DEVELOPING WRITING

A letter – giving news

4 Rani has just started university. Complete the letter to her parents with the words in the box.

pretty	miss	settling	hug	down
sorry	into	mind	expect	out

Dear Mum and Dad

[1] ..... I haven't written before, but I've been [2] ..... busy since I started. I'm [3] ..... in to my flat and enjoying the course so far. Lectures have started but I didn't [4] ..... to be working so hard in the first month!

I've been a bit [5] ..... this week. It's nothing to worry about but Rachel has changed course, so I'm now one of the few girls doing physics! I had a feeling she wasn't very happy, but I think she's sorted it [6] ..... now.

I [7] ..... everyone but I'm making a lot of new friends. My flatmates are all [8] ..... adventure sports (my idea of hell!), but I had a go at climbing last weekend - exhausting but good fun.

My next lecture is about to start, so I'll put this in the post. Give everyone a [9] ..... from me.

Lots of love

Rani
xx

P.S. If you don't [10] ....., I won't ring you on my mobile. It's too expensive - but you can ring me!

Language note

a bit / pretty / not very + adjective

If you don't want to sound too negative, you can soften an adjective like this:
I'm ***a bit tired***
It was ***pretty disappointing***
It ***wasn't very easy***

5 Imagine you have just left home to start a new job / go on a course. Write a letter home (120–150 words) and give your news. Use the letter in exercise 4 to help you.

Vocabulary Builder Quiz 2

Download the Vocabulary Builder for Unit 2 and try the quiz below. Write your answers in your notebook. Then check them and record your score.

1 Match the verbs in A with the phrases in B. There is one extra verb that you don't need.

A kiss belong drive put be get

B really behind with work a better mark on a lot of weight someone mad someone on the cheek

2 Write *up* or *down* in the correct place in these sentences.

1 What's the matter with Max? He seems a bit at the moment.
2 I'm sorry I haven't phoned. We're really busy setting our new business.
3 You sound really fed up. Why don't you go away for the weekend to cheer yourself?
4 I haven't been out yet today. It's been pouring here all morning.
5 It's such a shame about your sister and her husband. I just heard that they split.

3 Complete the words with the correct prefix or suffix.

1 I didn't think I was going to get the job but I was pleasant... surprised when they offered it to me.
2 There are several charities that work hard to help home... people get off the streets.
3 Nobody knew about the financial problems at work. The job losses were completely ...expected.
4 You shouldn't feel guilt... about taking time off. Everyone needs a holiday.
5 Don't be too disappoint... about failing your driving test. You can take it again.

4 Choose the correct words.

1 Why are you in such a bad *mood / atmosphere* today?
2 I would never *join / approach* my dad to ask for advice.
3 They made every *intend / attempt* to save the business.
4 The next bus isn't *ahead / due* for half an hour.
5 Why did the company suffer another *lose / loss* in its profits last month?

5 What form of the words in brackets do you need to complete the text?

Isn't it strange how people's feelings change? When I was in my thirties, I was very competitive at work and getting [1] (promote) was very important to me. I also hated routine and would die of [2] (bore) if I had to do the same thing more than once. Now, I might be a bit [3] (disappoint) if I don't get to the next level but it doesn't make me too miserable. I also find my work more [4] (meaning) now and I take [5] (please) in working with the same groups of people every day.

Score ___/25

Wait a couple of weeks and try the quiz again. Compare your scores.