

FIONA LONGDEN



Simple Steps to Good Writing

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SAMPLED PAGES

STEP 3

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UNIT 1 Out and About

The Day I Got Lost

1 WARM UP

Look at the picture and answer the questions.



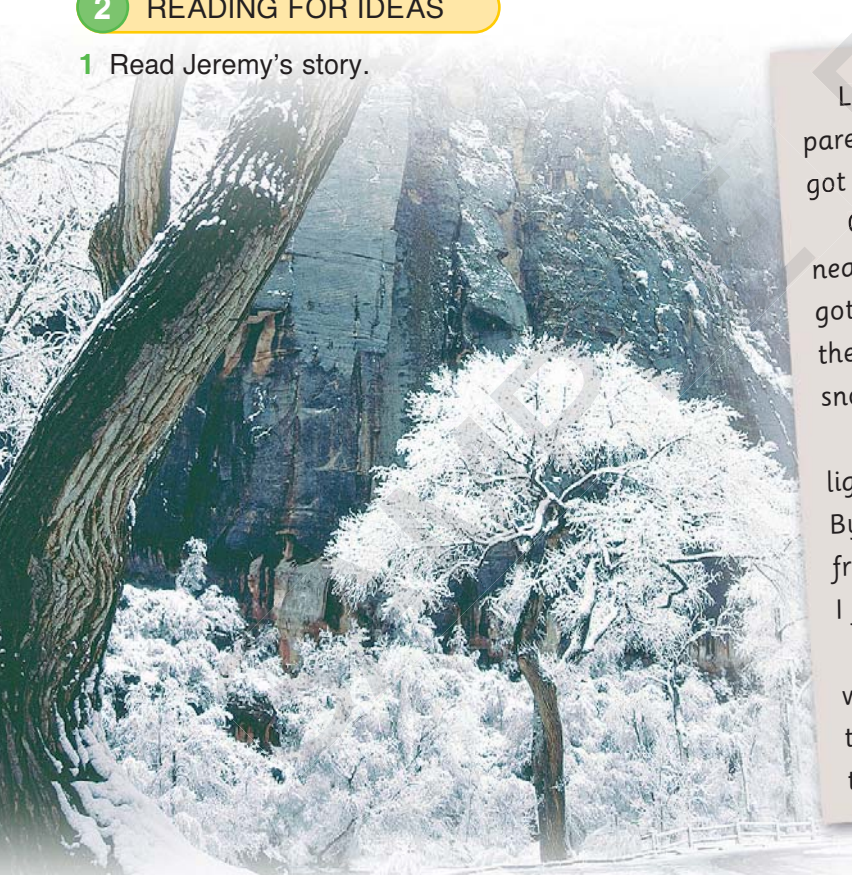
- 1 What problem has the woman in the photograph got?
- 2 Where do you think she is going? Why?
- 3 What is she doing? What do you think she is saying?
- 4 Have you ever got lost? What happened?

Useful words / phrases

be / get lost • ask for directions • take the wrong road • forget your map / the address • be on your way to ...

2 READING FOR IDEAS

1 Read Jeremy's story.



Last Christmas, I was staying with my grandparents in the countryside. While I was there, I got lost.

One afternoon, I decided to visit a friend in a nearby village, so I put on some warm clothes, got on my bike and left. As I was cycling along the country road, darkness fell and it started snowing.

After a while, I realised that I couldn't see the lights of my friend's village anywhere. I was lost! By then, it had become much colder and a freezing cold wind was blowing snow in my face. I felt cold, tired and frightened.

All of a sudden, I saw lights on the road. It was a local farmer in his truck. He put my bike on the back and drove me home. I discovered later that I had taken the wrong road in the dark.

2 Find words / phrases in the story that mean the same as the words / phrases below.

while = as (paragraph 2)

1 a short time later = _____ (paragraph 3)

2 by that time = _____ (paragraph 3)

3 suddenly = _____ (paragraph 4)

3 Find verbs in the story that can be replaced by the **phrasal verbs** below.

call on = visit (paragraph 2)

1 set off = _____ (paragraph 2)

2 find out = _____ (paragraph 4)

3 VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

1 Choose the correct word.

- 1 It was snowing. = Snow was $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{falling} \\ \text{dropping} \end{array} \right\}$.
- 2 It was raining. = It was pouring $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{in} \\ \text{with} \end{array} \right\}$ rain.
- 3 The wind was very cold. = The wind was $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{freezing} \\ \text{frozen} \end{array} \right\}$ cold.
- 4 It was very foggy. = There was $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{thick} \\ \text{heavy} \end{array} \right\}$ fog.
- 5 It was a sunny day. = The sun was shining $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{strongly} \\ \text{brightly} \end{array} \right\}$.

