

Objectives

In this unit, you will

1. learn how to describe the region in which you live.
2. be able to see different geographical features and related words.

A Listening and speaking

LESSON ONE

Activity 1

With a partner study the map and discuss the answers to the questions on page 18.



Source: MK Primary School Atlas - 2010



1. What mountains are shown on the map?
2. In which region is Mt. Ras Dashen?
3. What other physical features can you see on the map?
4. Discuss with your partner the different physical features in your area.
5. Can you locate your area on the map?

Activity 2

Your teacher will read to you a story about Ethiopia's geographical features. Listen to it and answer the questions orally.

EXERCISE: Answer the questions below in your exercise book.

1. What feature is found between the north-western and south-eastern highlands?
2. In which highlands is Mt. Ras Dashen?
3. In which region is the highest mountain?
4. What other physical features do we find in other different regions on the map?
5. What special feature is found on top of Mt. Ras Dashen?

LESSON TWO

Vocabulary practice

Activity

Work with a partner to find the correct words to complete the sentences that follow.

located	season	climb	desert	temperature	rivers
equatorial	Ethiopia	highest	jungle	weather	

1. During the dry _____ the air is hot and dry.
2. There is a lot of dust on the road in the _____.
3. If the _____ is good, planes land and take off easily at the airport.

4. Ethiopia is _____ on the African continent.
5. Countries near the equator experience _____ climate.
6. Wild animals live in the _____.
7. The higher you _____ a mountain, the cooler it becomes.
8. Addis Ababa is the capital city of _____ and it is the headquarters of the African Union.
9. _____ is measured in degrees Celsius or Fahrenheit.
10. Ras Dashen is the _____ mountain in Ethiopia.
11. The rainy _____ is bad for road transport.
12. Lakes and _____ are part of the physical features.

EXERCISE: Complete the sentences correctly in your exercise book using the words given below. Use your notes from lesson two to do this exercise.

savanna	rift	salty	lowland	shore
fertile	highland	plateau	Mountainous	Nomadic

1. The Great _____ valley divides the Ethiopian highlands.
2. Lake Tana _____ is the home of very many migratory birds.
3. The soil of Ethiopian highlands is _____.
4. A _____ is a flat top highland.
5. A big part of our country is _____.
6. _____ people move from one place to another in search of grassland and food.
7. There are _____ lakes in the rift valley.
8. A _____ is the big piece of land covered by grass.
9. _____ areas usually experience cold winds.
10. Road transport on a _____ is easier than on the highland.



LESSON THREE

Vocabulary

Activity

In groups of three, talk about the weather conditions of your area. Write down how people dress and the reasons why people from your area dress the way they do.

EXERCISE 1: Learn the Adjectives we use to describe weather and other features. They are also used as adjectives. In your exercise book, change the words to make them adjectives based on the example below.

volcano	-	a volcanic mountain
sun	-	a _____ day
rain	-	a _____ morning
cloud	-	a _____ afternoon
storm	-	a _____ night
wind	-	a _____ day
hill	-	a _____ area
mountain	-	a _____ country
slope	-	a _____ hill

EXERCISE 2: Answer the questions with your partner orally.

1. What are the hottest places in Ethiopia?
2. How do the people from those areas dress?
3. What kind of work do the people there do?
4. What are the coldest places in Ethiopia?
5. What activities are carried out in those areas?
6. What crops do people grow in different areas in Ethiopia?

LESSON FOUR

Grammar: Language Practice

Using: How high ...?

Activity 1

- A. In groups move around your classroom and find out how high the ceiling, the roof, the board, the window and other items are.
- B. Discuss the landscapes in your home area (hills, valleys and flat areas). Find out how high they are and the activities carried out there.

EXERCISE: Study the heights of mountains in Ethiopia below and answer the questions in your exercise book. Use the atlas to find out more about other areas.

Mountain	Height (m)	Mountain	Height (m)
Alegua	3,291	Abune yosef	4,190
Ras Dashen	4,620	Guna	4,231
Belaya	3,131	Amba Ferit	3,975
Abuye Meda	4,000	Bichena	4,154
Ayelu	2,010	Dello	3,600
Tulu Welel	3,302	Batu	4,307
Gughe	4,202	Gara Muletta	3,381

Source: Phillips Modern College Atlas for Africa 21st edition 1998

Example:

How high is Mountain Alegua?

It is 3291 m above sea level.

