes.
Incorrect : He fell down in sleep.
Correct : He fell asleep.
Incorrect : Shut the light before you sleep.
Correct : Turn off the light before you sleep.

Incorrect : He does not know how to see the watch.
Correct : He does not know how to read the watch.
Incorrect : This watch is slow/fast every day.
Correct : This watch loses/gains time every day.
Incorrect : I am going to a hairdresser's to cut my hair.
Correct : I am going to a hairdresser's to have a haircut.
Incorrect : You have increased your weight.
Correct : You have put on/gained weight.
Incorrect : Where is your home? (তোমার বাড়ি কোথায়?)
Correct : Where are you from?
Or, Where do you come from?
Incorrect : I shall do her marriage.
Correct : I shall marry her.
Incorrect : He took admission in the department of English.
Correct : He admitted himself in the department of English.
Or, He enrolled in the department of English.
Incorrect : He is walking very slow. (ধীরে ধীরে)
Correct : He is walking very slowly.
Incorrect : I can clearly memorise my childhood.
Correct : I can clearly remember my childhood.
Incorrect : I can't move without a cell phone.
Correct : I can't do without a cell phone.
Incorrect : A man's dress is different from a woman.
Correct : A man's dress is different from a woman's.
Incorrect : Don't make noise.
Correct : Don't make a noise.
Incorrect : He decided to grow beard.
Correct : He decided to grow a beard.
Incorrect : She has born three children.
Correct : She has borne three children.
Incorrect : He was borne in 1955.
Correct : He was born in 1955.
Incorrect : I saw raining.
Correct : I saw it raining.

CHAPTER 16

Common Idioms and Phrases

Idioms and Phrases occupy a special place in English as in any other language. They are unique in the sense that they express special meanings independent of the dictionary meanings of their constituent elements and words.

এই অধ্যায়ে আমরা phrase এবং idiom উভয়কেই একাধিক শব্দের group বা গুচ্ছ হিসেবেই বিবেচনা করব। A phrase is a group of words which works like a single part of speech and whose meaning can be derived from its constituent words but an idiom is an expression whose meaning cannot be derived from the combined meanings of its individual elements. For example, "try one's best" একটা phrase যার অর্থ হচ্ছে "যথাসাধ্য চেষ্টা করা"; এই অর্থটা phrase-এর শব্দগুলো দেখে বুঝা যায়। কিন্তু "kick the bucket" একটা idiom যার অর্থ হচ্ছে "মারা যাওয়া"; এই বিশেষ অর্থের সঙ্গে "kick" এবং "bucket"-এর কোনই সম্পর্ক নেই। আমরা আমাদের ইংরেজিকে সুন্দর ও সমৃদ্ধশালী করার জন্য আমাদের কথায় ও লেখায় অনেক phrase এবং idiom ব্যবহার করি। ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের ব্যবহারের জন্য নীচে আমাদের দৈনন্দিন ইংরেজিতে ব্যবহৃত বেশ কিছু English phrases and idioms-এর বাংলা অর্থসহ ইংরেজি বাক্যের ব্যবহার দেখালাম :

As easy as ABC (very easy – খুব সহজ) : Speaking English correctly and fluently is not as easy as ABC.

Live above one's means (to spend more than one earns – আয়ের চেয়ে বেশি ব্যয় করা) : You should never live above your means.

Abstain from (refrain from – বিরত থাকা) : His doctor advised him to abstain from smoking.

With one accord (all agreeing – সকলের ঐক্যমতে) : The decision was made with one accord in the meeting.

Achieve wonders (do something admirable – প্রশংসনীয় কিছু করা) : He achieved wonders in the world of literature at an early age.

Act of God (a natural calamity – প্রাকৃতিক দুর্যোগ) : Cyclones are an act of God.

Add fuel to the fire (worsen a situation – পরিস্থিতির অবনতি ঘটানো) : The political situation was bad and the leader's inflammatory speech added fuel to the fire.

A state of affairs (circumstances at a particular time – কোন এক সময়ের বিশেষ পরিস্থিতি) : The post-election state of affairs is in no way better than the pre-election state.

Straight after (immediately after – অব্যবহিত পরেই) : He left for Rajshahi straight after the seminar.

Against a rainy day (for days of difficulty – দুঃসময়ের জন্য) : You should save money against a rainy day.

All agog (much too excited – অতি মাত্রায় উত্তেজিত) : The people of the village were all agog to see a helicopter land on their football field.

Air one's views and opinions (express freely – মুক্তভাবে প্রকাশ করা) : I have every right to air my views and opinions in this country.

On the air (on radio or television – রেডিও বা টেলিভিশনে) : We heard the news of her death first on the air.

All and sundry (each and everyone – কাউকে বাদ না দিয়ে সবাই) : I invited all and sundry of my neighbourhood to my wedding party.

allergic to (have a dislike for – কোন কিছুকে অপছন্দ করা) : I am allergic to free mixing of boys and girls.

The alpha and omega (the beginning and the end of something significant – গুরুত্বপূর্ণ কোন ঘটনার শুরু ও শেষ) : The entire credit for the alpha and omega of the seminar goes to the Dean of the faculty.

A horse of another colour (totally different – সম্পূর্ণ বিপরীতধর্মী) : I expected that he would be modest but he proved himself to be a horse of another colour.

Make an appearance (come for a short period – স্বল্প সময়ের জন্য আসা) : The minister just made an appearance at the meeting.

The apple of discord (the cause of contention – বিবাদের কারণ) : The paternal property was the apple of discord between the two brothers.

With open arms (welcome warmly – উষ্ণ অভ্যর্থনা জানানো) : We received our guests with open arms.

Get one's ass in gear (make haste – তাড়াতাড়ি করা) : If you cannot get your ass in gear, get ready to quit your job.

