

OXFORD



Amanda Ford & Elizabeth Haywood

A WEEKLY ENGLISH HOMEWORK PROGRAM

Student Book

skillworks

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- 5 is skipping _____ 6 is studying _____ /2
 7 will be sleeping _____ 8 will be competing _____ /2
 9 has made _____ 10 has completed _____ /2 /10

Exercise 3

Change the verb in each of these sentences from the present to the past tense.

- 1 Mrs Mackoviak teaches _____ us Japanese.
 2 The telephone is _____ ringing.
 3 The football team has _____ a good chance of winning the premiership.

Change the verb in each of these sentences from the past tense to the future tense.

- 4 Our holiday in Queensland was _____ great fun.
 5 Their neighbour's house sold _____ quickly.
 6 My flight arrived _____ on time for me to celebrate my birthday in Melbourne.

Change the verb in each of these sentences from the future tense to the present tense.

- 7 Milos will be auditioning _____ for the school musical.
 8 I will be swimming _____ in the under-fourteen relay team.
 9 Emilia will be saving _____ hard so that she can go to Japan with her school.
 10 Dion and Marc will not be able _____ to come to the beach with us. /10

Revision: nouns and verbs

Exercise 4

Supply the missing noun or verb in each of the following pairs. The first one has been done for you.

Nouns	Verbs (to ...)	Nouns	Verbs (to ...)	
relief	<i>relieve</i>	persuasion		<input type="text"/>
education		creation		<input type="text"/> /2
harassment		collision		<input type="text"/> /2
	beautify		marry	<input type="text"/> /2
	improve		think	<input type="text"/> /2
	obey			<input type="text"/> /10

TOTAL /40

Extension exercise

Write two short accounts of bringing home a new pet. The first one should be written in the present tense and the second in the past tense. Ask two friends to read both versions. Which one did they think was more effective and why? What did you think?

8 I'm sorry too I should not have been so rude

9 Would you like to come shopping with me

10 Yes I wonder if there's a branch of my bank at the shopping centre

 /10

Exercise 3

Punctuate the following transcript of a telephone conversation using six full stops, four question marks and two exclamation marks. Cross off each mark as you use it.

. ? ? ? ? ! !

Julia: Hi, Mrs Roberts It's Julia speaking How are you

 /3

Mrs Roberts: I'm well thank you, Julia How are you

 /2

Julia: Shocking May I speak to Susie, please

 /2

Mrs Roberts: Certainly

Susie: Hi, Julia How's it going

 /2

Julia: I've got an ingrown toenail

Susie: Yuk

 /12

Revision: punctuation

Exercise 4

Punctuate this passage from Juan's diary using capital letters and full stops where necessary.

last wednesday i started at a new school in english we are reading a book called 'gremlins'
it's cool

 /10**TOTAL** /40

Extension exercise

Write a short dialogue (about half a page) between a Year 7 student and his or her parents about the student's first week at school. Use six full stops, four question marks and two exclamation marks. You might want to get two friends to help you perform your dialogue for the class.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Comprehension

Name: _____

Date: _____

Cider with Rosie

The village school at that time provided all the instruction we were likely to ask for. It was a small stone barn divided by a wooden partition into two rooms—The Infants and The Big Ones. There was one dame teacher, and perhaps a young girl assistant. Every child in the valley crowding there, remained till he was fourteen years old, then was presented to the working field or factory with nothing in his head more burdensome than a few mnemonics, a jumbled list of wars, and a dreamy image of the world's geography. It seemed enough to get by with, in any case; and was one up on our poor old grandparents.

The morning came, without any warning, when my sisters surrounded me, wrapped me in scarves, tied up my bootlaces, thrust a cap on my head, and stuffed a baked potato in my pocket.

'What's this?' I said.

'You're starting school today.'

'I ain't. I'm stopping 'ome.'

'Now, come on, Loll. You're a big boy now.'

'I ain't.'

'You are.'

'Boo-hoo.'

They picked me up bodily, kicking and bawling, and carried me up to the road.

'Boys who don't go to school get put into boxes, and turn into rabbits, and get chopped up Sundays.'

I felt this was overdoing it rather, but I said no more after that. I arrived at the school just three feet tall and fatly wrapped in my scarves. The playground roared like a rodeo, and the potato burned through

my thigh. Old boots, ragged stockings, torn trousers and skirts, went skating and skidding around me. The rabble closed in; I was encircled; grit flew in my face like shrapnel. Tall girls with frizzled hair, and huge boys with sharp elbows, began to prod me with hideous interest. They plucked at my scarves, spun me round like a top, screwed my nose, and stole my potato.

