Writing an online review

1 Read the online review of an exhibition by a recent visitor to London. Would you follow their recommendation? Why? / Why not?

2 Answer the questions. Then compare your answers in pairs.

1 How are the following themes organised in the review? Put them in order (1–5).

- ☐ the author's recommendation
- ☐ an introduction
- ☐ the content of the exhibitio
- ☐ the occasion of the visit
- ☐ the details of where and when it is on

2 What information about the event does she include?

3 Would you describe the tone of the review as personal or impersonal?

3 Writing skill personalising your writing

Work in pairs. Look at the following features of personal and impersonal writing. Then find examples of the personal forms in the review.

Personal tone

- use pronouns
- use active verbs
- use contracted forms
- use phrasal verbs
- add personal details
- use conversational linking phrases (e.g. *what's more*)
- share your feelings

Impersonal tone

- use pronouns
- use passive verbs
- use uncontracted forms
- use formal verbs
- avoid personal information
- use formal linking phrases (e.g. *furthermore*)
- be objective in your judgements

http://www.travelreviews.com



I find that it's always worth checking out the parks when you visit a foreign city: as well as providing a welcome break, they can contain some very interesting surprises. Last week, absolutely exhausted from visiting two museums and too tired even to think about shopping anymore, my boyfriend and I took a walk in Kensington Gardens. I was so glad we did, because otherwise we'd have missed Anish Kapoor's mirror sculptures.

There are four of them and rather than look out of place as so many modern sculptures can do, they really complemented their surroundings.

The sky mirror, as its name suggests, is placed at an angle to reflect the changing sky. Another, Red Mirror, is also directed at the sky, so that you see the sky's reflection, but this time with a red tint. The one I liked best was the C-curve, a convex mirror that makes you see everything upside down. It was so funny to watch dogs and children approach it, trying to work out what they were looking at.

The secret of this exhibition's success is that it makes you appreciate what is already a really delightful park even more. It will be on until 30th March and, if you are in London, I'd definitely recommend taking the time to go and see it for yourself. And by the way, it's free!

Put the info in the correct place of the text.

name of the artist description

date and location cost

4 Write a brief personalised review of something you have seen and enjoyed for a *What's on* website. Then exchange your review with another person in the class.

LIVEWORKSHEETS