1 Ordinary days

1 Setting the scene

A Look at these words. Underline the nouns and ring the adjectives.

- mountain
- interesting
- rabbit
- clever
- sharp
- butterfly
- beautiful
- young
- shirt
- book
- office
- happy
- rain

B Take a photo of the view from a window and stick it in the box, or draw a picture of what you can see from the window. Label at least six different things in the picture, using an adjective and a noun in each label, such as blue sky, white clouds.

Nouns are names of people or things – such as cat, book. Adjectives describe nouns – a pretty cat, a long book.
What would make an ordinary school day extraordinary for you? Would it be:
- winning or achieving something?
- a sudden event?
- an unexpected visitor?
- an exciting lesson?
- or even an exciting fantasy event?

1. Draw a picture of an extraordinary school day.
2. Label six things that make it extraordinary.

Re-read the opening sentence of *Once upon an Ordinary School Day* by Colin McNaughton.

Once upon an ordinary school day, an ordinary boy woke from his ordinary dreams, got out of his ordinary bed, had an ordinary wash, put on his ordinary clothes and ate his ordinary breakfast.

1. List all the adjectives.

   ordinary

2. List all the nouns.
3 The power of words

Complete the letters of the alphabet in English.

![Musical notes for the alphabet]

Write these words in alphabetical order in the table. Then find the words in a dictionary and write what they mean.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>thunderous</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crash</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ordinary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wonderful</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>extraordinary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Words are listed in alphabetical order in dictionaries.
4 More about settings

A Which words would you use to describe the pictures?

1 Complete the description of picture A.
   It is a ________ day. The sky is ________ so everyone feels _________. Some people are arriving. They are feeling ________ as they walk towards the mall. Others have spent a ________ time in the shops. They look ________ as they walk back to their cars.

2 Now complete the description of picture B.
   It is a ________ day. There is a ________ storm. The sky is ________ so everyone feels _________. The people who are arriving are feeling ________ as they walk towards the mall. Other people are leaving. They look ________ as they hurry back to their cars.

B Read this description.
   It was a 1 nice day so we decided to go to the beach. I was feeling 2 happy. The beach was 3 nice and all the people were 4 happy. I wanted to paddle in the sea. The water felt 5 nice. After my paddle, I had a 6 nice ice cream. “I am 7 happy,” I told my mum. “Thank you for such a 8 nice day out.”

Improve the description by choosing a more descriptive word to replace the eight words in bold. Try to use different words each time. Write your words here.

1 ____________________  2 ____________________
3 ____________________  4 ____________________
5 ____________________  6 ____________________
7 ____________________  8 ____________________
On page 13 of the Learner’s Book you read a character portrait of Liang. Now create a different character for Liang. This time he could

- love music
- be interested in fashion
- love sport.

Write your character portrait here.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Match the adjectives on the left with the adjectives on the right that mean nearly the same thing.

friendly          enthusiastic
happy             occupied
kind              delighted
busy              welcoming
interested        considerate
excited           engrossed

You may need to use a dictionary or a thesaurus.
Look at the sentences. Are they in the past, present or future tense? Underline the verb in the sentences. Then write past, present or future for each sentence.

Example: He **had** a cup of chai after school. **past**

1. The phone rings all day long. __________________________
2. Daddy will be home after your bedtime. __________________________
3. We are all here today. __________________________
4. The baby owls learnt to fly. __________________________
5. The cake will be cooked in five minutes. __________________________
6. Hidaya picked her friends for her cricket team. __________________________
7. The tree outside my window grows very fast. __________________________

Look at these groups of words. Circle the forms of the verb **be** in each triangle.

Remember!

- **past** — it has already happened
- **present** — it’s happening now or it always happens
- **future** — it hasn’t happened yet.
A Make word webs to show the meanings of these words. Use a thesaurus to help you.

- means the same = ____
- means the opposite = ____
- sounds a bit the same = ____
- means the same = ____
- means the opposite = ____
- looks a bit the same = ____
- means the same = ____
- means the opposite = ____
- sounds a bit the same = ____
- means the same = ____
- means the opposite = ____
- looks a bit the same = ____

B Finish the story that Grace was thinking about.

We were lost. Our ship was sinking and we were miles away from anywhere. Everyone was giving up hope. But I felt brave. So I climbed to the very top of the mast and I looked around me as hard as I could. The minutes went by slowly. Then, suddenly, I saw something.
“Look!” I cried.
**8 Dialogue**

**A** Read this short dialogue

1. Using a blue pencil, underline the words that Mihu said.
2. Using a green pencil, underline the words that her son Yuu said.

“Where are you going?” shrieked Miho, as Yuu ran off. Yuu looked over his shoulder and shouted, “I’ll be back later, mother.” Much later, when Yuu came home, his mother was waiting for him. “Where have you been?” she demanded. “I have been so worried!” “I’m sorry,” mumbled Yuu. “I had forgotten to do something important, but then I remembered it.” “Nothing is that important,” complained Miho. “Boys should do what their mother tells them to do.” “But this was very important!” declared Yuu. “I had forgotten to get your present. But then I remembered. Look!” He held out a small box. “You are a good boy!” stated Mihu, giving Yuu a kiss and rubbing his head.

**B** List all the verbs in the dialogue that could be replaced by said.

- shrieked

**C** Rewrite the verbs from Activity B in alphabetical order.

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**9 Sequencing events**

**A** Choose a story you know. Decide on the six main ideas or events in the story and write them on the story mountain.
Title: 

Author: 

1. Who is the main character in the story?

2. Write three adjectives to describe the main character.

3. Who are the other important characters?

4. Where is the story set?

5. Write three adjectives to describe the setting.

6. Ending