Go astray (become lost – গোল্লায় যাওয়া) : Some of his bad friends made him go astray.

Avoid like the plague (stay away from harmful persons or things – ক্ষতিকর ব্যক্তি বা বস্তু থেকে দূরে থাকা) : He may do you harm; you should avoid him like the plague.

Right away (immediately – এক্ষুনি) : Leave this place right away to avoid any trouble.

The Tower of Babel (a place full of noise and confusion – হট্টগোলপূর্ণ স্থান) : The meeting place then turned into the Tower of Babel.

Behind one's back (in one's absence – কারো অনুপস্থিতিতে) : I hate the habit of talking about a person behind their back.

Turn one's back on (refuse to be involved in – মুখ ফিরিয়ে নেয়া) : Being unsuccessful in his married life, he turned his back on family life.

Badly off (without money – অসচ্ছল) : He was badly off after losing the job.

An old bag (an unpleasant woman – বিরক্তিকর মহিলা) : I have never seen an old bag like her.

Banana republic (a backward country of poor economy – দুর্বল আর্থিক অবস্থার পিছিয়ে পড়া দেশ) : We apprehend that the country may any time turn into a banana republic.

Like a bat out of hell (very fast – খুব দ্রুতগতিতে) : I rushed to the spot like a bat out of hell.

Half the battle (the most important part of an activity – কোন কাজের সবচেয়ে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অংশ) : To understand the questions in a test is half the battle.

Beat black and blue (beat severely – নির্দয়ভাবে প্রহার করা) : The thief was caught red-handed and beaten black and blue by the mob.

Be at beck and call (be under full control – সম্পূর্ণ নিয়ন্ত্রণে) : He is at beck and call of his boss and has no freedom.

beggar description (difficult to describe – বর্ণনাতীত) : The beauty of the place beggars description.

Give a bell (telephone – টেলিফোন করা) : I gave my father a bell to give him the news of my son's birth.

Go berserk (become violently angry – প্রবলভাবে ক্রোধান্বিত হওয়া) : He went berserk to hear that his son had married a girl without his consent.

Better half (wife – স্ত্রী) : His better half is a highly educated person.

Birds of a feather (people of the same nature – একই প্রকৃতির লোক) : Birds of a feather usually flock together.

Out of the blue (unexpectedly – অপ্রত্যাশিতভাবে) : I got a phonecall from a childhood friend of mine yesterday just out of the blue.

Bring to book (punish a wrong doer – অন্যায়কারীকে শাস্তি দেয়া) : The criminals were brought to book for violating the rules of the country.

By leaps and bounds (advance rapidly – দ্রুত গতিতে উন্নতি করা) : His English is improving by leaps and bounds.

The top brass (people of the highest position – উচ্চ পদস্থ ব্যক্তিবর্গ) : They invited all the top brass of the company to their founding anniversary celebration.

Bright and breezy (happy and confident – খুশি ও আত্মবিশ্বাসী) : He looked very bright and breezy on the day of his joining the office.

Make a fast buck (make money quickly and easily – দ্রুত ও সহজ উপায়ে টাকা কামানো) : You can make a fast buck in politics.

A cock and bull story (as false story – আষাঢ়ে গল্প) : This is simply a cock and bull story; you should not believe it.

Bury the hatchet (stop hostility and become friends – শত্রুতা ভুলে বন্ধু হওয়া) : The two hostile families buried the hatchet after a few decades.

Slice of the cake (part of the profit – লাভের অংশ) : As your business partner, I want my slice of the cake.

Cake walk (an easy win – সহজ বিজয়) : As your competitor is very strong, you can't expect any cake walk.

Calm down (be composed after anger and agitation – ক্রোধ ও উত্তেজনার পর শান্ত হাওয়া) : Please calm down and listen to me.

Play one's cards right (deal with a situation properly and get success – ঠিকঠাক কাজ করে সাফল্য পাওয়া) : He played his cards right in his career and got a quick promotion.

Carry the day (win – বিজয়ী হওয়া) : He worked very hard and finally carried the day in the national election.

Catch sight of (see someone unexpectedly – অপ্রত্যাশিতভাবে কাউকে দেখতে পাওয়া) : I caught sight of the woman in the crowd whom I was looking for.

Be in the chair (preside over a meeting – সভায় সভাপতিত্ব করা) : Who will be in the chair in absence of the president?

Chicken hearted (timid and cowardly – ভীরু ও কাপুরুষোচিত) : He is too chicken hearted to start such a big project.

Come rain, come shine (whatever happens – যাই ঘটুক না কেন) : Come rain, come shine, we must proceed.

Condemn to death (award death sentence – মৃত্যুদণ্ড দেয়া) : The murderer was condemned to death by the lower court.

Conjure up (bring to memory – মনে করিয়ে দেয়া) : The word "murder" conjures up a scene of utmost cruelty.

Contain oneself (keep emotions under control – আবেগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ করা) : I was so overwhelmed with joy that I could not contain myself to see her after a long time.

Cook somebody's goose (put somebody in an awkward situation – কাউকে খারাপ অবস্থায় ফেলে দেয়া) : By revealing her secret relationship with her colleague, they actually cooked her goose.

Cough up (give money unwillingly –অনিচ্ছাকৃতভাবে টাকা দেয়া) : I had to cough up a lot of money to keep her mouth shut.

Run counter to (be opposed to – বিপরীত হওয়া) : My proposal about the matter ran counter to my father's.

Be crest-fallen (be disappointed – হতাশ হওয়া) : After failing the BCS examination for the second time, he was really crest-fallen.

Shed crocodile tears (pretend to be sad – দুঃখিত হওয়ার ভান করা) : To see the condition of the poor people political leaders often shed crocodile tears.

