

FIONA LONGDEN



Simple Steps to Good Writing

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STEP 2

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UNIT 1 My Summer

1 WARM UP

Look at the photographs and answer the questions.



Useful words / phrases:

- build sandcastles
- at the seaside
- play volleyball
- on the beach
- have a meal
- near the sea

- 1 What are the people in each photograph doing?
- 2 What do you think the children in picture A are going to do later?
- 3 Did you do any of these things last summer?
- 4 What else did you do?

2 READING FOR IDEAS

1a Read the letter Anna sent to her penfriend, Mandy.

b Now read Mandy's letter to Anna.

Dear Mandy,
I hope you are well. I'm writing to tell you about my summer.
This summer, we stayed in a beautiful village in the mountains. It was so nice! The sun shone all the time but it was never too hot.
Every day, we went for a long walk in the country. Sometimes we had a picnic in the woods or by the river. In the evenings, I usually played outside with some other children. Most nights, I went out for dinner with Mum and Dad. Our favourite restaurant had a fantastic view and the food there was delicious.
What did you do this summer? Please write and tell me.

From,
Anna

Dear Anna,
Thanks for your letter. I'm glad you had a good summer. I'm writing to tell you about my holiday.
I spent a month at my grandparents' house by the sea. The weather wasn't very good but I enjoyed my holiday.
In the mornings, I usually went to the beach. Sometimes the sea was freezing and I couldn't go swimming. In the afternoons, I usually went for a walk along the beach with my friends. In the evenings, I sometimes went to the cinema.
It was a lovely holiday. I really had a good time.

From,
Mandy

2 Look at the two letters again. Find **adjectives** that mean:

Anna's letter

- 1 pretty = _____
- 2 wonderful = _____
- 3 tasty = _____

Mandy's letter

- 4 happy = _____
- 5 cold = _____
- 6 nice = _____

sandcastles: κάστρα στην άμμο
village: χωριό
in the mountains: στο βουνό
shone: έλαμπε

in the woods: στο δάσος
view: θέα
delicious: νόστιμος
spend: περνάω (χρόνο)

grandparents: παππούς και γιαγιά
weather: καιρός
enjoy: απολαμβάνω

freezing: παγωμένος
wonderful: θαυμάσιος
tasty: νόστιμος

3 VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

1 Complete the sentences by putting the verbs / phrases into the **simple past**.



have a picnic

1 One day we had a picnic by a river.



go swimming

5 I _____ every day.



sunbathe

2 Mum usually _____ in the morning.



explore

6 My friend and I _____ the whole island on our bikes.



go sightseeing

3 I _____ in the city.



eat out

7 We usually _____ in the evening.



build a sandcastle

4 We _____ on the beach.



go for a drive

8 Every morning we _____ in the country.

2 Fill in the correct **preposition**.

by, at, along, with, in

- 1 I stayed _____ my grandparents' house.
- 2 The hotel was _____ the sea.
- 3 We stayed _____ our aunt.
- 4 My friends and I went for a walk _____ the beach.
- 5 The village is _____ the mountains.



3 Use the phrases to complete the paragraph.

fresh air, interesting museum, sandy beach

In the summer, we stayed on an island. Our hotel was by a(n) [1] _____. I sunbathed there every day. One morning, we drove into the mountains. I loved the [2] _____. It was so healthy. We had a picnic near a lake. The water in it was very cold. The next day, we visited a(n) [3] _____ in the town. We saw a lot of vases and jewellery there.

sunbathe: κάνω ηλιοθεραπεία
go sightseeing: επισκέπτομαι τα αξιοθέατα
explore: εξερευνώ
the whole island: όλο το νησί

a drive: βόλτα με το αυτοκίνητο
interesting museum: ενδιαφέρον μουσείο
sandy: αμμώδης
healthy: υγιεινός

visit: επισκέπτομαι
vase: βάζο
jewellery: κοσμήματα

4 WRITING PRACTICE


1 Look at the information about the children's holidays. Use it to complete the paragraphs.





Place: Santorini
How long: 2 weeks
Accommodation: campsite
Weather: 



This summer, I went to
Santorini .
 I spent _____ there.
 I stayed at _____ .
 The sun _____ every
 day.



Place: Paris
How long: 5 days
Accommodation: small hotel
Weather: 



I _____ this
 summer.
 I _____ there for
 _____. I stayed
 at _____. It
 _____ a lot.

2a Fill in the missing **prepositions**:
about, for, from, to

- I hope to hear _____ you soon.
- I'm writing to tell you _____ my holiday.
- Please write _____ me soon.
- Thanks _____ your letter.

b Now put the sentences / phrases from a in the
 correct place.

Ways of beginning your letter.

Ways of ending your letter.

5 COMMON MISTAKES

Rewrite the sentences so they are correct.

1 Every day I went for swimming.

Every day I went swimming.

2 We had a good weather.

3 I stayed to a lovely hotel.

4 I passed my time very well.

5 We stayed at a camping.



accommodation: κατάλυμα
campsite: χώρος που κάνεις κάμπινγκ

hear from sb: μαθαίνω νέα από κάποιον
pass: περνώ

camping: κατασκήνωση, κάμπινγκ
 (η δραστηριότητα)

6 WRITING TASK

Write* a letter to your penfriend about **your summer holiday**.

Before you start:

STEP 1: Oral Preparation

Answer the questions.

- 1 Where did you go last summer?
- 2 Where did you stay? (*grandparents, hotel, campsite, etc.*)
- 3 How long did you stay there?
- 4 What was the weather like?
- 5 What did you usually do in the morning?
- 6 What about the afternoon and the evening?
- 7 Did you have a good time?
- 8 Are you going to visit there again?



STEP 2: Plan

Opening

Dear ... , (*your penfriend's name*)

Paragraph one:

Thank your penfriend for his / her letter.
Say why you are writing.

Paragraph two:

Say where you went on holiday; where you stayed;
how long you stayed there; what the weather was like.

Paragraph three:

Say what you usually did in the mornings,
afternoons and evenings.

Paragraph four:

Ask your penfriend about his / her summer; ask for
a reply to your letter.

Closing

From,
... (*your name*)

STEP 3: Useful Language

Words / Phrases

- holiday resort
- fishing village
- rent a room
- stay at a campsite
- have a view of the sea
- spend the day at the beach
- hot and sunny
- quite cool
- have an afternoon sleep
- have a good time
- have fun

Functional Language

- Thanks for / Thank you for ...
- I'm writing to tell you (all) about ...
- Please write / reply soon.
- I hope to hear from you soon.



[*For each **writing task**, write between 80 and 100 words.]

resort: θέρετρο
fishing village: ψαροχώρι

rent: νοικιάζω
quite cool: αρκετά δροσερός

Simple Steps to Good Writing

is a four-book series which focuses on writing skills and takes learners from Beginner to Intermediate level. The series is both stimulating and practical, and covers a wide range of topics as well as introducing students to a variety of writing tasks.

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