

Unit 7

HANDICRAFTS OF BALOCHISTAN

Students Learning Outcomes

On the completion of this unit, the students will be able to:

- scan the text to answer the comprehension questions.
- explore causes and consequences of a problem or an issue and propose various solutions.
- analyze and compare various informal and formal e-mails to note differences of conventions, vocabulary, style and tone.
- illustrate use of infinitives and infinitive phrases.
- form adjectives from nouns and verbs.
- recognize and use parenthesis (Round brackets) to enclose numbers or letters in enumerations in the text.
- create and deliver simple group/class presentations.

Pre-reading

- What are the popular handicrafts of Balochistan?
- What is Balochistan famous for?

Balochistan has a long tradition in the production of handicrafts. This tradition began centuries ago and is still progressing day by day. Balochistan handicrafts are known all over the world for the beauty of their design, the richness of their colour and their economical prices. Besides being popular within the country, these handicrafts are exported to various foreign countries where they are warmly received especially by the people of the west.



Handicraft skills in Balochistan are **ancestral**, having been passed from one generation to the other. Embroidery and needle work of Balochistan are especially very attractive. This work is done by the women and girls. They do not have to go out of their houses for work. They attend to their household work and in their spare time, they produce handicrafts which add to the family income. Age is no **barrier** in doing embroidery work. Women, young and old girls take part in the production of embroidered handicrafts. The handicrafts needle work is common all over the province of Balochistan. The women folk spend hours in doing the embroidery work as a means of earning for the family.



Needle-work in Balochistan displays different designs and embroidery techniques which **vary** from place to place. Different areas of Balochistan are known for their distinctive designs.

Dera Bugti is famous for 'Kowchik' form of embroidery. The 'Kowchik' stitching has its own pattern which is embroidered on shawls and shirts for the women. The fame of the 'Kowchik' design was once spread all over the Sub-continent of Indo-Pakistan, and it is still very popular everywhere in Pakistan.

Kalat and Khuzdar districts are famous for their 'Moshamka' needle-work. It involves stitch work in different colours, usually red, green and grey on white or yellow garments. It is also embroidered on shawls, cushions, tablecloth and bed-sheets. It may also include the use of tiny mirror work.

Sibi district is well known for her 'Jok' needle work in which fine thread of various colours and shades is used. The 'Jok' work is very popular all over the country for the delicacy of its design.

The needle-work of Muslimbagh, Gulistan and Zhob areas has a peculiar appeal of its own. In it a number of designs are produced through the use of open and close



stitches. Though the work involves lesser labour and lesser quantity of thread than that needed for the other designs of embroidery, it is specially selected for the bridal dresses and colourful garments for small kids.

The Afghan refugees brought with them a number of new designs and techniques in needle-work. The Afghan women are especially good in embroidery and they spend most of their time in making rich and colourful designs seen at the handicraft shops in Quetta.



Besides the needle- work on dresses, cushions and bed-sheets, embroidered Balochi chapals of Balochistan are a special attraction for the people. Their beauty and artistic value is a matter of pride for those who put them on. Embroidery is done on fine leather using colourful thread and fine golden and silver wire. Embroidered caps, purses and belts are also much in demand. These articles are the items of special attraction for the tourists who visit the handicraft shops in Balochistan.

Large deposits of marble stone provide the material for the production of beautiful objects. Marble table-sets, ash-trays, bath-tubs and decoration pieces add to the glamour of the houses and offices. Crude marble is dug out in the Chaghi district of Balochistan and transported to the industrial centres of the country including Hub where the stone is transformed into attractive forms and polished before the items are sent to the market.



Carpets and wall hangings of Balochistan are another source of attraction for the customers. Carpets form not only a special part of the setting in tribal households but the tradition has also won a place of popularity in the city homes. Balochi hand-woven carpets are an important source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

Pottery and ornaments have always been the symbols of the development of civilization. The earthen wares of Balochistan depict the mastery of their makers and their variety and delicacy of design fetch good price. Ornaments have always been the items of special interest and attraction for the women.