Cry over spilt milk (regret a past mistake –অতীতের ভুলের জন্য অনুশোচনা করা) : What is done is done—don't cry over spilt milk.

Look daggers at (look in anger – রাগান্বিত দৃষ্টিতে তাকানো) : The boss looked daggers at the clerk for disobeying him.

Cut a dash (look very attractive – খুব আকর্ষণীয় দেখানো : You cut a dash in your new saree.

In broad daylight (during the day – দিনের বেলায়) : They committed the murder in broad daylight in front of the police station.

Death toll (total number of deaths – মৃত্যুর পুরো সংখ্যা) : The death toll in the accident may rise to fifty.

Out of deference (out of respect – সম্মান দেখিয়ে) : I offered my seat to that old woman just out of deference.

Beard the lion in his den (challenge a powerful person –ক্ষমতাবান কারো মোকাবিলা করা) : No one had the courage to beard the lion in his den and tell the manager to accept their demands.

Die in harness (die while being engaged in work – কর্মরত অবস্থায় মরে যাওয়া) : My only desire is to die in harness but only Allah knows what is in store for me.

Dish the dirt (talk about other people's private life – অন্যের ব্যক্তিগত জীবন নিয়ে কথা বলা) : You should give up the habit of dishing the dirt.

Dispense with (do without somebody or something –কারো বা কোনকিছুর সাহায্য ছাড়া চলা) : I cannot dispense with my domestic help.

Go to the dogs (be ruined – ধ্বংস হয়ে যাওয়া) : If you go on doing these nasty things, you will soon go to the dogs.

Donkey's ears (a very long time – দীর্ঘ সময়) : It has been donkey's ears since I went to my village home.

Draconian measures (cruel and oppressive means – নিষ্ঠুর ও অত্যাচারী পন্থা) : The government adopted draconian measures to oppress the opposition leaders.

Beyond wildest dream (not at all thought of – একেবারেই অচিন্তনীয়) : Our team's superb performance in the final match was beyond my wildest dream.

Drop dead (die all of a sudden – আকস্মিকভাবে মৃত্যুবরণ করা) : The singer dropped dead on the stage during her performance.

From dawn to dusk (all the day – সারাদিন) : They have to work from dawn to dusk to earn their livelihood.

Dereliction of duty (negligence of duty – কর্তব্য কাজে অবহেলা) : The clerk was sacked from his job for his dereliction of duty.

Prick up one's ears (listen carefully – সতর্কভাবে শুনা) : Everyone pricked up their ears to listen to the announcement.

Move heaven and earth (spare no efforts – চেষ্টার ত্রুটি না করা) : He moved heaven and earth to get the job.

Eat one's words (admit that what one said was not true – যা কেউ বলেছে তা সত্য নয় বলে স্বীকার করা) : He was compelled to eat his words when his statement proved false.

A white elephant (something costly but useless – দামি কিন্তু অকেজো কোন জিনিস) : The system of monarchy has proved to be a white elephant.

Make both ends meet (to have just enough money to meet daily needs – কোন রকমে জীবন নির্বাহ করা) : After losing his job, he found it very difficult to make both ends meet.

Escape scot free (get away without punishment – বিনা শাস্তিতে পার পাওয়া) : Some criminals escaped scot free because of political interference.

Beyond expectation (better than expected – প্রত্যাশার চেয়ে ভাল) : His performance in the exam was beyond expectation.

Explosion of knowledge (rapid expansion of knowledge – জ্ঞানের দ্রুত বিস্তৃতি) : There has been an explosion of knowledge in the modern age of science and technology.

Pull the wool over somebody's eyes (deceive by telling a lie – মিথ্যা বলে প্রতারণা করা) : Neela pulled the wool over his boyfriend's eyes by telling him that she was from a very rich family.

Go green in the face (look sickly – অসুস্থ দেখানো) : When she heard the sad news, she went green in the face.

Facts and figures (Precise information – সঠিক তথ্য) : He put forward his arguments with facts and figures.

Behind the fair (too late – অনেক দেরিতে) : We reached our destination behind the fair.

Fall on evil days (suffer from misfortune – দুর্ভাগ্যে পতিত হওয়া) : After losing his job, he fell on evil days.

Flight of fancy (uncontrolled imagination – বাধাহীন কল্পনা) : This novel gives us a flight of fancy.

Fast friends (very intimate friend – খুব ঘনিষ্ঠ বন্ধু) They have been my fast friends for a long time.

Without favour and fear (fearlessly and impartially – নির্ভয়ে এবং নিরপেক্ষভাবে) : The Election commission should have conducted the elections without favour and fear.

Fellow feeling (sympathy with others – অন্যের প্রতি সহানুভূতি) : He was inspired by fellow feeling to open this charitable hospital in his locality.

Feverish pitch (a state of extreme excitement – চরম উত্তেজনাকর অবস্থা) : The election campaign has now reached a feverish pitch.

Keep one's figure (keep one's body attractive – দেহকে আকর্ষণীয় করে রাখা) : Nazma has been able to keep her figure by taking regular exercise.

Find one's feet (get used to – অভ্যস্ত হওয়া) : I have yet to find my feet in my new office.

Between two fires (between two difficulties –দু'টি বিপদের মধ্যে) : After the death of his father he also lost his job. He is now between two fires.

At first sight (at first meeting – প্রথম দর্শনেই) : They fell in love with each other at first sight.

Like a fish out of water (in a very uncomfortable situation – খুব অস্বস্তিকর অবস্থায়) : I always feel like a fish out of water when my boss visits me.

Flat refusal (total refusal – পুরোপুরি প্রত্যাখ্যান) : Her flat refusal to marry me shocked me beyond measure.