1. How high is Mountain Belaya?
2. How high is Mountain Abuye Meda?
3. How high is Mountain Bichena?
4. How high is Mountain Ayelu?



5. How high is Mountain Guna?
6. How high is the lowest Mountain on the table?
7. How high is the second highest mountain to Ras Dashen?
8. How high is Mountain Batu?

LESSON FIVE

Adjectives

Regular adjectives

Activity 1

With a partner, talk about the objects in your classroom and compare them using the words in the table such as small-**smaller**, big-**bigger**.

Example: This pen is smaller than yours.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
high	higher	highest
hot	hotter	hottest
cold	_____	_____
tall	_____	_____
short	_____	_____
slow	_____	_____
quick	_____	_____
thin	_____	_____
ugly	_____	_____
big	_____	_____
near	_____	_____
dry	_____	_____
wet	_____	_____

Using: more and most

Word	Comparative	Superlative
dangerous	more dangerous	most dangerous
careful	_____	_____
handsome	_____	_____
attentive	_____	_____
disciplined	_____	_____
attractive	_____	_____
helpful	_____	_____

EXERCISE: Write ten sentences about things in your school using adjectives from the above table.

LESSON SIX**Irregular adjectives****Activity 1**

Form groups of three. The first student will mention an adjective (tall), the second student will give the comparative (taller) and the third student will say the superlative (tallest). Practise the adjectives you studied.

Activity 2

With your partner, read the text below and identify words which compare things.

Tomorrow the school will have one of the most interesting competitions. All the best players will be around. Our group will be better than it was last time. We have had more time to practise than before.



EXERCISE: Complete the table below by giving the correct comparatives and the superlatives. Do the work in your exercise book.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
many	_____	_____
much	_____	_____
little	_____	_____
bad	_____	_____

LESSON SEVEN

Adjectives

Activity

With your partner, talk about the different heights and sizes of your classmates.

Compare your classmates' handwriting and behaviour.

Example: Hussien has the best work in class.

EXERCISE 1: In your exercise book, copy and complete the sentences below using the comparative form of the words given in brackets.

- Gambella is _____ to the border of Ethiopia and Sudan than Jimma. (**near**)
- Lake Abaya is _____ than Lake Tana. (**small**)
- The weather in Dire Dawa Town is _____ than in Addis Ababa city. (**warm**)
- River Genale is _____ than the Blue Nile. (**short**)
- A ship is _____ than an aeroplane. (**slow**)
- Awash River is _____ than the Blue Nile. (**short**)
- Ethiopia is _____ than Uganda. (**large**)
- Mountain tops are _____ than lowlands. (**cold**)

EXERCISE 2: Complete the sentences using the superlative form of the words given in brackets.

1. The Nile is the _____ river in Africa. (**long**)
2. Gold is the _____ mineral in the world. (**expensive**)
3. Ras Dashen is the _____ mountain in Ethiopia. (**high**)
4. Lake Victoria is the _____ lake in Africa. (**big**)
5. Russia is the _____ country in Europe. (**large**)
6. Everest is the _____ mountain in the world. (**high**)

LESSON EIGHT

Using: as ... as... / not as...as...

We can compare people, objects, physical features and weather using the structure **as...as**.

Example:

1. Bekele is **as** tall **as** Habtamu.
2. Fida is **as** short **as** Wolde.

Activity 1

With three partners, name objects which we can compare. Find out what we usually consider when we compare two or more objects.

Activity 2

Among a group of four, identify your classmates' similarities and differences.

Example: Motuma runs as fast as Berena.

EXERCISE 1: Use the following adjectives to form sentences using **...as... as...** .
Do the work in your exercise book.

narrow	small	wet	friendly	nice	kind	neat
shabby	deep					

**Example:**

1. Addis Ababa is **not as** hot **as** Gambella.
2. Axum is **not as** dry **as** Asseb.
3. Lake Tana is **not as** large **as** Lake Victoria.

EXERCISE 2: Form similar sentences with the adjectives below using the structure **not as ...as**.

good	dry	big	wet	fertile	smart
short	dangerous	clever	careful		

EXERCISE 3: Complete the passage below using information from the table.

	Age	Height (m)	Weight (kgs)	Handwriting
Aynalem	8	1.35	35	better
Mekoya	8	1.35	40	good

Aynalem and Mekoya are classmates. Aynalem is as _____ as Mekoya. They are 8 years old. Aynalem is also as _____ as Mekoya. Both are tall. They differ in their weight and handwriting. Aynalem is not as _____ as Mekoya. Mekoya's handwriting is not as _____ as Aynalem. They are close friends.

