
UNIT 3

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3.0 OBJECTIVES

In this unit our aim is to give you further practice in reading comprehension by (i) giving a story—'*The Nightingale and the Rose*'—by Oscar Wilde for you to read and understand and enjoy, and (ii) giving a glossary of difficult words, and questions on comprehension. We have also set exercise on the use of the negative prefixes *un-*, *in-*, and *im-* and some common phrases used to express comparisons.

The section on grammar and usage will deal with the use of the following tenses :

The past indefinite (or the simple past) tense

The past continuous tense

The present perfect tense

The present perfect continuous tense

For practice in writing you will re-write the story read by you from the point of view of the two main characters.

After completing this unit you should be able to

- read a simple short story and enjoy it ;
- read it again to understand it better ;
- read between the lines, that is, find the hidden meanings ;
- use the prefixes *un-*, *in-*, and *im-* to form words with opposite meanings ;
- use some of the phrases to describe persons and things through comparisons ;
- use the past indefinite, the past continuous, the present perfect, and the present perfect continuous tenses correctly; and
- re-write a story from the point of view of different characters.

3.1 READING COMPREHENSION

3.1.1 Study Guide

Here is an interesting story—‘*The Nightingale and the Rose*’ by Oscar Wilde. You will enjoy reading it. After you have read it once, read it again to understand it better and to find the hidden meanings. Some of the words are explained for you in the glossary given at the end of the story. When you have understood the story, try to answer all the comprehending questions. You should then check your answers with those given by us at the end of the unit.

3.1.2 Passage for Reading

The Nightingale and the Rose

by Oscar Wilde

- A ‘She said that she would dance with me if I brought her red roses,’ said the young Student, ‘but in all my garden there is no red rose.’ From her nest in the oak-tree the Nightingale heard him, and she looked out through the leaves and wondered. ‘No red rose in all my garden!’ he cried, and his beautiful eyes filled with tears.

‘Ah, on what little things does happiness depend! I have read all that the wise men have written, and all the secrets of philosophy are mine, yet for lack of a red rose is my life made wretched.’

‘Here at last is a true lover,’ said the Nightingale. ‘Night after night have I sung to him, though I knew him not : night after night have I told his story to the stars and now I see him. His hair is dark as the hyacinth-blossom, and his lips are as red as the rose of his desire ; but passion has made his face like pale ivory, and sorrow has marked his brow’.

B ‘The Prince gives a ball tomorrow night,’ murmured the young Student, ‘and my love will be of the company. If I bring her a red rose she will dance with me till dawn. If I bring her a red rose, I shall hold her in my arms, and she will lean her head upon my shoulder, and her hand will be in mine. But there is no red rose in my garden, so I shall sit lonely, and she will pass me by. She will take no notice of me, and heart will break.’

‘Here, indeed, is the true lover,’ said the Nightingale. ‘What I sing of, he suffers : what is joy to me, to him is pain. Surely love is a wonderful thing. It is more precious than jewels.’

‘The musicians will sit in their gallery,’ said the young Student, ‘and play upon their instruments, and my love will dance to the sound of the harp and the violin. She will dance so lightly that her feet will not touch the floor, and the noble lords in their gay dressess will crowd round her. But with me she will not dance, for I have no red rose to give her’; and the flung himself down on the grass, and buried his face in his hands, and wept.

‘Why is he weeping ?’ asked a little Green Lizard, as her ran past him with his tail in the air.

‘Why, indeed ?’ said a Butterfly, who was running about after a sunbeam.

‘Why, indeed ?’ whispered a Daisy to his neighbour, in a soft, low voice.

‘He is weeping for a red rose,’ said the Nightingale.

‘For a red rose ?’ they cried ; ‘how very silly!’ and the little Lizard laughed.

But the Nightingale understood the secret of the Student’s sorrow, and she sat silent in the oak-tree, and thought about the mystery of love.