The pleasures of the flesh (physical comforts and joys – দৈহিক আরাম ও আনন্দ) : We can hardly rise above the pleasures of the flesh.

Fly into rage (become angry – রেগে যাওয়া) : Father flew into rage to see me return home late at night.

Come into force (become effective – বলবৎ হওয়া) : The new rule has not yet come into force.

Enter the fray (join a movement – আন্দোলনে যুক্ত হওয়া) : At first only one party started the movement against the government; later other parties also entered the fray.

Poke fun at (make fun of someone – কাউকে নিয়ে তামাসা করা) : We should never poke fun at handicapped people.

The gift of the gab (oratorical skill – বাগ্মিতা) : He is a leader who is blessed with the gift of the gab.

Talk garbage (talk nonsense – অযথা বকবক করা) : Some women are fond of talking garbage in their spare time.

Pick up the gauntlet (accept a challenge – কারো চ্যালেঞ্জ গ্রহণ করা) : I picked up the gauntlet and defeated him in the competition.

Get at the bottom (ascertain the cause – কারণ নিরূপণ করা) : The police investigated into the case and got at the bottom of the murder.

Get with child (become pregnant – অন্ত:সত্ত্বা হওয়া) : The woman got with child after about ten years of her marriage.

Give in (surrender – আত্মসমর্থন করা) : After a long fight with the police the terrorists at last gave in.

Good going (good progress – ভাল অগ্রগতি) : I have written almost half of the book in just two months; I think it is a good going.

Against one's grain (against one's desire – ইচ্ছার বিরুদ্ধে) : I accompanied her to the market against my grain.

Grind to a half (come to a stop – বন্ধ হয়ে যাওয়া) : Our activities ground to a halt because of the sudden power cut.

Plead guilty (admit crime – অপরাধ স্বীকার করা) : After a long police interrogation, the criminal pleaded guilty.

Tear one's hair (be anxious and angry – উদ্বিগ্ন ও রাগান্বিত হওয়া) : Having failed to solve the problem, the manager began to tear her hair.

Bite the hand that feeds (harm someone who has been your support – উপকারীর অপকার করা) : If you go against your employer, you will bite the hand that feeds.

Wash one's hands off (give up responsibility – দায়িত্ব ছেড়ে দেয়া) : You should wash your hands off the matter if you cannot handle it properly.

Hang one's head (be ashamed – লজ্জিত হওয়া) : He hung his head to see the poor public image of his son.

A hard nut to crack (a difficult problem – কঠিন সমস্যা) : To solve the economic problem of the country is a hard nut to crack.

Cannot make head or tail (unable to understand – বুঝতে না পারা) : I could not make head or tail of his arguments.

Put heads together (discuss a problem together – সবাই একসঙ্গে কোন সমস্যা আলোচনা করা) : All the members of the family put their heads together and reached a unanimous decision about the matter.

Hale and hearty (quite healthy – সম্পূর্ণ সুস্থ) : He was hale and hearty after a few weeks' rest.

Win the heart (earn affection – স্নেহ পাওয়া) : The new bride won the heart of her in-laws within a very short time.

With a heavy heart (sadly – দুঃখের সঙ্গে) : She said goodbye to her only son with a heavy heart.

Play hide and seek (to deceive – প্রতারণা করা) : Don't try to play hide and seek with me; I know the ins and outs of the matter.

Up hill and down dale (very hard – খুব পরিশ্রম করা) : We worked up hill and down dale to complete the work in time.

Hire and fire (employ and sack people – নিয়োগ করা এবং চাকরিচ্যুত করা) : All private companies usually adopt the hire and fire policy.

Get hitched (get married – বিয়ে করা) : Everyone knows that the cricket star has recently got hitched to a film actress.

A hole in one's coat (a blot on reputation – দুর্নাম) : He has a lot of holes in his coat; the latest one is his sexual harassment of a girl.

Take the bull by the horns (face a problem boldly – সাহসের সঙ্গে কোন সমস্যার মোকাবিলা করা) : He is a brave man who can take the bull by the horns in any situation.

Give hostages to fortune (take a future risk – ভবিষ্যতের ঝুঁকি নেয়া) : According to Bacon, people who marry and have children give hostages to fortune.

At the eleventh hour (at the last moment – শেষ মুহূর্তে) : We cancelled the programme at the eleventh hour.

Move house (change place of residence – বাসা বদল করা) : A government officer has often to move house as their job is transferable.

Have a hunch (feel that something is going to happen – কিছু ঘটবে বলে অনুভব করা) : I had a hunch that I would have a high temperature.

Air one's ideas (express views –মতামত প্রকাশ করা) : No one can air their ideas freely in this country.

Ill at ease (upset – বিচলিত) : I always feel ill at ease in the company of such big scholars.

Reach an impasse (reach a deadlock –অচলাবস্থায় পৌঁছা) : The political discussion on the issue of a caretaker government reached an impasse.

Not budge an inch (refuse to change one's opinion – এক চুলও না নড়া) : They did not budge an inch from their initial demand.

Have an inkling (have a slight idea – সামান্য পরিমাণ ধারণা থাকা) : I did not have an inkling that he would cheat me in this way.

Not an iota (not even a small amount – সামান্য পরিমাণও নয়) : There is not an iota of truth in what he is saying.

Hit the jackpot (win a lot of money – অনেক টাকা জেতা) : I was lucky enough to hit the jackpot in the lottery last year.

The jaws of death (almost sure death – প্রায় নিশ্চিত মৃত্যু) : He came back from the jaws of death quite miraculously.

Jump the queue (join a line in front of others – লাইনে অন্য লোকের সামনে গিয়ে দাঁড়ানো) : A policeman was there to see that nobody could jump the queue.

