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UNIT 7

LEAD IN: WRITING

TOPIC: SCHOOL & EDUCATION

MODEL COMPOSITIONS

A A GREAT SCHOOL



Dear Gwen,

I hope this finds you well. Thanks for your last letter and all your news. I'm writing to tell you about my new school.

Well, my new school is really fantastic. You'd love it. It's near my house so I go there on foot or by bike. It's very modern, and the classrooms get lots of light. The grounds are very spacious, too, and you can go for a walk or sit on the grass and relax.

There's also a huge gymnasium where you can do many sports. There's even a library with thousands of books and a modern science lab. It's a great school, and I'm happy to be here.

Can't wait to hear all about your school!

Love,
Billie

TYPES OF SCHOOL

- nursery school/kindergarten *(3-5 years old)*
- primary/junior school *(5-11 years old)*
- secondary school *(11-16/18 years old)*
- (junior/senior) high school *(11-18 years old)*

FACILITIES

- playground
- gym(nasium)
- library
- lab(oratory)
- canteen

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

- My school is near/not far from/ opposite/next to…
- I usually go to school on foot/on my bike/by bus/bike.

B MY FIRST TEST

Dear Mandy,

How is it going? I miss you very much and I 'm writing to tell you about my first test at school.

I'm in the first year of (1) ***secondary school*** . After the first three weeks we had to (2) *take* our first Chemistry test. I really wanted to (3) *pass the test* and please my parents, so I (4) *worked hard* all weekend. I didn't even go to my cousin's party. It was just work, work, work.

Then Monday morning arrived. I was sure I would (5) *get a good mark* . I wasn't nervous at all because I (6) *had done* so much work. My teacher (7) *gave out* the test papers and then I got the shock of my life! It wasn't a Chemistry test at all! It was Physics, and I hadn't (8) *done any studying for* that subject. I almost started crying, but there was nothing I could do.

Fortunately everything else is ok at school so it isn't so terrible after all.

I really miss you all.

Write back soon.

Love Deb

SCHOOL EXPRESSIONS

- **be in** the first/second class/year of…
- **get good/bad/high/low** marks/grades
- **take/sit (for)/do** a test/an exam
- **pass/fail** a test/an exam/a subject

CLUES: • gave out • pass the test • take • had done • done any studying for • worked hard • get a good mark • ~~secondary school~~

& SPEAKING



A PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. Which school do you go to and which year are you in?
2. What's your (least) favourite subject? Why?
3. What subjects are you good at?
4. What are your teachers like?
5. What facilities has your school got?
6. What would you like to do when you finish school?

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS/PHRASES

- I'm good/bad at Maths.
- I never miss a class.
- I never/sometimes play truant.
- My teachers are nice/kind/funny/helpful/strict.

When I finish/leave school, I want to . . .

go to/get into university/college.
take a course in computers/Science.
get a degree in Biology/Mathematics.

B QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Expressions

1. Why are you so happy?	e	a. He's taking a French exam.
2. What did your teacher say?	c	b. Because I'm not very good at it.
3. Why did you fail History?	b	c. That I didn't do so well in the test.
4. Why is he nervous?	a	d. To get into university.
5. What are your future plans?	d	e. Because I got the best marks in the class.

C DIALOGUE: Correct Order

3 What do you think of the school?	4 It looks a bit old.
2 Yes. This is my first day.	1 Are you new here?
6 Really? Who's your favourite?	8 Good! I love Maths.
7 The Maths teacher. He's great.	5 Maybe, but the teachers are nice.



D ASKING QUESTIONS

1. What ***are your favourite subjects*** ? : Geography and English.
2. Which *class are you in* ? : I'm in the first class of primary school.
3. Did *you pass the/your test/exam* ? : No. Unfortunately, I failed.
4. What *(sort of) marks do you usually get* ? : I usually get high marks.
5. What *is your English teacher like* ? : My English teacher is very kind.