Suddenly she spread her brown wings for flight, and rose into the air. She passed through the trees like a shadow and like a shadow she sailed across the garden. In the centre of the grass was standing a beautiful Rose-tree, and when she saw it she flew over it, and stood upon a branch.

‘Give me a red rose,’ said cried, ‘and I will sing you my sweetest song.’

But the Tree shook its head.

‘My roses are white,’ it answered ; ‘as white as the waves of the sea, and whiter than the snow upon the mountains. But go to my brother who grows round the old sundial and perhaps he will give you what you want.’

So the Nightingale flew over to the Rose-tree that was growing round the old sundial.

‘Give me a red rose,’ she cried, ‘and I will sing you my sweetest song.’

But the Tree shook its head.

‘My roses are yellow,’ it answered ; ‘as yellow as the hair of the mermaid who sits upon a throne, and yellower than the daffodil that blooms in the meadow before the cutter comes to cut. But go to my brother who grows beneath the student’s window, and perhaps he will give you what you want.’

So the Nightingale flew over the Rose-tree that was growing beneath the Student’s window.

‘Give me a red rose,’ she cried, ‘and I will sing you my sweetest song.’

But the Tree shook its head.

‘My roses are red,’ it answered, ‘as red as the feet of the dove, and redder than the coral that waves in the ocean. But the winter has chilled my veins, and the frost has killed my buds, and the storm has broken my branches, and I shall have no roses at all this year.’

‘One red rose is all I want,’ cried the Nightingale, ‘only one red rose! Is there no way by which I can get it ?’

‘There is a way,’ answered the Tree; ‘but it is so terrible that I dare not tell it to you.’

‘Tell it to me,’ said the Nightingale, ‘I am not afraid.’

C ‘If you want a red rose,’ said the Tree, ‘you must build it out of music by moonlight, and stain it with your own heart’s blood. You must sing to me with your breast against a thorn. All night long you must sing to me, and the thorn must enter your heart, and your life-blood must flow into my veins, and become mine.’

‘Death is a great price to pay for a red rose,’ cried the Nightingale, ‘and Life is very dear to all. It is pleasant to sit in the green wood, and to watch the Sun in his chariot of gold, and the Moon in her chariot of pearl. Yet Love is better than Life, and what is the heart of a bird compared to the heart of a man ?’

So she spread her brown wings for flight, and rose into the air. She swept over the garden like a shadow, and like a shadow she sailed through the trees.

The young Student was still lying on the grass, where she had left him, and the tears were not yet dry in his beautiful eyes.

D 'Be happy,' cried the Nightingale, 'be happy; you shall have your red rose. I will build it out of music by moonlight, and stain it with my own heart's blood. All that I ask of you in return is that you will be a true lover, for Love is wiser than Philosophy, though he is wise, and mightier than Power, though he is mighty. Flame-coloured are his wings, and coloured like flame is his body. His lips are as sweet as honey, and his breath is like frankincense.'

The Student looked up from the grass, and listened, but he could not understand what the Nightingale was saying to him, for he only knew the things that are written down in books.

But the Oak-tree understood, and felt sad, for he was very fond of the little Nightingale, who had build her nest in his branches.

'Sing me one last song,' he whispered ; 'I shall feel lonely when you are gone.'

So the Nightingale sang to the Oak-tree, and her voice was like water-flowing from a silver jug.

When she had finished her song, the Student got up, and pulled a note-book and a lead-pencil out of his pocket.

E 'She has form,' he said to himself, as he walked away through the tree—'that cannot be denied her ; but has she got feeling ? I am afraid not. In fact, she is like most artists; she is all style without any sincerity. She would not sacrifice herself for others. She thinks merely of music, and everybody knows that the arts are selfish. Still, it must be admitted that she has some beautiful notes in her voice. what a pity it is that they do not mean anything, or do any practical good!' And he went into his room, and lay down on his little bed, and began to think of his love; and, after a time, he fell asleep.