Keep one's finger on the pulse (be fully aware – সম্পূর্ণ সচেতন থাকা) : The manager has to keep his finger on the pulse of his employees.

The killer instinct (the strong desire to succeed – সফল হওয়ার দৃঢ় ইচ্ছা) : You should have the killer instinct to win the match.

Under the knife (having a medical operation – অস্ত্রোপচার করা অবস্থায়) : I have never been under the knife of a surgeon in my life.

Help a lame dog over a stile (help a person in difficulty – বিপদাপন্ন কোন ব্যক্তিকে সাহায্য করা) : He always helps a lame dog over a stile.

Down one's memory lane (remembrance of a past event – অতীতের ঘটনা স্মৃতিতে ধারণ করা) : When I went to my village after many years, I had a trip down my memory lane.

Laugh up one's sleeves (be secretly happy – গোপনে খুশি হওয়া) : When the government faces any critical situation, the opposition leaders laugh up their sleeves.

A laughing stock (an object of ridicule –তামাসার পাত্র) : He became a laughing stock after making a foolish comment.

Not in the least (not at all – মোটেই না) : He was not in the least worried about his son's future.

Leave no stone unturned (do one's best – সর্বতোভাবে চেষ্টা করা) : I left no stone unturned to give him the job.

Once in a lifetime (the best opportunity in life – জীবনের সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ সুযোগ) : Visiting the twin tower in Kuala Lumpur was a once in a lifetime experience for me.

Travel light (travel without much luggage – বেশি মালপত্র না নিয়ে ভ্রমণ করা) : I feel comfortable when I travel light.

Line one's own pocket (make money dishonestly – অসৎভাবে অর্থ কামানো) : Almost all politicians are now-a-days busy lining their own pockets.

Read between the lines (read closely to understand the hidden meaning – প্রচ্ছন্ন অর্থ বুঝার জন্য নিবিড়ভাবে পড়া) : I read the poem between the lines to understand its underlying meaning.

Cut a long story short (in short – সংক্ষেপে বলা) : To cut a long story short, he divorced his wife.

Look for a needle in a haystack (look for something fruitlessly – অযথা খোঁজা) : They have been looking for their lost child for a long time; now it looks like looking for a needle in a haystack.

Lose sleep (be worried – বিচলিত হওয়া) : The loss of his job made him lose sleep.

Free love (love outside marriage – বিবাহ-বহির্ভূত ভালবাসা) : Free love is yet to be appreciated in our conservative society.

Leave in the lurch (leave someone in difficulty – বিপদাপন্ন কাউকে ছেড়ে যাওয়া) : A true friend can never leave you in the lurch.

Maiden speech (first speech – প্রথম বক্তৃতা) : He spoke very well even in the maiden speech in his life.

Make a living (earn money to meet daily needs – দৈনন্দিন চাহিদা পূরণের জন্য টাকা রোজগার করা) : He works very hard to make a living.

Make a way in the world (progress in life – জীবনে উন্নতি করা) : If you want to make a way in the world, you should work very hard.

A man of the people (one who represents common people – যিনি সাধারণ মানুষের প্রতিনিধিত্ব করেন) : A true leader is always a man of the people.

Make one's mark (be successful – সফল হওয়া) : He made his mark as a poet at an early age.

Master one's weakness (overcome weakness – দুর্বলতা কাটিয়ে উঠা) : He worked with a positive attitude and strong determination to master his weakness.

One's meat (something that one enjoys and performs skillfully – যা কেউ উপভোগ করে এবং দক্ষতার সঙ্গে করতে পারে) : Table tennis is his meat.

In a mess (in a troublesome situation – ঝামেলাপূর্ণ পরিস্থিতিতে) : He found himself in a mess.

Talk a mile a minute (speak quickly and continuously – দ্রুত ও অনবরত কথা বলা) : He talks a mile a minute and this is his habit.

Come to one's mind (remember – স্মরণে আসা) : I was thinking of someone to borrow some money from and then you came to my mind.

Within minutes (within a very short time – খুব অল্প সময়ের মধ্যে) : She cooked something for me within minutes.

A mixed bag (a group of different people or things – অনেক কিছুর সমাহার) : This magazine is a mixed bag of poems, stories and essays.

Moon around (spend time moving about lazily – অলসভাবে ঘুরে বেড়ানো) : I saw some young boys and girl mooning around the market place.

More often than not (quite regularly – প্রায়ই) : It rains here quite heavily more often than not.

Keep one's mouth shut (not to reveal a secret – কোন গোপন কথা প্রকাশ না করা) : My boss advised me to keep my mouth shut about his personal life.

Without a murmur (without complaint – বিনা অভিযোগে) : He accepted all my proposals and decisions without a murmur.

In a state of nature (without wearing clothes – দ্বিগম্বর অবস্থায়) : The old man was found in a state of nature on the street.

Near to tears (about to cry – কান্নার উপক্রম) : When I rebuked the girl, she was near to tears.

Neither here nor there (not important – গুরুত্বপূর্ণ নয়) : What she says about me is neither here nor there.

In good nick (in a good condition – ভাল অবস্থায়) : Although the building is about fifty years old, it is still in good nick.

Nineteen to the dozen (quickly and continuously – দ্রুত ও অনবরত) : He can be a good speaker if he does not speak nineteen to the dozen.

Nook and corner (every part of a place – কোন জায়গার প্রতিটা অংশ) : I searched every nook and corner of the room but did not find my missing keys.

Poke one's nose into (meddle in other people's matters – অন্যের বিষয়ে নাক গলানো) : I can't tolerate her habit of poking her nose into my affairs.

Get nowhere (make no progress – কোন উন্নতি না করা) : I can get nowhere without his help.

In a nutshell (in brief – সংক্ষেপে) : He told me the story in a nutshell.