Grammar Highlight

*Comparatives are formed by adding **-er** or **more** to regular adjectives while superlatives are formed by adding **-est** or **most** to regular adjectives.*

*Comparatives are used to compare two things while superlatives are used to compare more than two things. **as...as** is also used to compare similar things.*

Irregular comparatives and superlatives change the word spellings.

B Reading

LESSON NINE

Comprehension



Lake Tana



Addis Ababa

Pre-reading Activity: With a partner, discuss the questions below.

1. Describe what you can see in the two pictures.
2. What places have you visited before?
3. Did you enjoy those places? Give reasons.
4. Talk about what you didn't like about those places.

EXERCISE 1: Read the following short texts about beautiful places in Ethiopia and answer the questions that follow.

Addis Ababa

Africa Hall is **situated** opposite the Grand Palace. It has been the seat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. The first African Heads of State Conference, which brought the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) currently known as African Union (AU) into being, was held in this building in 1963. Inside, you will find one of the **finest** works of Afework Tekle, depicting the Africans of yesterday, today and tomorrow in their struggle for freedom and progress.



Awash National Park

Awash National Park and Game Reserve is situated 225 *km* South-East of Addis Ababa. There is a signboard around the park to indicate the boundary. It is advisable to drive down towards the Awash River first, which constitutes the southern boundary of the park. Here, one can **observe** the Awash falls, the gigantic gorge, palm trees, hot springs and **species** of wild animals like oryx, hartebeast, water kudu, lion and gazelle.

Bahar Dar and The Blue Nile

Bahar Dar is a regional town situated on the southern **tip** of Lake Tana. The Blue Nile Falls is about 30 *km* from the town. The Blue Nile crosses Lake Tana. The lake provides access to about 30 islands which **house** many island monasteries. While touring this area, it is worth your time to stop by and see the craftsmen constructing papyrus boats in the nearby Fogera area.

Langano

Langano is located 200 *km* South of Addis Ababa. It is a sand beach that attracts many visitors. Along the road to Langano, one can see beautiful **landscapes**. As you continue driving, the first lake to be seen among the rift valley lakes is Lake Zeway. It is a **shelter** for a variety of birds and fish. Proceeding further to the South, Lake Abiyata and Lake Shala can be reached. These lakes are breeding places for flamingos and ideal for bird watching. Nearby is lake Langano, a resort area and a paradise for holidaymakers. Traditions for most vacationers include setting up tents along the beach and eating (fresh-meat) barbeque.

Ambo

Ambo is situated 125 *km* West of Addis Ababa. The Ambo road passes through Geferssa Reservoir, thereafter Mengesha and Addis Alem towns. Ambo yields the most popular mineral water source. Its hot springs have been turned into modern spas. After a few minutes drive, the town of Guder can be reached. Guder, a **popular** export quality red wine has been named after this town. A few

kilometres away to the South-East of Ambo, the beautiful volcanic crater lake of Wonchi, can be seen.

Sodere

Sodere is situated 126 km South-East of Addis Ababa. It is a very popular resort area with new hotel complexes. The Olympic size pool and physiotherapy centres are frequented by **visitors** of all ages. The vegetation of Sodere and its vicinity is evergreen, healthy and scenic. Nearby, the Awash River **meanders** through the forest that has giant shade trees.

Source: <http://www.ethioworld.com/Travel&Tourism/whileinEthiopia/placestovisit.htm>

1. What is Africa Hall known for?
2. How is the Awash national park useful to the country?
3. Of what importance is Lake Tana?
4. What beautiful landscapes do you see as you go to Langano?
5. Explain what the hot springs are in Ambo.
6. What attractions do you find in Sodere?
7. Discuss which place you would like to visit and why.

EXERCISE 2: Match the words with their meaning.

word	meaning	word	meaning
situated	see	shelter	famous
finest	located	popular	flows
observe	sceneries	meanders	guests
species	best	visitors	accommodation
landscapes	types		

Activity

Work in pairs and compare the beautiful places you have read about.



LESSON TEN

Dialogue

Activity

Work in pairs and talk about the places you have ever been to. Describe what you saw and found interesting.

EXERCISE 1: Read the dialogue below. Work with a partner.

