

Practice 1

Original past-paper question • 2019-20 • Paper 1 • Question 4

EXAM-STYLE QUESTION

Your friend Sam is moving to your town. Write a letter to Sam about your town.

You should include:

- what there is to do in the town
- what you like about the town
- what you dislike about the town
- how you can help your friend.

Write at least 8 sentences. These must include at least 3 compound sentences that use conjunctions, for example: **and**, **but**, **also**, **because**.

Use at least 2 paragraphs.

Start your letter **Dear Sam**.

MODEL ANSWER

Dear Sam,

I am really pleased that you are moving to my town. There are lots of things to do, and we can visit the park, cinema and library together. I especially like the town centre because the shops are useful and the buses are frequent. I also enjoy the local leisure centre, but it can get very busy at weekends.

One thing I dislike is the traffic, and parking can sometimes be difficult. When you arrive, I can show you the best shops and help you find the bus stops. I can also introduce you to some of my friends so that you feel welcome. I think you will enjoy living here.

Best wishes,

Alex

Practice 2

Original past-paper question • 2021-22 • Paper 4 • Question 4

EXAM-STYLE QUESTION

Your local council wants your ideas about who should win a ‘Community Hero’ award.

Write a letter suggesting someone who you think deserves the award.

You should include:

- who the person is
- one example of what this person does for the community
- a second example of what this person does for the community
- why you think this person deserves the award.

Write at least 8 sentences. These must include at least 3 compound sentences that use conjunctions, for example: **and**, **but**, **also**, **because**.

Use at least 2 paragraphs.

MODEL ANSWER

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to suggest my neighbour, Mrs Patel, for the Community Hero award. She runs a free homework club for local children, and she helps them with reading and maths. She also organises a monthly litter-picking group, and many residents join her. These activities make our area cleaner and give children extra support.

Mrs Patel is always friendly, but she also works very hard for other people. She gives her time every week because she wants the community to be a better place. Many families know her, and they trust her when they need help. I believe she deserves the award because she has made a real difference in our neighbourhood.

Yours faithfully,

Alex Brown

Practice 3

Additional ESOLish exam-style practice question

EXAM-STYLE QUESTION

Your local council wants ideas to improve a park in your area.

Write a letter to the council suggesting some improvements.

You should include:

- one problem with the park
- one improvement you would like
- a second improvement you would like
- why these changes would help local people.

Write at least 8 sentences. These must include at least 3 compound sentences that use conjunctions, for example: **and**, **but**, **also**, **because**.

Use at least 2 paragraphs.

MODEL ANSWER

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to suggest some improvements for Oakfield Park. At the moment, the children's play area is old, and some of the equipment is broken. There are also not enough bins, so litter is often left near the benches. I think the council should replace the damaged equipment and add more bins around the park.

The park also needs better lighting because it becomes very dark in the evening. More lights would make people feel safer, and they would allow families to use the park later. I also suggest adding two more benches because older people need somewhere comfortable to rest. These changes would make the park cleaner and safer, and more local people would enjoy using it.

Yours faithfully,

Alex Brown

Practice 4

Additional ESOLish exam-style practice question

EXAM-STYLE QUESTION

Your friend Maya is thinking about joining your college.

Write a letter to Maya about your course and the college.

You should include:

- what course you are studying
- what you do in your lessons
- what you like or dislike about the course
- what advice you would give your friend.

Write at least 8 sentences. These must include at least 3 compound sentences that use conjunctions, for example: **and**, **but**, **also**, **because**.

Use at least 2 paragraphs.

Start your letter **Dear Maya**.

MODEL ANSWER

Dear Maya,

I am glad you are thinking about joining my college. I study Functional Skills English, and the course helps me with reading, writing and speaking. We do practical activities in class, and the teacher gives us useful examples. I like the friendly atmosphere because everyone helps each other.

The homework can sometimes be difficult, but it helps me remember what we learned. I think you should visit the college and speak to the course adviser. You can also come with me one day, and I can show you the classrooms and library. I think the course would suit you because you want to improve your English for work.

Best wishes,

Aisha

Practice 5

Additional ESOLish exam-style practice question

EXAM-STYLE QUESTION

Your local bus service has recently changed and you are unhappy with it.

Write a letter to the bus company explaining the problems and suggesting improvements.

You should include:

- which bus route you use
- one problem with the new service
- a second problem with the new service
- what you want the bus company to do.

Write at least 8 sentences. These must include at least 3 compound sentences that use conjunctions, for example: **and**, **but**, **also**, **because**.

Use at least 2 paragraphs.

MODEL ANSWER

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing about the changes to the number 25 bus service. I use this bus every weekday, and I travel from Green Road to the town centre. Since the timetable changed, the morning buses are less frequent, so I am often late for work. The buses are also very crowded because there is now a longer wait between services.

I would like the company to add another bus during the morning rush hour. It would also help if the evening service finished later because many people work after 6 p.m. The drivers are usually helpful, but the new timetable is causing problems for passengers. I hope you will review the service and make these changes soon.

Yours faithfully,

Alex Brown