

UNIT STRUCTURE
Teaching Writing Skill
CLASS – II

Unit Over-view	Rationale	Unit Outcomes				Methodology Support					Additional Reading		
		Learning Outcomes	Learning Gaps to be addressed	Related Lessons	Unit Objectives	Introduction	Case Study 1	Activity 1	Case Study 2	Activity 2		Summary	Suggested Questions
Overview of the language skill What the Gunotsav assessment shows us		2.12- The learner composes and writes simple short sentences with space between words.	Sub-area: Writes simple short sentences in English with capital letters, full stop and space between words.	As per Academic Calendar	In this Unit you will read ways of helping learners to write simple short sentences in English with capital letters, full stop and space between words.	What this unit will teach you	Write short sentences with space between words	Fun with capital letters and full stops			What you have learnt in this unit	Sample Question: Put a capital letter in the following sentence correctly: ramesh lives in my village.	– English Textbook for Class II – www.tess-india.edu.in

Overview

This unit discusses ways and activities that you can use in the classroom to improve early writing of children. There is an activity and a case study to help students of Class II learn how to write English sentences using correct punctuation, such as capital letters, full stops and space between words in a sentence.

Rationale

In our earlier OER, we discussed how your learners can master the mechanics of writing. They learning outcomes spelt out for Class II, especially

LO 2.12: The learner composes and writes simple short sentences with space between words. emphasize the importance of developing learners' writing skills through adequate practice in sentence formation. The results of Gunotsav 2017 have shown that most children of Class II are unable to write English sentences using simple punctuation, such as capital letters at the beginning of a sentence and full stop at the end. Most of the learners have also not learnt how to use space between words in a sentence. This unit will help you remedy some of these gaps by showing you how to involve your children in writing activities to learn about (a) space between words in sentences and (b) how capital letters and full stops are used in a sentence.

Introduction:

My students can read three letter words like cat, dog, mat etc. But when they write sentences they forget to use space between words, start a sentence with a capital letter and end it with a full stop. What can I do to help my students to put space between words in a sentence and also teach them the use of capital letters and full stop in a sentence?



One of the most common problems in our English classrooms is that our students are poor in writing. To help students develop the ability to write, a teacher needs to give them a lot of practice, and also monitor their notebooks when they copy information from their textbook or the blackboard. Many times, little children copy sentences from a blackboard without being able to understand the teacher's handwriting, or recognising the words correctly. If the teacher does not check and monitor their writing, the mistakes remain unattended. Because of this, children continue to write ill formed sentences even in higher classes. In this unit, we will try to help you remedy students' mistakes through a few activities.

Unit Objectives:

In this unit, you will read ways of helping learners to :

1. use space between words in a sentence
2. use capital letters and full stops in sentences

Case Study 1 : Prabal Chetry makes students write short sentences with space between words

Prabal Chetry is an English teacher in Progoti Pathsala L. P. School in Sonitpur. He teaches English in Classes II, III and IV. Here he shares his experience of having taught children of Class II to write simple, short sentences with space between words.

Let's hear, in his own words, what he did in the class:

'I taught my children to make two, three letter words. They could make a few new words with the help of cutouts of letters in chart paper. They could arrange letters like b, o, y to make the word 'boy' or c, a, t to make the word 'cat' I was happy with their efforts and wanted to make them learn how to use these words in sentences with appropriate space. To achieve my goal, I started writing some sentences on the blackboard like this:

Risha is a good girl.

This is a book.

Mango is a sweet fruit.

I read aloud the sentences and asked my children to read aloud after me. After reading the sentences, I rubbed out all the sentences from the blackboard and wrote the same sentences without space between words, like this:

Rishaisgoodgirl

Thisisabook

Mangoisasweetfruit

I asked my children to read these lines and they obviously found it very difficult to read them. I told them that without space between words, these lines didn't make any sense. Then I called some of my students at random to the board and asked them to show me where to put space between the words. They were able to do it and then I rewrote our original sentences. My children understood that without space between words a sentence doesn't make any sense. Then we practised with a few more sentences on the board. Now that they understood the necessity of capital letters and full stops, they were able to use these correctly in sentences of their own.

Let's stop and think

- ★ Do you think Prabal Chetry's strategy of teaching his students about space between words can be used with your own students?
- ★ What more he could have done to make them understand why space between words is important in a sentence?

Activity1 : Fun with capital letters and full stops

Like space between words, a sentence is not complete without a capital letter at the beginning and a full stop at the end of a sentence. This activity will help you make your students practise writing short and simple sentences with these punctuation rules.

For the activity, you will need three common classroom objects (for example a duster, a pen and a water bottle) You can use the blackboard for this activity and cut-outs of words for students to work in groups.

To start the activity, show one of the objects to the class, and say a sentence connected to it, such as This is a blue pen. Make the students repeat the sentence after you orally. Then tell them that you will write the sentence on the board, but they will have to say whether it is correct. Write the sentence on the board, jumbling up the words and putting the first word (having a capital letter) in the middle of the sentence, like shown below:

is a This pen blue

Make the students tell you the correct sentence, and rewrite the correct sentence below the incorrect one, like this:

is a This blue pen

This is a blue pen.

Draw the students' attention to the capital letter and the full stop (by underlining them).

Repeat the activity with the two other objects with sentences such as Here is a duster. I have a water bottle.

To test whether students have understood the activity, give each bench one set of cut-outs of jumbled words for a sentence, like the following

and ask them to rearrange the words to form a correct sentence. Make sure the first word is written with a capital letter, and the last word has a full stop after it. Make them copy the correct sentence in their notebooks.

Finally, write two more sentences on the board, each beginning with a small letter, and with no full stop. Call one or two students to the board and make them correct the sentences. Then make the class copy down the sentences correctly in their notebooks

Let's stop and think

- ★ Do you think this activity is useful for teaching punctuation to Class II students? Why or why not?
- ★ Can you think of some other ideas to teach your children space between words?

Unit Summary :

In this unit, we discussed some ways of helping the learners write short simple sentences with correct punctuation and space between words. The activity and case study gave you ideas of making students aware of the problems that arise when we do not use correct punctuation, and also practising how to write sentences correctly in a fun way. The more students are given practice in writing, the better will be their writing habits. Many children make mistakes in using capital letters because they do not know how to form such a letter correctly. Make your students practise writing in four-lined notebooks because these help children understand where letters in a word begin and end. This will also help them learn how to write a capital letter with the correct length and height. All these skills can be acquired by children with regular practice and under your regular supervision.

Additional Resources

- ⇒ Beginners' English-II (English Textbook for Class II)
- ⇒ TESS INDIA OERS
- ⇒ Websites such as <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk>

Suggested Questions :

1. Write the following sentence with space between words:
 - a) llovemymother
2. Put a capital letter in the following sentence correctly:
 - a) ramesh lives in my village.
3. Put a full stop in the following sentence correctly:
 - a) The earth is round
4. Where do we use a space in a sentence:
 - a) between words in the sentence
 - b) between letters in words in the sentence
5. Which of the following is a complete sentence?
 - a) a boy
 - b) Ram is a boy.
6. Which of the following is correct?
 - a) This is a ball.
 - b) This is a ball.
 - c) This is a ball.
7. Which of the following sentences is written correctly?
 - a) I go to school
 - b) I go to school.
 - c) i go to school.
8. Begin the following sentence with a capital letter and end it with a full stop.
 - a) honey is sweet
9. Without space between words a sentence is
 - a) correct
 - b) incorrect
10. Put a slash (/) after each word of the following sentence
 - a) I see a tiger.