And when the moon shone in the heavens the Nightingale flew to the Rose-tree, and set her breast against the thorn. All night long she sang, with her breast against the thorn, and the cold shining Moon leaned down and listened. All night long she sang, and the thorn went deeper into her breast, and her life-blood flowed away from her.

She sang first of the birth of love in the heart of a boy and a girl. And on the top branch of the Rose-tree there blossomed a marvellous rose, petal following petal, as song followed song. Pale was it at first, as the mist that hangs over the river—pale as the feet of the morning and silver as the wins of the dawn. As the shadow of a rose in a mirror of silver, as the shadow of a rose in a waterpool, so was the rose at blossomed on the top branch of the Tree.

But the Tree cried to the Nightingale to press closer against thorn. 'Press closer, little nightingale', cried the Tree, 'or the Day will come before the rose is finished.'

F So the Nightingale pressed closer against the thorn, and louder grew her song, for she sang of the birth of passion in the soul of a man and a maid.

And a delicate glow of pink came into the leaves of the rose, like the glow in the face of the bridegroom when he kisses the lips of the bride. But the thorn had not yet reached her heart, so the rose's heart remained white, for only a Nightingale's heart's-blood can redden the heart of a rose.

And the Tree cried to the Nightingale to press closer against the thorn. 'Press closer, little Nightingale,' cried the Tree, 'or the Day will come before the rose is finished.'

So the Nightingale pressed closer against the thorn, and the thorn touched the heart, and a fierce pain shot through her. Bitter, bitter was the pain, and wilder and wilder grew her song, for she sang of the Love that is perfected by Death, of the Love that dies not in the grave.

And the marvellous rose became red, like the rose of the eastern sky. Red were its petals, and red as a ruby was the heart.

But the Nightingale's voice grew fainter, and her little wings began to beat, and a film came over her eyes. Fainter and fainter grew her song, and she felt somethings stopping her in her throat.

Then she gave one last burst of music. The White Moon heard it and she forgot the dawn, and stayed on in the sky. The red rose heard it, and it trembled all over with joy, and opened its petals to the cold morning air. Echo bore it to her purple cave in the Hills, and woke the sleeping shepherds from their dreams. It floated through the reeds of the river, and they carried its message to the sea.

'Look, Look!' cried the Tree, 'the rose is finished now,' but the Nightingale made no answer, for she was lying dead in the long grass, with the thorn in her heart.

And at noon the Student opened his window and looked out.

G 'Why, what a wonderful piece of luck,' he cried; 'here is a red rose! I have never seen any rose like it in all my life. It is so beautiful that I am sure it has a long Latin name'; and he leaned down and cut it.

Then he put on his hat, and ran up to the Professor's house with the rose in his hand.

The daughter of the Professor was sitting in the door-way winding blue silk, and her little dog was lying at her feet. 'You said that you would dance with me if I brought you a red rose,' cried the Student. 'Here is the reddest rose in all the world. You will wear it tonight next to your heart, and as we dance together it will tell you how I love you.'

But the girl frowned.

‘I am afraid it will not go with my dress,’ she answered; ‘and, beside, the Chamberlain’s nephew has sent me some real jewels, and everybody knows that jewels cost far more than flowers.’

H ‘Well, upon my word, you are very ungrateful,’ said the Student angrily, and he threw the rose into the street, where it fell into the dirt, and a cartwheel went over it.

I ‘Ungrateful’ said the girl. ‘I will tell you what; you are very rude; and, after all, who are you? Only a student. Why, I don’t believe you have even got silver buckles to your shoes as the Chamberlain’s nephew has’; and she got up from her chair and went into the house.

J ‘What a silly thing Love is!’ said the Student as he walked away. ‘It is not half as useful as Logic, for it does not prove anything, and it is always telling one of things that are not going to happen, and making one believe things that are not true. In fact, it is quite unpractical, and, as in this age to be practical is everything, I shall go back to Philosophy and study Metaphysics.’

So he returned to his room and pulled out a great dusty book, and began to read.