The Balochi ornaments, specially the silver ornaments show the skill and artistry of the **craftsmen**. The whole process of ornament production from the point of melting the metal to the finished product is accomplished without using any machine. They are in great demand at the national and international jewellery markets.



The handicrafts industry of Balochistan is encouraged and supported at the government level. It adds to the foreign exchange earnings in addition to providing jobs to thousands. The handicrafts also boost up the image of the country in international circles because they reflect the artistic temperament of a nation.

Reading and thinking skills

Comprehension

1. Answer the following questions.

- i. Which Balochistani handicrafts are very famous and have a great demand both domestically and internationally?
- ii. Why are these handicrafts so popular and in such high demand all over the world?
- iii. How do the women find time for embroidery?
- iv. How does embroidery and needle work help the women?

- v. What are the most famous styles of needle work prepared in Balochistan? Name the items that are prepared using these styles of embroidery.
- vi. Name the places where these works are produced.
- vii. Which style of embroidery involves lesser amount of labour as well as lesser amount of thread?
- viii. How have the Afghan women contributed to the embroidery of Balochistan?
- ix. Where does the crude marble come from, and what is it used for?
- x. What is the importance of Balochi silver ornaments?

2. Choose the correct option to complete the following sentences.

- i. Balochistan is famous for its
 - a) sports goods.
 - b) handicrafts.
 - c) furniture.
 - d) leather jackets.
- ii. Pottery and ornaments have always been the symbol of the
 - a) downfall of civilization.
 - b) development of civilization.
 - c) peace in the country.
 - d) foreign exchange in the country.
- iii. Crude marble is dug out in
 - a) the Chaghi district of Sindh.
 - b) the Chaghi district of Punjab.
 - c) the Chaghi district of Balochistan.
 - d) the Quetta district of Balochistan.
- iv. Things crafted out of marble add to the glamour
 - a) of the houses and offices.
 - b) of the people.
 - c) of the trees.
 - d) of the mountains.
- v. Dera Bugti is famous for
 - a) decoration pieces.
 - b) 'Kowchik' form of embroidery.
 - c) carpets and furniture.
 - d) marble and caps.
- vi. Kalat and Khuzdar districts are famous for their 'Moshamka'
 - a) needle-work.
 - b) pottery work.
 - c) ornaments.
 - d) marble tables.

- vii. The handicraft skills in Balochistan are very old, and have passed from
- a) generation to people.
 - b) international to national level.
 - c) generation to generation.
 - d) national to local level.
- viii. The needle-work of Muslimbagh, Gulistan and Zhob areas has peculiar
- a) request of its own.
 - b) appeal of its own.
 - c) order of its own.
 - d) demand of its own.
- ix. Embroidery is done on fine leather using colourful thread and fine
- a) golden wire.
 - b) silver wire.
 - c) yellow wire.
 - d) golden and silver wire.
- x. These handicrafts are
- a) imported from other countries.
 - b) exported from other countries.
 - c) exported to other countries.
 - d) exported to local areas.

Critical Thinking

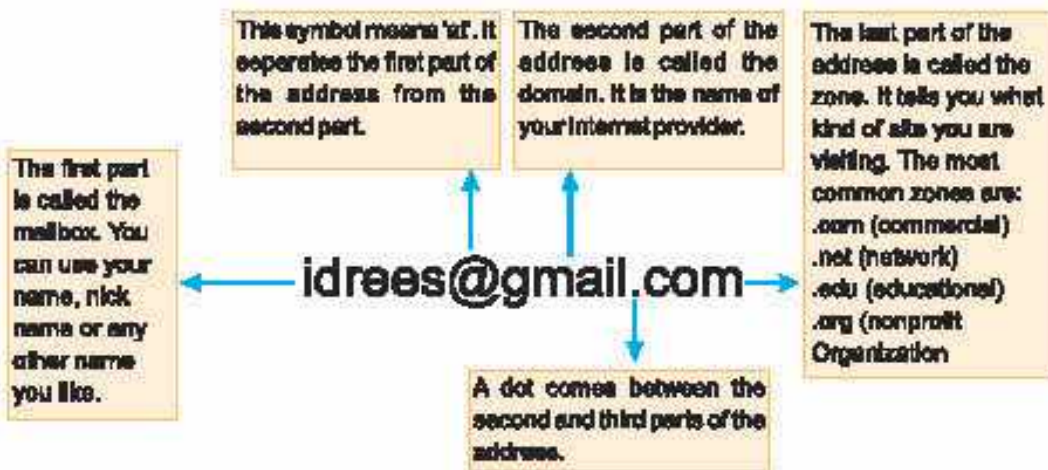
How do handicrafts boost-up the image of Pakistan at international level?