A capital offence (an offence punishable with death penalty – মৃত্যুদণ্ড পাওয়ার মত অপরাধ) : Committing murder is a capital offence.

Of the old school (old fashioned – সেকেলে) : He was wearing a dress of the old school.

Ten to one (most probably – খুব সম্ভবত) : Ten to one the weather will be fair tomorrow.

An open secret (a secret that most people know – এমন একটা গোপনীয় বিষয় যা অধিকাংশ মানুষ জানে) : It is an open secret that they got married.

Out and out (thoroughly – পুরোপুরি) : The new manager of the bank is out and out a gentle man.

Keep one's own company (not be social or friendly with others – সামাজিক ও বন্ধুভাবাপন্ন না হওয়া) : Being an introvert, my son always loves to keep his own company.

Keep pace with (move as quickly as someone else – অন্যের মত দ্রুতলয়ে চলা) : Even my high salary cannot keep pace with the price-hike.

Paint a rosy picture (describe a thing in a very favourable way – কোন কিছু আশাপ্রদ উপায়ে বর্ণনা করা) : Advertisements always paint a rosy picture of commodities.

Pass the buck on (blame someone else – অন্য কাউকে দোষারোপ করা) : They began to pass the buck on each other for their failure.

Pay the price (get punishment for a fault – ভুলের জন্য শাস্তি পাওয়া) : He paid the price for violating the order of his boss.

Like two peas in a pod (exactly alike – ঠিক একই রকম) : The two twin sisters are like two peas in a pod.

In person (personally – স্বশরীর) : You should be present there in person to receive the award.

Pick and choose (choose people you really like – পছন্দের লোককে বাছাই করা) : The committee followed the pick and choose policy in giving awards.

In a pickle (in difficulty – বিপদে) : He found himself in a pickle after arguing with his boss.

Pie in the sky (a promise not likely to be materialized – এমন প্রতিশ্রুতি যা বাস্তবায়িত হবার নয়) : The "education for all" policy is still a pie in the sky.

Pin drop silence (very quiet – পূর্ণ নীরবতা) : We witnessed pin drop silence during the show.

All over the place (everywhere – সর্বত্র) : The picnickers left litters all over the place.

Have the pleasure of doing something (enjoy doing something – কোন কিছু করতে উপভোগ করা) : We had the pleasure of eating dinner with our boss.

Out of pocket (having no money – রিক্তহস্ত) : I have been out of pocket after spending money lavishly on my daughter's wedding reception.

Beside the point (not relevant – অপ্রাসঙ্গিক) : His comment on my education in his lecture was totally beside the point.

Poles apart (completely different or opposite – সম্পূর্ণ ভিন্ন বা বিপরীত) : Their political views are poles apart.

Pour cats and dogs (rain very hard – মুষলধারে বৃষ্টি হওয়া) : It has been pouring cats and dogs for nearly two hours.

A price on someone's head (reward for catching or killing someone – কাউকে ধরিয়ে দেয়ার বা হত্যা করার জন্য পুরস্কার) : The criminal had a price of 5 lakh taka on his head.

Give someone a prod (remind someone to do something – কাউকে কিছু করতে স্মরণ করিয়ে দেয়া) : If you don't give him a prod, he won't wind up his speech.

With every prospect (with strong possibility – যথেষ্ট সম্ভাবনা নিয়ে) : Our players are playing today with every prospect of winning the match.

As proud as a peacock (very proud and satisfied – অত্যন্ত গর্বিত ও তুষ্ট) : He was as proud as a peacock to get the commonwealth scholarship.

Pull through (recover from illness – রোগ থেকে সেরে উঠা) : The doctor expressed hope that the patient would soon pull through.

Put up with (tolerate – সহ্য করা) : I cannot put up with such an insulting remark.

Pick quarrel with (start quarrel with – কারো সঙ্গে ঝগড়া শুরু করা) : The woman picked quarrel with the rickshaw puller for nothing over the fare.

A quirk of fate (something that happens accidentally – যা দুর্ঘটনাক্রমে ঘটে) : It was just a quirk of fate that the bus he was on met with an accident.

Rack one's brains (think deeply – গভীরভাবে চিন্তা করা) : He racked his brains to solve the problem.

Go into rapture (be very happy – খুব খুশি হওয়া) : The players went into rapture to see the excellent batting pitch.

Past recall (not possible to remember – স্মরণ করা সম্ভব নয় এমন) : It happened so long ago that the details of the event are now past recall.

Recuperate from (be well again – আবার সুস্থ হওয়া) : It is a good sign that the patient is quickly recuperating from his severe illness.

Reduce to rubble (destroy a building – দালান ধ্বংস করা) : The city corporation authority has decided to reduce all unauthorized construction to rubble.

Take over the reins (take control of – কোন কিছুর নিয়ন্ত্রণ নেয়া) : A new governing body has taken over the reins of the organization.

A remote possibility (a slight possibility – ক্ষীণ সম্ভাবনা) : The patient seems to have a remote possibility of recovery.

Above reproach (perfect – নিখুঁত) : The decoration of the house was above reproach.

Come to one's rescue (help in difficulty – বিপদে সাহায্য করা) : All my friends came to my rescue during my illness.

Restrain oneself from (prevent oneself from doing something wrong – খারাপ কিছু করা থেকে বিরত থাকা) : I restrained myself from harming their personal relationship.

Retrieve a situation (improve a situation – কোন অবস্থার উন্নতি ঘটানো) : The timely intervention of the authority retrieved the deteriorating situation on the campus.

Without rhyme or reason (without any reason – কোন কারণ ছাড়াই) : A private company can sack an employee without rhyme or reason.