- Gari : Hello, Fente. Welcome back from the holiday.
- Fente : Thank you, Gari. How are you?
- Gari : I am fine. We travelled to Addis Ababa for a weekend.
- Fente : Is Addis Ababa as populated as Bahar Dar?
- Gari : I am not sure?
- Fente : I was in Bahar Dar. I travelled by air to get there. It is on the shores of Lake Tana. It is the largest and most attractive lake in our country.
- Gari : Did you visit Axum? I am told it is just as beautiful as Bahar Dar.
- Fente : Yes, I did. It is the centre of the ancient city state, the home of the Queen of Sheba.
- Gari : I had a chance to fly to Lalibela which is located in the highlands. It has the best Rock Hewn Churches.
- Fente : We should write down what each one of us saw.

Guided Composition

EXERCISE 2: With your partner, discuss the correct order of the words on the next page to make sentences and write them in your exercise book.

Example:

Addis Ababa not as hot Jimma is as

Addis Ababa is not as hot as Jimma.

1. Addis Ababa as Axum populated not as is.
2. Kero artistic as as Hamer is.
3. highland not the coast as is warm as The.
4. important Museums as are culture as.
5. good as Ethiopia as other country any is.
6. windy yesterday as as is not Today it was.
7. fierce as lions as not are Leopards.
8. Jeru hilly as as is Turmi.
9. Yabello Gondar not as ancient is as.
10. Lalibela attractive Gondar not as is as.

C Writing

LESSON ELEVEN

Guided composition

Group activities

- A. In small groups, discuss an area in your locality. Identify the various features of the area.
- B. If you were to build your house in a selected area, give reasons why you would want to build in that particular place.
- C. Describe a number of things you like in your area and present them to your class.

EXERCISE 1: Read the composition on the next page and use the words below to complete it in your exercise book.

tunnels	situated	plateau	attractive	mountainous
biggest	Tana	design	beautiful	Lalibela



Lalibela

Lalibela is _____ in the _____ highlands of Northern Ethiopia. It is on the Eastern side of lake _____. It is found on a plateau of 8000 feet above. A plateau is a raised flat piece of land. Lalibela is a home to one of the world's most _____ monuments.

A long time ago, King _____ wanted to create another Jerusalem in Ethiopia. A number of churches were built. Some churches had _____ underground. One could move from one church to another through tunnels.

Every church was special with different architectural _____. There is a myth that the _____ church is believed to have been constructed by the power of God. It is said that Saint George, supervised the work. Lalibela is a small but it is an _____ town.

EXERCISE 2: In your exercise book, write a paragraph about your neighbourhood. Include attractive landscapes and the activities that attract visitors to that area.

LESSON TWELVE

A. Using Social expressions: What...mean?

Activity 1

Identify five new words you have learnt in this unit. Ask your partner to explain the meaning of the words.

For example:

A: **weather** What does the word *weather* mean?

B: **The word weather means the conditions that exist in the atmosphere: wet, dry etc.**

A: **steep** What does the word *steep* mean?

B: **The word steep means a sharp slope.**

EXERCISE 1: Find out what the given words below mean. With a partner, form sentences about them in your exercise books.

climate
jungle

temperature
mountainous

delicious
hilly

lightning
countryside

comfortable

B. Using: Can I...?

Activity 2

What kind of words do we use to make requests?

Example:

Can I close the window?

Can I go to the library?

Practise the responses: Yes, you can.

No, you can't.

C. Using: May I...?

Activity 3

With a partner, discuss what you say when you want to ask for permission.

Example:

May I clean the blackboard?

Practise the responses: Yes, you may.

No, you may not.



LESSON THIRTEEN

Vocabulary revision

EXERCISE 1: Make correct sentences in your exercise book using the words below.

Example:

The mountain is very **steep**.

mountain	steep	lightning	temperature	mountainous
shore	climate	plateau	meandering	continent
hilly	important	comfortable	valley	delicious

EXERCISE 2: In pairs, discuss and complete the puzzle in your exercise book.

	1		6		2			3	
7									
			8						4
9									
				10					
	11		5						
	12								

Clues

Down

- Hills and Mountains (8)
- As a result of so much heat from underground (8)
- Refusing (2)
- A very high hill (8)
- Accepting/Agreeing (3)

Across

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 6. Grassland (7) | 7. Container (3) |
| 8. Longest River in Africa (4) | 9. Raised flat piece of land (7) |
| 10. Fierce animal in Ethiopia (4) | 11. Not wet (3) |
| 12. Highest mountain in Ethiopia (9) | |