Writing E-mails

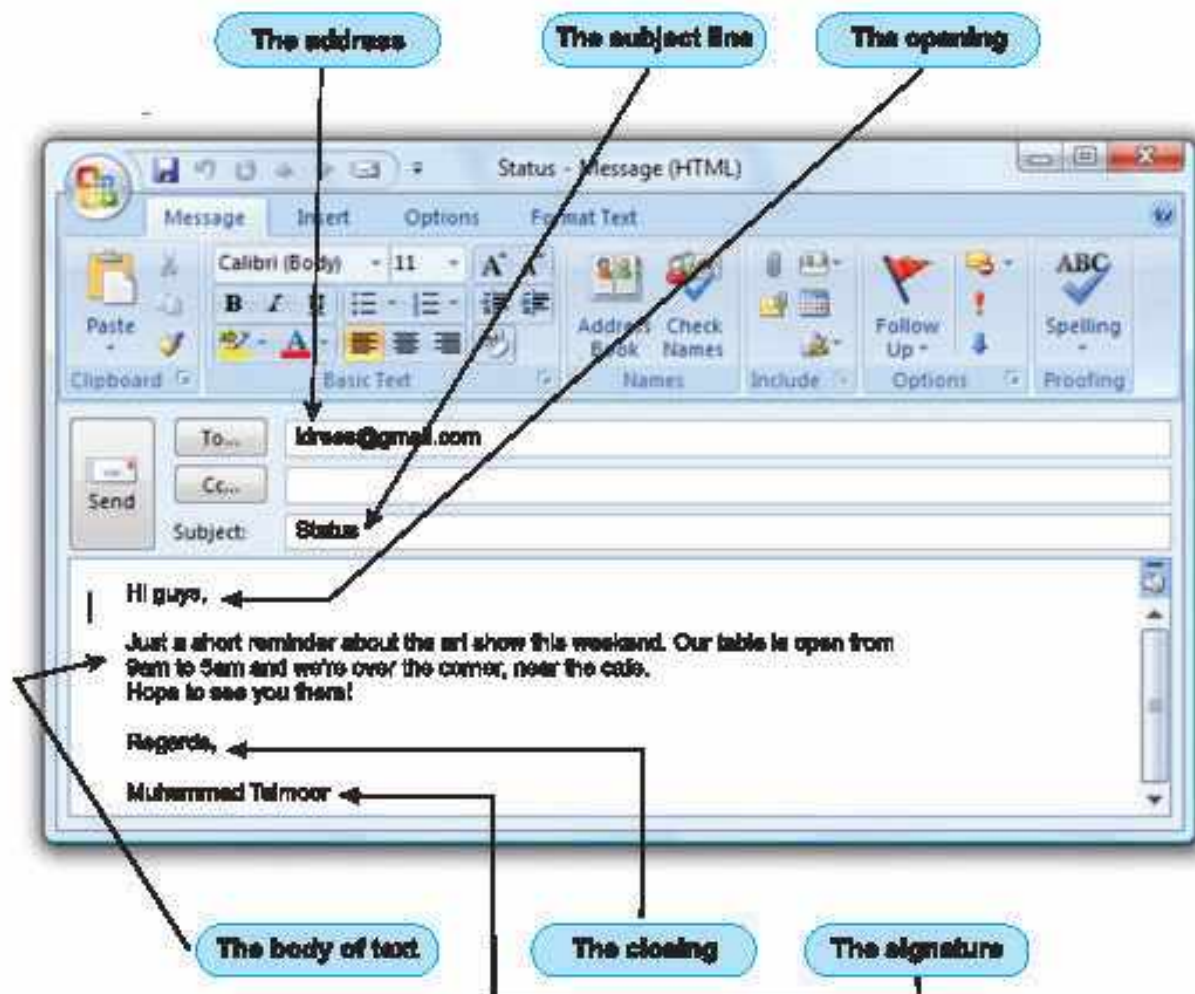
E-mail is short form for 'electronic mail'. E-mail is as fast as making a phone call, but it costs less. You can send the same message to several people at the same time.