Give someone a rough ride (involve a person in power in difficulties – ক্ষমতাবান কাউকে বিপদে ফেলা) : The opposition members in parliament gave the ruling party a rough ride.

Be ripe for (be suitable for something – কোন কিছুর উপযুক্ত হওয়া) : The overall political condition in the country is now ripe for a revolt against the government.

On the rocks (in great trouble – বিপদাপন্ন) : Their marriage has recently been on the rocks.

Give plenty of rope (allow much freedom – যথেষ্ট স্বাধীনতা দেয়া) : I have given my children plenty of rope in their personal life.

Rule the roost (be the most influential person – সবচেয়ে প্রভাবশালী ব্যক্তি হওয়া) : Who rules the roost in your family?

Salt away (earn money dishonestly – অসৎ পথে অর্থ উপার্জন করা) : He has salted away a lot of money from doing trafficking.

Sail through (pass an examination – পরীক্ষায় পাশ করা) : He somehow managed to sail through the BCS written examination this year.

On the same boat (in the same difficulty – একই বিপদে) : All the opposition members of parliament found themselves on the same boat.

Get away scot free (escape punishment –শাস্তি এড়ানো) : Delayed justice often helps criminals get away scot free.

The seamy side (the sad and unpleasant aspects of life – জীবনের দুঃখময় এবং অপ্রীতিকর দিকগুলো) : He seems to have seen only the seamy side of life.

See the light of day (come into existence – বাস্তবায়িত হওয়া) : The government plan to build a tunnel under this river has not yet seen the light of day.

Send up the wall (annoy – বিরক্ত করা) : The traffic noise beside the campus is harsh enough to send anybody up the wall.

Without a shadow of doubt (without any doubt – নিঃসন্দেহে) : Runa is the best singer of Bangladesh without a shadow of doubt.

Come out of the shell (become less shy and more social – লাজুকতা ভেঙ্গে সামাজিক হওয়া) : He is much too introvert; he needs to come out of the shell.

In somebody's shoes (in another person's situation – অন্য কারো অবস্থানে) : If I were in your shoes, I would certainly protest against the boss's misbehaviour.

Talk shop (talk about one's business only – শুধুমাত্র নিজের ব্যবসায় নিয়ে কথা বলা) : He only talks shop and bores his friends.

On the right side of the law (not to break law – আইন ভঙ্গ না করা) : I always try to be on the right side of the law.

Shatter the silence (break the silence – নীরবতা ভঙ্গ করা) : A powerful bomb explosion shattered the silence of night.

Sing praise (praise very much – উচ্চ প্রশংসা করা) : In the press conference, all journalists sang praise of the Prime Minister.

Sit back (sit and relax – আরাম করে বসা) : He sat back in an armchair to watch television.

By the skin of one's teeth (just to succeed – কোন রকমে সফল হওয়া) : He passed the examination by the skin of his teeth.

Go up in smoke (fail – ব্যর্থ হওয়া) : All my plans went up in smoke because of my friends' non-cooperation.

All smiles (very happy – খুব খুশি) : He was all smiles to hear the news of his son's getting a scholarship.

Pull one's socks up (work harder – আরো বেশি পরিশ্রম করা) : He got A in the first semester and pulled his socks up to get A+ in the second semester.

Out of sorts (upset – বিচলিত) : She was out of sorts to hear that she had failed the exam.

Keep body and soul together (just manage to live – কোন রকমে বেঁচে থাকা) : He was somehow able to keep body and soul together by doing a part-time job.

Speak volumes (express something clearly without using words – কথা না বলে কিছু পরিষ্কারভাবে প্রকাশ করা) : He did not speak much but his actions spoke volumes.

Stand in good stead (be useful – কাজে লাগা) : This training course is very important and it will stand him in good stead.

Run out of steam (be exhausted – ক্লান্ত হয়ে পড়া) : Ruma ran out of steam in the middle of the race.

In dire straits (in financial difficulty – আর্থিক সংকটে) : With the damage of crops, most farmers of this locality found themselves in dire straits.

With a stroke of pen (just by signing a piece of paper – শুধুমাত্র কলমের একটা খোঁচায়) : The judge sent the criminal to prison with a stroke of pen.

Make a supreme sacrifice (die for one's country – দেশের জন্য জীবন দেয়া) : Our freedom fighters made a supreme sacrifice for the independence of the country.

By the sweat of one's brow (working very hard – খুব পরিশ্রম করে) : Day labourers earn their livelihood by the sweat of their brow.

Under the table (secretly and illegally – গোপনে এবং বেআইনিভাবে) : The clerk was paid under the table for his favour.

Turn tail (run away – দৌড়ে পালানো) : The cat turned tail on seeing the dog.

Tall story (a story which is unbelievable – অবিশ্বাস্যযোগ্য গল্প) : He always tells tall stories about his adventures.

Tea and sympathy (kindness and sympathetic attention – দয়া এবং সহানুভূতিপূর্ণ মনোযোগ) : Poor people deserve our tea and sympathy in their distress.

In one's teens (in the age between 13 and 19 years – ১৩ থেকে ১৯ বছর বয়সে) : She was in her teens when she got married.

Run a temperature (suffer from fever – জ্বরে ভুগা) : He has been running a temperature for the last two days.

Stand the test of time (be of good quality to last long – দীর্ঘস্থায়ী হওয়ার জন্য ভাল গুণসম্পন্ন হওয়া) : Some cultural traditions prevailing in our society have stood the test of time.

Think twice (think carefully before doing something – কোন কিছু করার জন্য ভালভাবে ভাবা) : You should think twice before giving up this government job.

In the throes (in the middle of an extremely difficult situation –ভয়ঙ্কর বিপজ্জনক পরিস্থিতিতে) : We found ourselves in the throes during the liberation war.