3.1.3 Note on the Author

Oscar Wilde (Fingal O’Flahertic Wills) 1854-1900, was an Irish writer and wit. (A wit is a person who can say things which are both clever and amusing.)

3.1.4 Glossary

The sections of the story are marked A. B. C. etc.

- A **oak** : a large tree with hard wood, common in northern countries
nightingale : a European thrush, a bird known for its beautiful song at night
wondered : was surprised and wanted to know
philosophy : the study of the nature and meaning of existence, reality, knowledge, goodness, etc.
wretched : very unhappy
hyacinth : a plant with a head of bell-shaped flowers and a sweet smell
blossom : the flower of a flowering tree or bush
ivory : a hard white substance, of which elephants’ tusks are made
brow : forehead
- B **ball** : a large formal occasion for social dancing
murmured : made a soft sound to speak in a quiet voice

- love** : a person who is loved
- harp** : a large musical instrument with strings running from top to bottom of an open three-cornered frame, played by stroking or plucking the strings with the hand
- violin** : a four-stringed wooden musical instrument played by drawing a bow across the strings
- gay** : bright
- daisy** : a small flower, yellow in the centre and white round it
- sundial** : an apparatus which shows the time according to where the shadow of a pointer falls when the sun shines on it
- mermaid** : a young woman with the bottom half of her body like a fish's tail
- daffodil** : a yellow flower of early spring
- meadow** : a field of grass for animals to eat
- dove** : a type of pigeon
- coral** : a white, pink, or reddish stonelike substance formed from the bones of very small sea animals
- veins** : tubes that carry blood from any part of the body to the heart
- frost** : weather at a temperature below the freezing point of water
- bud** : a young tightly rolled up flower before it opens
- C **stain** : colour
- chariot** : a two-wheeled horse-drawn seatless vehicle used in ancient times
- D **frankincense** : a sticky substance obtained from trees and burnt to give a sweet smell
- E **style** : a manner of expression which marks out an artist as different from others
- sincerity** : honesty
- practical** : concerned with action rather than with ideas
- petal** : leaf like division of a flower
- F **passion** : strong, deep feeling
- ruby** : a deep red precious stone
- G **frowned** : drew the eyebrows together to show disapproval
- chamberlain** : an important official appointed to direct the housekeeping affairs of a king
- I **buckless** : metal fasteners

- J **logic** : the science of reasoning by formal methods
- metaphysics** : a branch of philosophy concerned with the science of being and knowing

3.1.5 Comprehension Questions

Exercise 1

(Letters of the alphabet mark different sections of the story; the same letters of the alphabet are given against the questions given below. You will find the answer to a question in the section of the text marked with the corresponding letter of the alphabet. For example, the answers to the questions given under the letter B will be found in the section which is marked B.)

- A 1 a) Why did the Student want a red rose?
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- b) Why was he feeling ‘wretched’?
.....
- B 2 a) Why would the Student’s heart break?
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- 3 The Nightingale called the Students a ‘true lover’. Why ?
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.....
- C 4 How could the Nightingale get a red rose ?
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.....
- 5 Why was life dear to the Nightingale ?
.....
.....
- D 6 a) What did the Nightingale decide to do ?
.....
.....
- b) What did she expect of the Student in return ?
.....

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E 7 a) How did the Student describe the Nightingale's singing ?
.....
b) Did she lack feelings ?
.....

F 8 What did the Nightingale sing of as the thorn entered her heart ?
.....
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9 What happened to the Nightingale as the rose became red ?
.....

G 10 What was 'a wonderful piece of luck' for the Student ?
.....

11 What had the Chamberlain's nephew sent to the Professor's daughter ?
.....

12 Why did she decide to wear the jewels and not the red rose ? Give two reasons.
.....

H 13 What happened to the rose which the Student had brought for the Professor's daughter ?
.....
.....