Your e-mail Address

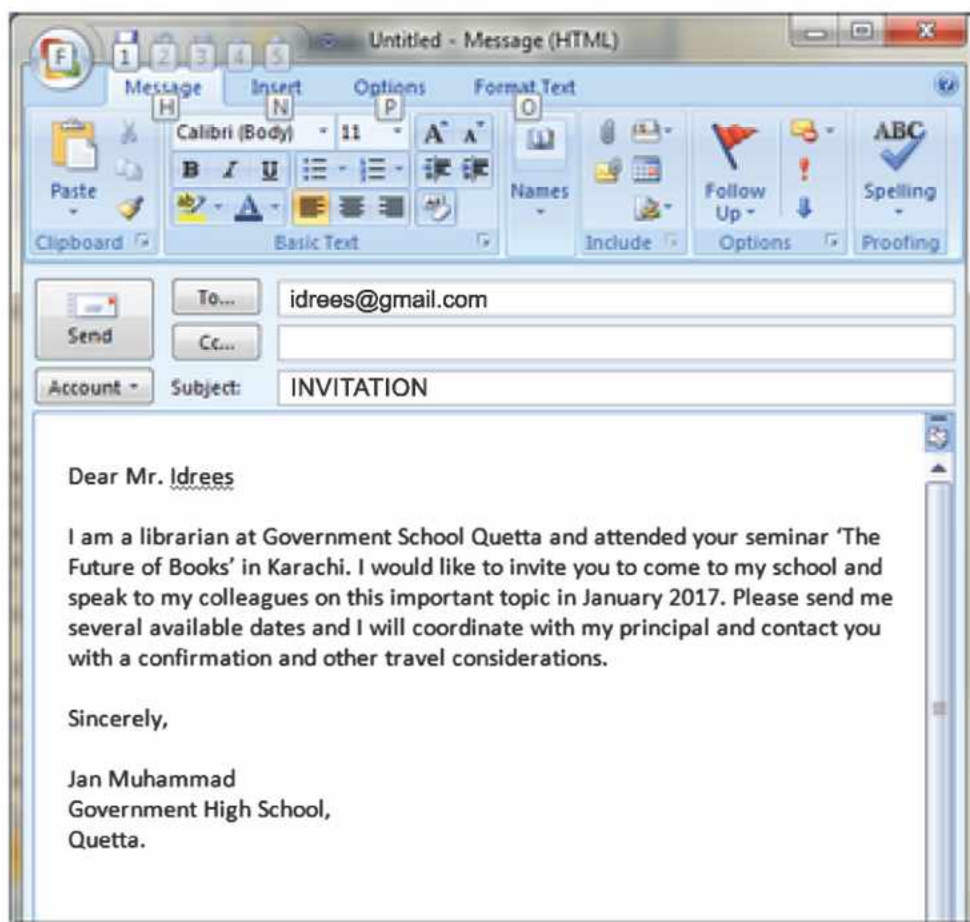
An e-mail address is similar to postal address. Every e-mail address has the following three parts.