UNIT 7 BUILDING UP A COMPOSITION

COMMON MISTAKES

- **When** I ~~will~~ **finish**, I'll go out.
- They travelled **all over** ~~in~~ **the world**.
- I **used to** ~~playing~~ **play** chess when I was younger.
- I found some **other**~~s~~ **books** yesterday.
  BUT:
- Some people like it but **others** ~~people~~ don't.
- She's ~~too~~ a student, **too**.
- He's the only famous person I've ~~never~~ **ever** met.
- When I finish my ~~lessons~~ **studies**, I'll travel abroad.

A MY FUTURE AMBITIONS

Correct the mistakes.



1. When I **will** finish school, I hope to join the navy. ***(grammar)***
   When I finish school, I hope to join the navy.
2. My father was in the navy **before** ten years. ***(time adverb)***
   My father was in the navy ten years ago.
3. He was a captain and travelled all over **in** the world. ***(preposition)***
   He was a captain and travelled all over the world.
4. He used **telling** me stories about exotic countries, ***(grammar)***
   He used to tell me stories about exotic countries.
5. strange animals and **others** funny things he had seen. ***(grammar)***
   strange animals and other funny things he had seen.
6. I want **too** to travel around the world. ***(order of adverb)***
   I want to travel around the world, too.
7. The navy is the only career I've **never** thought about, ***(grammar)***
   The navy is the only career I've ever thought about.
8. but first I must finish my **lessons**. ***(expression)***
   but first I must finish my studies.

B SENTENCE BUILDING

1. **a.** I go to school.
   b. *I go to a secondary school.* ***(a secondary)***
   c. *I go to a secondary school with 300 pupils.* ***(with 300 pupils)***
2. **a.** I like my school.
   b. *I like my school because it has a great gym.* ***(because it has a great gym)***
   c. *I like my school because it has a great gym and a big lab.* ***(and a big lab)***
3. **a.** My teachers are friendly.
   b. *My teachers are friendly and helpful.* ***(and helpful)***
   c. *My teachers are (really) friendly and (really) helpful.* ***(really)***

SCHOOL & EDUCATION

THEME:
Describe your life in your new school.

1. What school do you go to? What year are you in?
(St Michael's school)

2. How do you go to school?
(take the bus, sometimes dad drive me there)

3. What facilities has your school got?
(huge gymnasium, big library, modern lab)

4. What are your favourite subjects?
(Biology, Physics, get good marks)

5. What are your teachers like?
(very kind and helpful, but a bit strict)

6. Are the older students nice to you?
(usually nice, sometimes make fun of us)

7. Have you made new friends? What do you do together?
(lots of friends, usually play volleyball and computer games)

8. Do you like your new school?
(yes, but much more homework to do than last year, everyone nice, friendly)



Dear Sophie,

How's it going? Sorry, I haven't written in a while but I 've been very busy unpacking/settling in.

1. As you know, I 've just moved house and my new school is St Michael's School.

2. I usually take the bus to school but sometimes my dad drives me there.

3. In my school there's a huge gymnasium, a big library and a modern lab.

4. My favourite subjects are Biology and Physics and I always get good marks.

5. My teachers are very kind and helpful but a bit strict.

6. The older students are usually nice but sometimes they make fun of us.

7. I've made lots of friends and we usually play volleyball and computer games after school.

8. I really like my new school, but there is/I have much more homework to do than last year.

Fortunately/Thankfully, so far everyone I 've met seems really nice and very friendly.

I miss you all so much! Write back soon

Love,
Deb

UNIT 7

WRITING TASK

TOPIC: SCHOOL & EDUCATION

"The first step is always the hardest"

(The most difficult part of doing something is getting started.)