2 Replace the underlined words with a **synonym** from the box.

exhausted, furious, starving, terrified

- 1 I was very frightened when I heard the strange sound. _____
- 2 I was very tired by the time I got home. _____
- 3 I hadn't eaten all day and I was very hungry. _____
- 4 I was very angry with Paul because he had forgotten the map. _____

3 Fill in the correct **prepositional phrase**.

for a while, in the middle of, at last, on the way to

- 1 I once got lost when I was _____ my aunt's new flat.
- 2 I decided to rest _____ before going on.
- 3 I was _____ a dark forest, completely lost.
- 4 I had found the right road _____.

4 Complete the paragraph with the **prepositions**.

in front of, along, around, towards, across

I walked (1) _____ the busy street with a map in my hand. Where was the museum?

On the other side of the street there was a large building. Perhaps that was the museum. I went

(2) _____ the street and saw it was a library.

I decided to walk a bit further. (3) _____ me there was a huge square.

I walked (4) _____ it.

All (5) _____ me there were tall buildings, but no museum. I was lost!



5 Fill in the correct form of the appropriate **verb**.

ache, shake, study, sweat, take, felt

- 1 I was so frightened that my hands were _____.
- 2 I _____ even more worried as it got dark.
- 3 The sun was very hot and I was _____.
- 4 I _____ my map once more.
- 5 I realised that I had _____ the wrong road.
- 6 I had walked for miles and my legs were _____.



4 WRITING PRACTICE

- 1 Use the prompts to write sentences.
Use the **simple past**, the **past progressive** or the **simple past perfect**.

My brother / I / decide / explore / forest near the
campsite.

My brother and I decided to explore the forest near the
campsite.

- 1 While / we / play / in the woods, it / start / rain.

- 2 We / decide / return / campsite

- 3 After / we / walk / about two miles, we / realise /
we / be lost.

- 4 We / sit down / a tree.

- 5 While / we / sit / there, boy / appear.

- 2 Rewrite the paragraph using the words / phrases
below to join the sentences.

but, while (2), after, until, by the time

I was visiting my friend in Rome. I decided to explore the city on my own. I put my camera in my bag. I left the flat. I was walking along the road. I realised I had forgotten my map. I decided to go back to my friend's flat to get it. I couldn't remember how to get there. I walked straight ahead. I saw a policeman, who gave me directions. I got back. I was too hot and tired to go out again.

While I was visiting my friend in Rome, I decided to
explore the city on my own.

5 COMMON MISTAKES

Choose the correct answer.

- 1 We stopped to ask for { **directions** / **instructions** }.

- 2 I { **realised** / **understood** } that I was lost.

- 3 Our parents were very worried { **for** / **about** } us.

- 4 It was a { **tired** / **tiring** } day.

- 5 I had { **missed** / **lost** } the bus, so I decided to walk.



6 WRITING TASK

Write* a short story with the title: *The Day I Got Lost*. Before you start:

STEP 1: Oral Preparation

Answer the questions.

- 1 Have you ever got lost?
- 2 Where were you going? Were you alone?
- 3 Were you on foot? If not, what means of transport were you using?
- 4 What was the weather like?
- 5 How did you feel when you realised you were lost?
- 6 How long were you lost for? Were you worried?
- 7 Did you have a map with you?
- 8 Did you ask anybody for directions?
- 9 What happened in the end? Did anybody help you or did you find your own way?
- 10 How did you feel when you got home / to the place you wanted to go to?



STEP 2: Plan

Paragraph one:

Say when it happened and where you were.

Paragraph two:

Say where you wanted to go; describe the events before you realised you were lost; say what the weather was like.

Paragraph three:

Describe what happened next; say when you realised you were lost; describe how you felt.

Paragraph four:

Say what happened in the end. Did somebody find / help you? How did you get home?



STEP 3: Useful Language

Words / Phrases

- summer evening / winter morning
- country road
- busy city
- explore
- boiling hot
- freezing cold
- exhausted
- worried / anxious
- in the distance
- look for

Structures

- take the wrong road
- had no idea where I was
- it was raining heavily
- all the roads looked the same
- couldn't find my way home
- get on / off the bus
- asked for directions
- according to my map

[* For each **writing task**, write between 100 and 120 words.]

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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- model compositions and plans
- topic-related vocabulary development
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