Parts of e-mail



Parts of e-mail



Writing formal and informal e-mails

Think about	Formal	Informal
Purpose	Business and important messages	Informal messages
Audience	Business and work colleagues.	Friends and family
Style and accuracy Don't use slang, exclamation marks or smiles in formal emails.	Professional – accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar Thank you for your prompt response.	Friendly – accuracy is less important Thx 4 email

Beginning and ending Email is a fairly new format and there are no agreed rules for starting and ending.	Start and end appropriately Dear Mr/Mrs/Sana Dear Sir/Madam Yours sincerely (if you know the name) Yours faithfully (if you don't know the name) Kind regards (use first name if you know the person or if they have asked you to)	No rules – your choice
Use of contractions No contraction: 'I will not be able to come to the meeting.' Contraction: 'I won't be able to come to the party.'	No contractions Thank you very much for the voucher. I am looking forward to spending it next time I visit your shop.	Contractions can be used Thanks so much for the voucher – I'm chuffed, can't wait to spend it! Just gotta decide what to buy LOL!
Common contractions	I am We are You are Will not Was not	I'm We're You're Won't Wasn't

3. Analyse the above chart and write a formal e-mail to your principal, requesting him/her to arrange a trip to Ziarat for your class.
4. Write an informal e-mail to your friend inviting him/her to spend winter vacations with you.

Grammar

Infinitive and infinitive phrase

Infinitive

An infinitive is the simple present form of a verb used as either a noun, adjective, or adverb. The verb of the infinitive is normally preceded by the word 'to', for example, to deliver, to obey, to discuss, etc. to + 1st form of the verb is called '**full infinitive**'.

Examples

- She wants to become a doctor.
- We all have to work hard.
- I want to go to Peshawar.

1. Bare Infinitive

When an infinitive is used without 'to', it is called a bare infinitive. The infinitive is used without 'to' after certain verbs like bid, let, make, see dare etc. We also use bare infinitives after modal auxiliary verbs. (can, could, may, might, must, will would, shall, should)

Examples

- Let him sit here.
- I can speak English.
- He made me write a letter.

2. Split Infinitive

Split infinitive takes place when additional words are included between 'to' and the verb form in an infinitive. This practice should be avoided in formal writing.

Examples

- I like to *on a nice day* walk in the woods.
- He needed to *quickly* gather his personal possessions.

3. An infinitive phrase

An infinitive phrase is the infinitive plus any complements and any modifiers of the infinitive and complements.

Examples

- i. He helped to write the programme.
- ii. Aliya was looking for a way to earn money.
- iii. He shouted to get our attention.
- iv. He made me leave the room. (*to is dropped*)

In the above examples, the infinitives are *italicized* and the infinitive phrases are underlined.

6. Use the suitable, full, bare or split infinitives to complete the following sentences.

to give sleep to eat leave
to help work open eradicate

- i. He made me _____ the room.
- ii. I want _____ you.
- iii. She likes to on Sunday _____ all day.
- iv. I will _____ harder.
- v. They want _____ mangoes.
- vi. The most important thing is not _____ up.
- vii. We are determined to completely _____ the diseases.
- viii. Let me _____ the door.

7. Use the following Infinitive phrases in your sentences.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| (i) to buy a car | (ii) to obey the orders |
| (iii) to write a letter | (iv) to find fault |
| (v) to play hockey | |

Adjectives from Nouns and Verbs

8. Form adjectives from the given nouns and verbs, and use them in your sentences.

Nouns	Adjectives	Verbs	Adjectives
glory	_____	irritate	_____
efficiency	_____	depend	_____
pain	_____	accept	_____
defect	_____	act	_____
vision	_____	consider	_____

Punctuation

Use of parenthesis () to enclose numbers

For example:

Please submit the following four items with your application: (1) Covering letter (2) photocopies of documents (3) two photographs

Use of parenthesis () to enclose letters

For example:

The story should include:

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| (a) theme | (b) plot | (c) characters |
| (d) conflict | (e) solution | |

9. Write five examples of using parenthesis to enclose numbers and five examples of enclosing letters.

Oral Communication

10. Create and deliver simple group presentation on 'poverty is a curse.'

Keep the following points in your mind.

- Assign roles in preparation for presentation
- Present and explain one's point of view clearly
- Support or modify opinion with reasons
- Acknowledge others' contributions
- Present with clarity the main point or subject of the presentation.
- Support the topic or subject with effective factual information.
- Structure ideas and arguments in a coherent logical fashion.