I was rescued at last by a gracious lady—the sixteen-year-old junior-teacher—who boxed a few ears and dried my face and led me off to The Infants. I spent that first day picking holes in paper, then went home in a smouldering temper.

'What's the matter, Loll? Didn't he like it at school, then?'

'They never gave me the present!'

'Present? What present?'

'They said they'd give me a present.'

'Well, now, I'm sure they didn't.'

'They did! They said: 'You're Laurie Lee, ain't you? Well, just you sit there for the present.' I sat there all day but I never got it. I ain't going back there again!'

But after a week I felt like a veteran and grew ruthless as anyone else. Somebody had stolen my baked potato, so I swiped somebody else's apple. The Infant Room was packed with toys such as I'd never seen before—coloured shapes and rolls of clay, stuffed birds and men to paint. Also a frame of counting beads that our young teacher played like a harp, leaning her bosom against our faces and guiding our wandering fingers...

Laurie Lee

Exercise 1

Give the meanings of the following words. You might need to consult a dictionary.

- 1 mnemonic _____
- 2 bawling _____
- 3 ragged _____
- 4 rabble _____
- 5 encircled _____
- 6 grit _____
- 7 shrapnel _____
- 8 frizzled _____
- 9 hideous _____
- 10 gracious _____
- 11 infants _____

- 12 smouldering _____
- 13 present _____
- 14 veteran _____
- 15 ruthless _____
- 16 swiped _____ /16

Exercise 2

Circle the correct response.

- 1 Laurie Lee's mother gets him ready for school. true/false /2
- 2 Laurie is happy to be starting school. true/false /2
- 3 Laurie doesn't enjoy his first day at school. true/false /2
- 4 Laurie takes a long time to settle into his school. true/false /2
- 5 Laurie's classroom is filled with interesting things. true/false /2 /10

Exercise 3

Answer the following questions, based on the extract from *Cider with Rosie*.

- 1 Do you think Laurie's school is for wealthy children? Give reasons for your answer.

_____ /4

- 2 Is this a modern account of starting school or an old-fashioned one? How can you tell?

_____ /3

- 3 Explain how the two meanings of 'present' have made little Laurie so cross.

_____ /3

- 4 What kind of little boy is Laurie? Give two examples of his behaviour to back up your opinion.

_____ /4 /14

TOTAL /40

Extension exercise

Write an account of your first day at school. You could write about your first day in primary school (if you can remember back that far) or your first day at secondary school.

or

Make a collection of mnemonics and display them.

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BACK TO SCHOOL

Vocabulary

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Name: _____

Date: _____

Back to School word list

academic	coordinator	expelled	opportunity	qualified
algebra	counsellors	geography	peers	recreation
amenities	curriculum	geometry	policy	transition
campus	excellence	graduate	principal	welfare

Exercise 1

Find the most appropriate word from the list above to fill the gaps in the following passage. You might need to use a dictionary.

Parents and future students, I am Brunhilde La Grande, the strongest woman in the world and **principal** of Big Top Secondary College. Welcome to our Annual Information Night.

Our school prides itself on offering a very different **curriculum** from that offered in most non-circus schools. Those students who have previously had the **opportunity** to use their talents in bareback riding, acrobatics and lion-taming should find the **transition** an easy one. We offer more than the normal subjects of **geography**, **geometry** and **algebra**. Our students are able to study clowning, make up, whip-cracking and the theory of overcoming the fear of heights. When they **graduate** from this establishment they will find themselves very well **qualified** for a career in the circus.

Although our **campus** is portable, we offer a wonderful range of **amenities** to our students. Classes take place in this very atmospheric Big Top and accommodation consists of state-of-the-art caravans.

We aim for **excellence** in our students and the **academic** component of the curriculum is balanced with time for enjoyable **recreation**.

Our **policy** on discipline is fair. We care about our students' **welfare**. Only one student has ever been **expelled** and that was for consistently refusing to do elephant pooper-scooper duty!

Let me now hand you over to Alberto the Awesome, our first-year secondary **coordinator**, who will provide you with more information about our high-flying program for first-year secondary students.

TEST 1

Name: _____

Date: _____

Synonyms

Exercise 1

Write a synonym for each of the following.

- 1 error _____
- 2 construct _____
- 3 purchase _____
- 4 enemy _____
- 5 scent _____
- 6 walked _____
- 7 laughed _____
- 8 answered _____
- 9 said _____
- 10 asked _____ /10

Common and proper nouns

Exercise 2

Write the appropriate proper or common noun in the brackets.

