

Guided Writing Teacher's Notes

Reading

1 Ask the students to read through the blog quickly, look at the three photos, and decide which one best matches the blog entry. Tell them NOT to worry about understanding everything.

Give students a few minutes to read the blog and then ask students which photo is best. Ask students to give reasons for their choice.

Answer

b)

2 Ask students to read the five statements and decide if each one is true (T) or false (F). Encourage students to discuss their ideas in pairs before reading the blog again and checking their answers. Check as a class and ask students to explain their answers.

Answers

- 1 T (a fantastic trip)
 2 F (she's been there before)
 3 F (I bought a few gifts) 4 T (in the afternoon, we went to a park)
 5 F (I've taken lots of pictures)

3 Ask students to look at the three paragraph topics, read the blog again, match the paragraphs with the correct topic. Encourage students to discuss their ideas in pairs before checking as a class.

Answers

- Describes a place – 3
 Says where she went – 1
 Talks about what she did – 2

Language

4 Ask students to look at the language box and remind them that we often use the present perfect to talk about recent events in the past. Give or elicit some examples.

Put students in pairs and ask them to cover the blog and then look at the five sentences. Check they understand what they have to do by doing the first one together. Monitor, and help where necessary before checking the answers as a class.

Answers

- 1 come 2 been 3 bought 4 spent 5 taken

5 Ask students to look at the language box about articles. Give or elicit some examples.

Then ask them to complete the short text with the correct article in each gap. Monitor, and help where necessary. Ask students to check their answers in pairs before checking as a class. Check students understand the difference between 6 and 7. (In 6 the park is mentioned for the first time so we use *a* as there might be more than one park. In 7 we use *the* as we have already referred to the park.)

Answers

- 1 - 2 - 3 the 4 - 5 the 6 a 7 the 8 an

Writing

6 Ask students to write a blog entry in their notebooks about a place they have visited recently. Encourage them to look at Kristin's blog to help, and also to look at the checklist. Give students enough time to do the writing. You could also set this part as homework.

Checklist

Below is a quick checklist for you, the teacher, to use when looking at your students' blogs. There is also a quick checklist on the students' page. Ask your students to look at this, read their blog, and check (✓) the boxes if they think they have remembered to do / use the different things.

She / He has ...

- used the present perfect to talk about recent events.
- used the correct articles – i.e. *a / an, the*, or no article.
- included a description of the place.
- written about what he / she did.
- completed the task (i.e. topic focus).