I 14 Do you think the Professor's daughter was
a) vain ? or
b) proud ? or
c) insincere ?
Give a reason in support of your choice.
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J 15 What according to the Student, is the key to happiness—being practical or being romantic ?
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General : 1 Was the Nightingale's supreme sacrifice in vain ?

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2 The Nightingale wanted to prove that love was immortal. Did she succeed in doing so ?

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3 Consult your dictionary and find out the meaning of 'irony'. Find an example of this in the story.

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4 Use suitable words to describe the Nightingale and the Student as they appear at the end of the story :

a) romantic

b) tragic

c) pathetic

d) wasteful

e) practical

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3.2 VOCABULARY

Have you noticed that sometimes prefixes are put in front of words to convey the idea of negation ?

Examples

grateful *ungrateful*

adequate *inadequate*

modest *immodest*

Exercise 2

Replace the italicized words with other suitable words beginning with *un-*, *in-* or *im-*.

Example

Man is mortal but a great work of art is *not mortal*.

Man is mortal but a great work of art is *immortal*.

1 The Student was *not happy*, because he could not find a red rose.

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2 The figures about literate men and women in this village are *not accurate*.

.....

3 You are speaking so softly that you are *not audible*.

.....

4 It is *not possible* to sing like a Nightingale.

.....

5 It is *not pleasant* to go for a walk on a foggy morning.

.....

6 Some rocks are *not perishable*.

.....

7 She could not go to office as she was *not well*.

.....

8 The officer was dismissed because he was *not competent*.

.....

9 It is *not wise* to put all your eggs in one basket.

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Exercise 3

There are quite a few phrases in this story in which two things are compared.

Examples

as red as the rose

sweet as honey

These phrases make language more vivid and expressive.

a) Select four such phrases from the story.

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.....

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.....
b) Now match the items under A below with those under B and make phrases.

Example

as ugly as sin

A	B
as ugly as	coal
as cool as	cucumber
as hard as	nails
as black as	sin
as pretty as	a picture

3.3 GRAMMAR AND USAGE

The incidents narrated in the story (Section 3.1.2) took place some time in the past. We use different tenses to indicate past events.

3.3.1 The Past Indefinite or the Simple Past Tense

Examples

- i) The Nightingale **heard** him, and she **looked** through the leaves and **wondered**.
- ii) His eyes **filled** with tears.

Notice

- a) that these events took place in the past and are not related to the narrator's (speaker's) present;
- b) that we form the simple past tense
 - i) by adding *-d* or *-ed* to the regular verbs
 - look—looked
 - fill—filled
 - narrate—narrated

or ii) by adding *-t*

dream—dreamt

learn—learnt

or iii) by changing some letters of the word

eat—ate

teach—taught

or iv) by not changing the verb at all

cut—cut

hit—hit

shut—shut;

- c) that with most verbs we indicate negation or interrogation by using *did* as a helping verb. The point to remember is that with *did* we use the simple present form of the main verb.

Examples

The student **did** not **dance** with the girl.

Did the Nightingale **sacrifice** her life in vain ?

3.3.2 The Past Continuous Tense

This tense emphasises the continuity of events in the past.

It is formed by using *was* or *were* with the *-ing* form of the verb.

Examples

The butterfly **was running** after a sunbeam.

The Student **was still lying** on the grass where the Nightingale had left him.

3.3.3 The Present Perfect Tense

This tense is used

a) to describe past event and

b) to emphasize their effect on the speaker's presence.

It is formed by using *has* or *have* with the past participle form (sometimes called the third form) of the verb.

Examples

I have read all the novels written by Hardy. (And I **still** remember them.)

The winter **has chilled** my veins. (And at the moment of speaking I am **still** cold.)

As the present perfect is linked to the speaker's present, we **never** use it with past time expressions.

It would be incorrect to say :

* I have written a letter an hour ago. (The sign * before an example indicates and unacceptable form.)

The correct form would be :

either

I have written a letter.

or

I have just written a letter.

