

WRITING TIPS AND MODEL ANSWER

UNIT 2 >>> Pack your bags

Task type:	Write a postcard
Subskill:	Use correct verb tenses

Task summary:

- This writing task is a **postcard**. You should **write to a friend**. Imagine you are on an **ideal holiday** when writing.
- The focus of this lesson is **using correct verb tenses**.
- You can use the **grammar** learned in **Units 1 and 2** (Pages 9, 11, 19 & 21) to complete your postcard.
- Try to use the new words from the *Words & Beyond* lists from **page 131**.
- Write about **120 words**.

EXAM TIPS

- **Know the format:** Know about the exam before you take it. Learn how long you have for each section, how many marks each section has, what the exercise types are, etc. This will save you time on exam day and help you avoid making mistakes.
- **Practise:** The best way to learn the format of an exam is to practise it. Do as many practice papers as you can. Practise under exam conditions – allow yourself the same time as in the real exam.

Before writing:

Always make a plan! Use the *Writing plan* on **page 24**. Tick (✓) the box when you finish each step.

Start with a greeting:
Always start your postcard with a greeting, eg:
*Hi Becky,
Hello Becky,
Hey Becky*

Remember!
Use the correct tense with the correct time words.
For example:
*Yesterday I went ...
Tomorrow I'm going ...*

Vocabulary and Grammar

Words in **bold** are new words from this unit. Use new words in your writing too.

Underlined items are examples of grammar learned in this unit and Unit 1. See pages 9, 11, 19 and 21 for help.

Model Answer

Paragraph 1
Say:
- where you are
- how long you've been there
- who you're with
- how you got there
- what the journey was like

Paragraph 2
Describe the place.
Say:
- what it's like (the hotel, area, etc)
- what there is to do there
- how you get around (bus, train, taxi, etc)

Paragraph 3
Describe your activities.
Say:
- where you've been
- what you've seen or done
- where you're going tomorrow
- what you'll do

Use a closing phrase:
End with a closing phrase like:
*Wish you were here,
See you soon,
Miss you,*

Hi Becky,

I've been in Paris for two days now. I'm having a great time! The **flight** was fun too. The **journey** took three hours and I watched a film on the **plane**.

Paris is a beautiful city, and while we've been here the weather has been lovely. In Paris there are lots of museums and **great** restaurants. The **taxis** are expensive, but there's a special **bus** that takes you to all the important **destinations** for sightseeing. The **fare** is quite cheap and it's a great experience.

I've climbed the Eiffel Tower and I've visited the Louvre Museum. I've seen the Mona Lisa too! Tomorrow I'm going shopping with my parents. I've seen so many things that I want to buy. I don't know how all my new clothes will fit into my **suitcase**!

Wish you were here!

Anya

GO BEYOND

- ✓ Make a list of phrases for closing postcards and emails and don't use the same one all the time. Here are some examples: *Write back soon, See you soon, Give my love to everyone, Bye for now*, etc.
- ✓ Show what you know. Use the present perfect to talk about things you did in the past when you don't say the exact time, eg *I've done lots of things. I've gone shopping, I've visited a really cool museum ...*
- ✓ Use new adjectives to make your writing more interesting, eg *Paris is a beautiful/amazing/exciting city* not *Paris is a nice city*.
- ✓ Edit your work. Spend a few minutes reading back over your writing at the end. Correct any mistakes you find.