- 1 NSW is a (_____) of Australia.
- 2 Jessica is a (_____) name; boys are usually called Jesse.
- 3 December is the last (_____) of the year.
- 4 Sydney is a very beautiful (_____).
- 5 Captain James Cook was a famous (_____). /5

Abstract nouns

Exercise 3

Circle the abstract nouns in the word box.

- | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|------|----------|------------|---------|
| flower | determination | flag | school | cat | honesty |
| success | anthem | fear | explorer | excitement | |
-
- /5

Collective nouns

Exercise 4

Choose the correct collective noun from the word box to complete each question below.

batch	battalion	litter	choir	galaxy
bunch	board	flock	school	pride

- 1 a _____ of directors /2
- 2 a _____ of scones /2
- 3 a _____ of fish /5
- 4 a _____ of soldiers /5
- 5 a _____ of singers

Capital letters and full stops

Exercise 5

Rewrite these sentences using full stops and capital letters where necessary.

- 1 next friday my family is leaving for a holiday in fiji
- _____
- 2 joe is meeting us at melbourne airport
- _____
- 3 we are flying with qantas
- _____
- 4 i plan to read 'boy overboard' on the plane
- _____
- 5 liana says she will watch the in-flight movie /5
- _____

Homophones

Exercise 6

Circle the correct homophone in each set of brackets.

- 1 Theodore likes pizza (to/too).
- 2 The (whether/weather/wether) forecast for tomorrow is not good.
- 3 The fabric was (coarse/course).
- 4 My dog, Archie, got a thorn in his (pore/pour/paw).
- 5 'What do you mean (you're/your) (board/bored) by frequency tables?' the Maths teacher thundered. /2
- 6 Do not (medal/meddle) in other people's affairs.
- 7 The present was (rapped/wrapped) in silver tissue paper.
- 8 Bart sat outside (Principal/Principle) Skinner's office.
- 9 'We need to put some air in the spare (tire/tyre)', Harry said. /10

TOTAL /40

TEST 1

Name: _____
Date: _____

Synonyms

Exercise 1

Write a synonym for each of the following.

- 1 error **mistake**
- 2 construct **build**
- 3 purchase **buy**
- 4 enemy **foe**
- 5 scent **perfume**
- 6 walked **dawdled, sauntered, strolled, aimed, strode (for example)**
- 7 laughed **giggled, chuckled, chortled, guffawed (for example)**
- 8 answered **replied, responded, retorted (for example)**
- 9 said **remarked, commented, observed (for example)**
- 10 asked **inquired, queried (for example)** /10

Common and proper nouns

Exercise 2

Write the appropriate proper or common noun in the brackets.

- 1 NSW is a (**state**) of Australia.
- 2 Jessica is a (**girl's**) name; boys are usually called Jesse.
- 3 December is the last (**month**) of the year.
- 4 Sydney is a very beautiful (**city**).
- 5 Captain James Cook was a famous (**explorer**). /5

Abstract nouns

Exercise 3

Circle the abstract nouns in the word box.

flower	determination	flag	school	cat	honesty
success	anthem	fear	explorer	excitement	

/5

Collective nouns

Exercise 4

Choose the correct collective noun from the word box to complete each question below.

batch	battalion	litter	choir	galaxy
bunch	board	flock	school	pride

- 1 a board of directors /2
- 2 a batch of scones /2
- 3 a school of fish /5
- 4 a battalion of soldiers
- 5 a choir of singers

Capital letters and full stops

Exercise 5

Rewrite these sentences using full stops and capital letters where necessary.

- 1 next friday my family is leaving for a holiday in fiji
Next Friday my family is leaving for a holiday in Fiji.
- 2 joe is meeting us at melbourne airport
Joe is meeting us at Melbourne Airport.
- 3 we are flying with qantas
We are flying with Qantas.
- 4 i plan to read 'boy overboard' on the plane
I plan to read 'Boy Overboard' on the plane.
- 5 liana says she will watch the in-flight movie
Liana says she will watch the in-flight movie. /5

Homophones

Exercise 6

Circle the correct homophone in each set of brackets.

- 1 Theodore likes pizza (to/too).
- 2 The (whether/weather/wether) forecast for tomorrow is not good.
- 3 The fabric was (coarse/course).
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- 5 'What do you mean (you're/your) (board/bored) by frequency tables?' the Maths teacher thundered. /2
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- 7 The present was (rapped/wrapped) in silver tissue paper.
- 8 Bart sat outside (Principal/Principle) Skinner's office.
- 9 'We need to put some air in the spare (tire/tyre)', Harry said. /10

TOTAL /40