The present perfect tense is often used with expressions like *just, since, for, etc.*

3.3.4 The Present Perfect Continuous Tense

This tense is used to describe an action that started in the past and is still continuing.

It is formed by using *have* (or *has*) with *been* and the *-ing* form of the verb.

Examples

1 The farmers **have been ploughing** their fields for two hours now. (They are still ploughing them.)

2 My friend **has been studying** English since 10 o'clock. (she is still studying.)

Notice the difference between these two sentences :

1 The farmers **were ploughing** their fields when it started raining. (The action continued for some time in the past.)

2 The farmers **have been ploughing** their fields for some time now. (The action began in the past and is still continuing.)

Sometimes the present perfect continuous is also used for an action that has just finished after it has continued for some time.

Example

I am very tired. **I have been playing** cricket.

3.3.5 Exercises on Tenses

Exercise 4

1 Put the verbs given in brackets in the simple past tense :

One morning Akbar (go) for a walk with Prince Salim and Birbal. After some time they (come) to the bank of river. It (be) a hot morning and they (sit) down in the shade of a tree. A few minutes later Akbar (say), "Shall we go and bathe in the river?" Birbal put his hand into the water and (say), "I wouldn't like to bathe."

Akbar and Prince Salim (take) off their clothes and (give) them to Birbal. Then they (get) into the water and (bathe) in it.

Akbar (say) to Prince Salim, "Birbal is standing in the sun and holding our clothes. He looks like a washerman's donkey." Akbar (call) out to Birbal and (say), 'You're carrying a donkey's load.' Birbal (bow) and very respectfully (say), "No, sir, I'm carrying the loads of two donkeys."

Exercise 5

Use the correct forms of the verbs given in brackets :

A famous Irish barrister, who (be) a very witty person, (appear), before a judge who (not like) him and (not try) to hide the fact.

While the barrister (argue) his case, the judge (not seem) to be paying any attention to him. He (pat) his huge dog, which (sit) beside him, and (say) something to it. The barrister (stop) and (look) at the judge and the dog. "Go on," (say) the judge.

"I beg your pardon," (answer) the barrister, "I (think) your lordship (be) in consultation."

Exercise 6

Put the verbs given in brackets in the present perfect or the present perfect continuous tense :

- 1) I not (see) a film since December
- 2) Which book you (read) since this morning ?
- 3) I (try) to swim for years but I not (succeed) yet
- 4) The judge (examine) three witnesses since morning
- 5) The servant (wait) for an hour now. Your mother not (give) him any work yet.
- 6) I (read) this essay five times but I can't understand it
- 7) The old man (sleep) in the garden all day
- 8) You (eat) four ice creams already
- 9) What you (do) since I saw you last ?
- 10) The lions in the zoo (roar) for a quarter of an hour; they will soon be given food.

Exercise 7

Fill in the blanks with the present perfect or the present perfect continuous forms of the verbs given in brackets. The first two have been done for you.

Dr. Singh’s class does not seem to be getting anywhere at all today. The students **have been working** (work) at different things since 9 o’clock but none of them **has finished** (finish) his work. Dr. Singh asked Sheela to write a poem for the college magazine but she (just/write) the title of the poem. Abid (paint) a picture for a long time; nobody knows what it is because he (not do) even half of it. Murali (write) an essay about the college since the morning but he (complete) only first paragraph. Vasudevan and Gurucharan (work) on the science project for three hours but (not finish) it yet. Poor Dr. Singh ! He (walk) up and down the class trying to get the work completed soon.

3.4 WRITING

Exercise 8

You have read the story of ‘*The Nightingale and the Rose*’ in this unit. Imagine that the Nightingale appears to the student in his dream.

- i) Imagine that you are the Nightingale. Narrate the story of your sacrifice.
- ii) Now imagine that you are the student and write your reaction.

