

Write a letter 103A

Writing Task 1: Describe yourself in a letter to a new pen pal

Instructions: Write at least 150 words in 4 well-organized paragraphs. Open with "Dear Pen Pal," and close with "Yours truly," with your name underneath. **You are writing your first letter to a pen pal.**

1. **Say who you are and where you found your pen pal's address.** (paragraph 1)
2. **Describe your previous studies and work experience, your current activities, hobbies and interests.** (paragraph 2)
3. **Tell your pen pal that you will be visiting him/her.** (paragraph 3)
4. **Indicate that you would like a reply.** (paragraph 4)

Online text

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Dear Pen Pal,

I found your address on a pen pal exchange website, so I thought I would introduce myself.

I will just tell you about my previous studies first. I was an average student in a high school in Montreal, but now I am studying in Business at college. My work experience is pretty limited. Last summer, I am working as a dishwasher at a restaurant. My hobbies and interests include listening music and watching martial arts films. I occasionally play chess with my two best friend.

What is it like where you live? Ever since i watched my first Kung Fu movie and fell in love with China, I wasn't able to go there despite a deep desire to go. But I plan to go to the Shaolin Temple next year and study martial arts. Perhaps, we could meet up and enjoy a meal together.

It is nice to meet u. Maybe I will write again.

Yours truly,

Danny Marin-Lévesque.

Writing Task 1 Describe yourself

Assignment Score: 73

Statistics

1. You have written 155 words.
2. I count a total of 4 paragraphs.
3. You have written 13 sentences.
4. Your average sentence length is 11.92.
5. Your sentence length variance is 6.12.



Task achievement: 95

Salutation: *Dear Pen Pal,*

I found a salutation that matches the expected format. That's good.

Paragraph 1: *I found your address on a pen pal exchange website, so I thought I would introduce myself.*

You have given your name or how you got your pen pal's address in first body paragraph. Try to say more. It is important that you explain the context for the letter in this first paragraph. The recipient will wonder, "Who is this person? Why is he or she writing to me?"

Here is an example of what I was expecting:

Hi! My name is Jane. I got your name and address from Pen Pals International. I am very glad to have this opportunity to write to you and become pen pals. I am looking forward to sharing a little about myself and getting to know you.

Paragraph 2:

I will just tell you about my previous studies first. I was an average student in a high school in Montreal, but now I am studying in Business at college. My work experience is pretty limited. Last summer, I am working as a dishwasher at a restaurant. My hobbies and interests include listening music and watching martial arts films. I occasionally play chess with my two best friend.

You have described your previous studies and work experience, your current activities, hobbies and interests in the second paragraph. That's good.

Here is an example of what I was expecting:

Let me first introduce myself. I'm currently working as a computer programmer in a large multi-national company. I graduated from Concordia University with a Bachelor's degree in computer science in July 2016. While I enjoy my current job, I'm interested in pursuing a Master's degree, and hope to begin graduate studies next September. My hobbies include listening to pop music (especially U2), playing the piano and guitar, and playing tennis. I'm also very interested in travelling, and have visited many Canadian provinces and states in the north of the USA.

Paragraph 3:

What is it like where you live? Ever since i watched my first Kung Fu movie and fell in love with China, I wasn't able to go there despite a deep desire to go. But I plan to go to the Shaolin Temple next year and study martial arts. Perhaps, we could meet up and enjoy a meal together.

You have explained your intention to visit. That's good.

Paragraph 4:

It is nice to meet u. Maybe I will write again.

It is appropriate to indicate that you expect a reply . Here is a standard phrase you can use: Well, let me, finish here, I am already, eagerly awaiting, your reply, to this first letter, Please tell me all about yourself, your interests, I hope that,

Closing:

Yours truly,

You have used the standard closing. That's good.

Signature:

Danny Marin-Lévesque.

You have signed your name. That's good.

Coherence and cohesion: 100

Coherence: *You are on topic. That's good.*

Cohesion: *You have used transition words and phrase to add cohesion to your message. That's good.*

Lexical resource: 50

You have paraphrased the prompt somewhat, using some of the the synonyms I was expecting. This indicates you possess some lexical resources. Perhaps, you have not fully addressed the requirements of the task.

If you would like more synonyms to improve your score, here are some suggestions.

Paraphrase:

1. Instead of "I found your address," you could write "I got your contact information from."
2. Instead of "previous studies," you could talk about "schooling, my program, my educational background, courses in the past, back in high school."
3. Instead of "work experience, you could talk about "my job, my day job, jobs I have had, jobs in the past, at my old job, workplace, my career, my profession, I'm a/an XYZ by trade."
4. Instead of writing "my current activities" you could write "I'm keeping busy with, what's keeping me busy at the moment is, at the moment, for the moment, for the time being, my day-to-day activities include."
5. Instead of writing "hobbies and interests," you could write "pastime, for recreation, for fun, for giggles, as a distraction from work, in my spare time, in my free time."
6. Instead of writing "I will be visiting," you could write "I will be taking a trip, I will be coming to, I will be swinging by, I will be passing through, I will be in the area, in the vicinity."
7. Instead of writing "I would like a reply," you could write "please reply, get back to me, let me know, give me a shout, respond, send word."

Copied:

I detected two or more of the phrases in the question writing prompt. Avoid using identical phrases from the question prompt. It indicates that you lack the lexical resources to paraphrase effectively.

Grammar range and accuracy: 50

Range:

You have used either the passive voice, the present perfect tense, or a complex sentence subordinator three or more times. That's good.

Accuracy:

I detected many errors in your writing. Reread your message carefully and use a spell checker and grammar checker to help you identify and eliminate avoidable errors.

You have 7 errors.

Your error profile is as follows.

You wrote: ...hool in Montreal, but now I am studying in Business at college. My work experience...

Feedback: You do not need the preposition "in" before the program name.

Suggestion: studying Business

You wrote: ...ience is pretty limited. Last summer, I am working as a dishwasher at a restaurant...

Feedback: Use the Past Simple for events that happened last summer.

Suggestion: Last summer, I was

You wrote: ...usic and watching martial arts films. I occasionally play chess with my two best friend. Wha...

Feedback: You have a spelling error. There is only one N in "occasionally".

Suggestion: occasionally

You wrote: ...casionnally play chess with my two best friend. What is it like where you live? Ever s...

Feedback: Use a plural to talk about more than one. Revise: "two best friends".

Suggestion: two best friends

You wrote: ...t is it like where you live? Ever since i watched my first Kung Fu movie and fell...

Feedback: This should be written in uppercase: "I".

Suggestion: I



You wrote: ...joy a meal together. It is nice to meet u. Maybe I will write again.

Feedback: The letter "u" is internet slang for "you."

Suggestion: you

You wrote: ... a meal together. It is nice to meet u. Maybe I will write again.

Feedback: Put a comma after the introductory adverb "Maybe".

Suggestion: Maybe

No. of grammar checks available: 5

No. of automated evaluations available: 0

Grammar check	Automated evaluation	Save changes	Cancel
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