POINTS TO INCLUDE:

1st paragraph
- his/her name
- what subject he/she teaches

2nd paragraph
- what he/she looks like
- what he/she is like

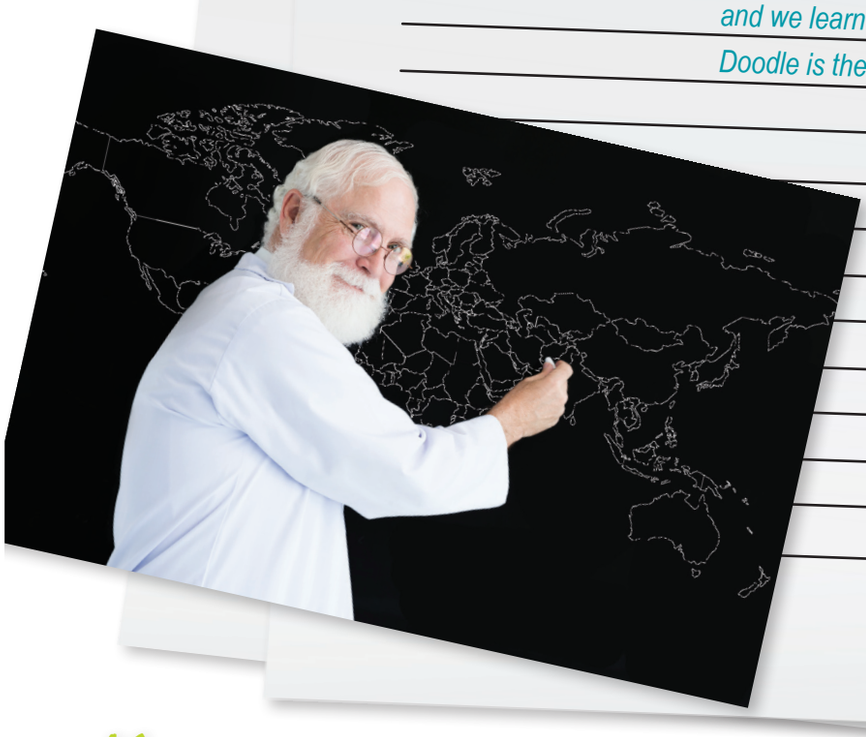
3rd paragraph
- why you like him/her
- what you think about him/her

THEME: Describe your favourite teacher.

My favourite teacher is Mr Doodle. He teaches us Geography and History.

He's quite old, with white hair and brown eyes, and he's tall and thin. He's full of energy and very enthusiastic about his subjects. He even jumps up and down when he is teaching, so we never get bored.

We love Mr Doodle because he's friendly and very funny. We also like him because he's patient, and we learn a lot in his lessons. I think that Mr Doodle is the best teacher I have ever had.



LISTENING

A TICK (✓) THE CORRECT BOX.

1. Where is Jack going to study?

☐ New York ☐ London ☑ Dublin

2. What does he want to be?



a. ☐



b. ☐

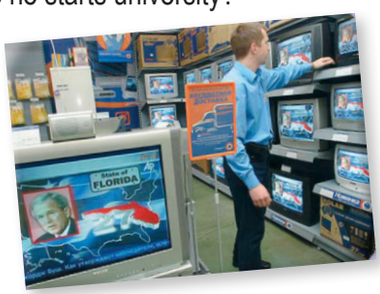


c. ☑

3. What is he going to do before he starts university?



a. ☑



b. ☐



c. ☐

B TRUE OR FALSE?

Listen and tick (✓) True or False.	TRUE	FALSE
1. Bob doesn't like the sports facilities.		✓
2. He does karate every Friday.	✓	
3. His favourite sport is volleyball.		✓
4. His English teacher is patient.	✓	
5. Bob is good at Maths.		✓
6. Bob wants to be a businessman.	✓	

C FILL IN: Listen and write.

1. Pat is studying ..... *Geography* ..... at university.
2. In her last exam she got a ..... *D* ..... .
3. Sally thinks Pat has too many ..... *hobbies* ..... .
4. At first Pat thinks she should give up ..... *swimming* ..... on Fridays.
5. Finally Pat decides to give up her ..... *painting* ..... course.