Tie the knot (give in marriage – বিয়ে দেয়া) : The father tied the knot of his daughter as early as he could.

Tell time (to know what time it is by looking at a watch – ঘড়ি দেখে সময় জানা) : Do you know how to tell time?

Speak with forked tongue (tell lies – মিথ্যা বলা) : He will never hesitate to speak with forked tongue to gain his ends.

On top of the world (very happy – খুব খুশি) : On getting the news of the scholarship I felt on top of the world.

Toss and turn (need changing position in bed – বিছানায় শোয়ার অবস্থান বদল করতে থাকা) : She suffered from backpain and tossed and turned in bed.

Use every trick in the book (use all dishonest methods – সব রকম অসৎ উপায় অবলম্বন করা) : They used every trick in the book to promote their sales.

Play truant (remain absent from school without permission – বিনা অনুমতিতে স্কুল পালানো) : While at school, he often played truant.

Blow one's own trumpet (praise oneself – নিজের প্রশংসা নিজে করা) : He always blows his own trumpet to popularise himself.

Be in tune with (be in harmony – তাল মিলিয়ে চলা) : He is a crazy person and it is really very difficult for anyone to be in tune with him.

Turn one's back (refuse to help – সাহায্য করতে অস্বীকার করা) : Although he is one of my best friends, he turned his back on me when I had a bad time.

Put two and two together (guess the meaning – অর্থ অনুমান করা) : As I looked tired, she put two and two together and brought me a cup of tea.

Unburden oneself to someone (tell someone one's secrets – কাউকে মনের কথা বলা) : She unburdened herself to me for mental relief.

Go underground (hide oneself – আত্মগোপন করা) : Many political leaders of the opposition party are now going underground to escape police harassment.

Unrequited love (love without positive response from the other side – একতরফা ভালবাসা) : He proposed her again and again but she was silent; this is an example of unrequited love.

Ups and downs (rise and fall – উত্থান-পতন) : There are many ups and downs in life and we have to accept them.

Fall vacant (become vacant – শূন্য হওয়া) : Two posts of lectureship have fallen vacant in our department.

A vale of tears (full of sorrows and sufferings – দুঃখ দুর্দশাময়) : Pessimists often say that human life is a vale of tears.

Do a vanishing act (disappear suddenly – হঠাৎ তিরোহিত হওয়া) : She did a vanishing act when her presence was absolutely necessary.

Give vent to (express a strong feeling – কোন প্রবল অনুভূতি প্রকাশ করা) : She gave vent to her anger and left the place.

Fall victim to (become a victim – শিকার হওয়া) : She often falls victim to his conspiracy.

Point of view (opinion – মত) : My wife's point of view in most cases is different from mine.

Give voice to (express views about something – কোন বিষয়ে মত প্রকাশ করা) : In the meeting of the academic committee the chairman gave voice to his doubts about the success of the short course in English.

Vow of silence (promise not to speak – নিশ্চুপ থাকার প্রতিশ্রুতি) : I took a vow of silence about their secret marriage.

Wade through (read a lot of boring things – অনেক বিরক্তিকর জিনিস পড়া) : As an examiner, I have often to wade through students' bad write-ups.

Walk abroad (spread far and wide – দ্রুত সর্বত্র ছড়িয়ে পড়া) : Originating in China, Covid-19 walked abroad within a very short time.

Bang one's head against a wall (try to achieve something impossible – অসম্ভব কিছু পেতে চেষ্টা করা) : He banged his head against a wall to become a film star but in vain.

On the wane (become less – ক্রমাবনতির ধারায়) : His popularity as a singer is now on the wane.

Wash hands of (be no more responsible for – কোন কিছুর দায়িত্ব ছেড়ে দেয়া) : I have washed my hands of the whole affair.

Keep one's head above water (avoid trouble – ঝামেলা পরিহার করা) : In spite of taking all precautions, he could not keep his head above water regarding the quarrel.

Go the way of all flesh (die – মৃত্যুবরণ করা) : After suffering from cancer, the old man at last went the way of all flesh last week.

Mend one's way (stop behaving badly – মন্দ আচরণ বন্ধ করা) : If you want to be socially acceptable, you should mend your way.

The weaker sex (women in general – নারীজাতি) : The weaker sex should not be considered weak and inferior.

Week in week out (continuously for a long time – বিরতিহীনভাবে অনেক দিন) : I have been busy week in week out working on my new book.

Pull one's weight (do one's part of the work – কোন কাজের নিজের অংশটুকু করা) : The manager entrusted everyone with some work and asked them to pull their weight.

Whet appetite (increase desire – কামনা বাড়ানো) : This novel has whetted my appetite for reading more English novels.

Go wild (get excited – উত্তেজিত হওয়া) : The boys and girls went wild with joy during the concert.

Beyond one's wildest dream (beyond imagination – কল্পনার বাইরে) : It was beyond my wildest dream that he would get such a cushy job.

At one's wits' end (worried – বিচলিত) : I was at my wits' end after hearing the sad news and could not decide what to do.

Work wonders (be very effective – ফলপ্রসূ হওয়া) : While all other medicines failed, this one worked wonders on him.

Get down to work (start doing work – কাজ শুরু করা) : After a day's complete rest, we got down to work again in the early next morning.

Wrap up (cover completely – সম্পূর্ণভাবে ঢাকা) : The dead boy found under the bridge was wrapped up in a sack.

In the wrong (responsible for a mistake – কোন ভুলের জন্য দায়ী) : He realised that he was in the wrong and begged apology.

The yoke of slavery (the chains of slavery – দাসত্বের শৃঙ্খল) : They are no more under the yoke of slavery of a despotic ruler.

At the zenith (at the highest point – শিখরে) : He was at the zenith of his poetic genius at the age of forty.