

WRITING TIPS AND MODEL ANSWER

UNIT 1 >>> Life stages

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|-------------------|---------------------|
| Task type: | Write a description |
| Subskill: | Make a writing plan |

Task summary:

- This writing task is a **description**. You should describe a special day or a special object. (The model answer is a description of a special day.)
- The focus of this writing lesson is **making a writing plan**. Use the **HOW TO** box on **page 15** to help you make your plan.
- Use the **grammar** you learned in **Unit 1** in your answer. For example, you can use the **present simple** and **continuous** if you're writing about a special object or the **past simple** and **continuous** if you're describing a special day.
- Try to include new **vocabulary** you've learned in the unit in your description (refer to the *Words & Beyond* lists from **page 130**).
- Write about **120 words**.

EXAM TIPS

- **Guess the number of words:** Try to guess how many words you write in your handwriting. With practice you will soon make good guesses. This will help you in exams when there's a word limit – don't waste time counting words.
- **Make a plan:** Always make a quick plan before you begin writing. Plan what goes in each paragraph. And make sure your answer follows your plan. When you practise planning, you become quicker at it.

Before writing:

Always make a plan! Use the *Writing plan* on **page 14**. Tick (✓) the box when you finish each step.

Paragraph 1

Introduce the special day. Say:

- when it was
- why it was happening
- who was there

In your plan

- write a heading for each paragraph summarising its content
- write short topic questions for each paragraph
- make notes on the answers to the questions

Remember!

Answer the question asked. You have to write about a special day – that means a good day for you, so don't write about a bad experience.

Model Answer

My last birthday was a special day. I was turning 16. Mum and Dad said that because I was coming of age, I could go out with my friends.

Paragraph 2

Describe what happened. Say:

- what you saw
- what you did

Also write about:

- something interesting; the food, drink or an experience.

Grammar

The underlined items are examples of grammar learned in this unit. Need help? Read the study boxes on pages 9 and 11.

Mum and Dad gave me some money, but they didn't come to my birthday party. My friends and I celebrated my birthday at a pizzeria. We told jokes and we had a great time. After that, we went to the cinema. We watched an exciting action film about people fighting **enormous** robots. We returned home on the metro.

Vocabulary

Words in **bold** are examples of vocabulary we learned in this unit. Try to use new words in your answer too.

Paragraph 3

Write about why the day was special. Say:

- why it was a good day
- how you felt
- what reminds you of your special day.

It was a special day because my friends and I went out alone, without any **parents**. We didn't feel like **children** because we had our own money and we were free to do what we wanted. Whenever I'm having a good time with my friends, I remember that day.

Be careful!

When you talk about today, use present tenses. When you talk about your special day, use past tenses.

GO BEYOND

- ✓ Show what you know. Use a variety of different verbs. This will make your composition more interesting to read. For example: *We celebrated my birthday* instead of *It was my birthday*.
- ✓ Be brave! Use new vocabulary. This will also make your writing more colourful and interesting.
- ✓ And keep the reader's interest: only tell them what they need to know. Don't repeat information and only describe the important details.