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| **Lesson Title:** Prose | | **Theme:** Reading | |
| **Practice Activity:** PHL-09-124 | | **Class:** JSS 3 | |
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| **Learning Outcome**  By the end of the lesson, you will be able to answer questions about a prescribed text. | | | |

**Overview**

**Prose** is the everyday language that we speak and write. Text messages, letters and essays all use prose. Prose is different from poetry because we do not normally speak in poetry. On the BECE, questions will ask for specific information about a prose text. For example, ‘When did the boys arrive at school?’ Your answer should be short and direct. For example, ‘The boys arrived at 8:00 a.m.’

Answers to questions on prose on the BECE are always very short. The questions will be on one of the following topics:

* The author/writer of the text
* The type of prose: epistolary (prose written in a form of a letter), autobiographical (prose giving the experiences of the writer) or narrative (prose telling a story)
* The cultural background of the text or the people
* The theme/subject matter of the text
* The setting (place and time) of the events
* The characters’ relationship with each other or their actions and reasons for their actions

**Practice**

**Activity 1**

Read the following text and answer the comprehension questions.

A Camping Holiday

Richard Bobby wrote a story about John and his sister Jane who always spent a most enjoyable camping holiday in Grafton with their father and mother every Easter. Their new blue tent, which had two bedrooms and a dining room, was set near a little stream.

Early every morning, the two children and their mother went bathing, while their father prepared breakfast. When breakfast was over, they all went down to the stream to enjoy the cool water. But mother always left early to get lunch ready by one o’clock.

The children continued enjoying the cool stream but were surprised when they didn’t hear their mother calling them for lunch. They became curious, so headed back to the tent. They found their father, but not their mother. After looking for a while, they became very worried and began calling out for her. They thought maybe she had been attacked by a wild animal!

After a while, the children and the father went back to the tent. They didn’t know what to do. All of a sudden, they heard a happy humming coming from the forest, and out of the woods appeared their mother. They rushed to her, embracing her in a big hug. ‘I should disappear more often,’ she laughed, ‘I never get this much attention! I only had to hike to the car to get the matches we left to start the fire.’ The children were so relieved that they offered to make lunch while the mother relaxed with a book.

**Comprehension questions**

1. Why did the children become worried?
2. What did they think happened to their mother?
3. Why did the mother say she should disappear more often?
4. Where had their mother gone?
5. Why did the children offer to make lunch?

**Activity 2**

Identify whether the following statements are true or false.

1. Questions on prose in the BECE are long.
2. Prose written in the form of a letter is called narrative prose.
3. There may be questions on the cultural background of the characters in a text.
4. An autobiographical prose gives the experiences of the writer.
5. The setting of the events does not matter.

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**Activity 1**

1. The children became worried when they weren’t called for lunch.
2. They thought she had been attacked by a wild animal.
3. Their mother was joking because they were giving her so much attention.
4. Their mother had hiked to the car to get matches.
5. The children offered to make lunch because they were so relieved to have their mother back.

**Activity 2**

1. false 2. false 3. true 4. true 5. false