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3.5 LET US SUM UP

- In this unit we have given you practice in
- i) understanding a short by Oscar Wilde,
 - ii) using the prefixes *un-*, *in-* and *im-*,
 - iii) forming some common phrases to express comparisons,
 - iv) using the past indefinite, the past continuous, the present perfect and the present perfect continuous tenses correctly, and
 - v) re-writing the story you have read from the point of view of the two main characters.

3.6 KEY WORDS

character : a person in a story, novel, play, etc.

continuous (also called progressive) tense (in grammar) : a form of the verb (using the ending *-ing*) that expresses action that continues over a period of time.

e.g., I am writing. (present continuous)
I was writing. (past continuous)
I will be writing. (future continuous)
I have been writing. (present perfect continuous)

narrate : tell (a story)

perfect tense : that composed of *have* + past participle,

e.g. He has written the letter. (present perfect)

He had written the letter. (past perfect)

He will have written the letter. (future perfect)

phrase : a group of words (often without a finite verb) forming part of a sentence,

e.g., *in the garden, in order to*

prefix : a word or syllable placed in front of a word to add to or change its meaning,

e.g., *co-O, pre-un-*.

3.7 SUGGESTED READING

Oscar Wilde's Complete Works

3.8 CASSETTE RECORDING

An video-cassette recording based on the story given in this unit (Section 3.1.2) is available at the study centres of the university.

3.9 ANSWERS TO EXERCISES

Exercise 1

- 1 a) He wanted to give it to a girl whom he loved. She had promised to dance with him if he gave her a red rose.
b) Because there was no red rose in the garden.
- 2 Because the girl would take no notice of him.
- 3 i) Because he lived up to the Nightingale's notion of true love.
ii) Because he suffered a lot.
- 4 By sitting on a rose bush by moonlight, singing loudly and letting a thorn pierce her heart.

or

By sitting on a rose bush on a moonlit night, singing loudly and colouring the rose with her life's blood.

- 5 Because it was pleasant to sit in the green wood and watch the sun and the moon.
6 a) She decided to sacrifice herself.

or

She decided to give him a red rose by building it out of music by moonlight.

- b) She expected the student to be a true lover.
7 a) As having form but lacking sincerity.
b) No.
8 She sang of the birth of love in the heart of a man and a woman.
9 She dropped down dead.
10 He found a red rose.
11 Some real jewels.
12 Because they were precious and they matched her dress.
13 He threw it into the street; it fell into the dirt and a cartwheel went over it.
14 Three possibilities.

Example :

She was vain, for she attached more importance to jewels than to a beautiful red rose.

- 15 Being practical.

General

- 1 Yes
2 No
3 Irony is the use of words which are clearly opposite to one's meaning. It also refers to a course of events which has the opposite result from what is expected.
It was ironical that the student turned away from love, for which the Nightingale had sacrificed herself.
4 The Nightingale had a tragic and pathetic end; her sacrifice was wasteful.
The student adopted a practical approach at the end.

Exercise 2

- 1 unhappy
- 2 inaccurate
- 3 inaudible
- 4 impossible
- 5 unpleasant
- 6 imperishable
- 7 unwell
- 8 incompetent
- 9 unwise

Exercise 3

- a) dark as the hyacinth-blossom
as white as the waves of the sea
as yellow as the hair of the mermaid
as red as the feet of the dove
- b) as ugly as sin
as cool as cucumber
as hard as nails
as black as coal
as pretty as a picture

Exercise 4

went, came, was, sat, said, said.

took, gave, got, bathed.

said, called, said, bowed, said.

Exercise 5

was, appeared, did not like, did not try.

was arguing, did not seem, was patting, was sitting, saying, stopped, looked, said.

answered. thought, was.

Exercise 6

- 1 have not seen

- 2 have you been reading
- 3 have been trying; have not succeeded
- 4 has examined
- 5 has been waiting; has not given
- 6 have read
- 7 has been sleeping
- 8 have eaten
- 9 have you been doing
- 10 have been roaring

Exercise 7

have been working, has finished, has just written, has been painting, has not done, has been writing, has completed, have been working, have not finished, has been walking.