

DEVELOPMENT

Activity 3

Read the model of proposal written for an exchange program of university students and complete the activities.

Proposal to improve chances of succeeding when studying STEM courses abroad.

1

This proposal is intended to outline common issues students have when they aim at pursuing STEM-related careers abroad and suggest ways how a course could help them to deal with these in our university. The final section makes recommendations about what should be included in the course curriculum.

2

Interviews were conducted with students who have recently completed the student exchange program for STEM subjects. Most students were of the opinion that overcoming the language barrier in their new country was the biggest challenge and nearly half also said that they experienced culture shock. Furthermore, many students also mentioned the gap in terms of laboratory equipment available at their local universities and the ones they attended as part of the exchange program. Other problems cited included unrealistic expectations, loneliness and pacing the wrong things / particularly being unprepared for a different climate.

3

A course could prepare students for culture shock by raising awareness of the phenomenon and describing cultural differences that students may encounter in their host country. To aid participants with language, the course could include resources for language learning. The course could also include hands-on experience on doing experiments on advanced laboratories according to their chosen career as well as a discussion about combating isolation and adjusting expectations.

4

I would like to make the following recommendations to the committee of the exchange program:

- The committee should invite students who have previously studied abroad to share aspects of the culture they found surprising and give advice on what to take.
- The committee ought to provide crash courses on useful resources and techniques for language learning such as websites, blogs or e-books.
- Facilitate a discussion about engaging with people to avoid loneliness and isolation.

If these recommendations are implemented, young people are bound to feel more prepared for their experience.

Adapted from [https://engxam.com/handbook/proposal-examples-model-answers-cae/#~:text=CAE%20Proposal%3A%20Example%20Answer%20\(Grade%3A%202%2D3\)&text=My%20proposal%20is%20as%20to,to%20visit%20the%20new%20office](https://engxam.com/handbook/proposal-examples-model-answers-cae/#~:text=CAE%20Proposal%3A%20Example%20Answer%20(Grade%3A%202%2D3)&text=My%20proposal%20is%20as%20to,to%20visit%20the%20new%20office).



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Activity 4

Match the part of the proposal in the right sequence. There is one extra option.

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|--|
| 1. [- 1 -] | <input type="text"/> | A. Making recommendations and suggestions. |
| 2. [- 2 -] | <input type="text"/> | B. Preamble |
| 3. [- 3 -] | <input type="text"/> | C. Final recommendations. |
| 4. [- 4 -] | <input type="text"/> | D. Background information. |
| | | E. Stating the purpose of the proposal. |

Activity 5

Match the expressions with the part of the proposal in which they can be used. Write the number as in the example.

- A. It is recommended that...
- B. If the above suggestions are implemented there would be...
- C. The aims of this proposal are to...
- D. Unless the recommendations are implemented, it is unlikely that...
- E. Following a survey among (students/citizens...) it was found that...
- F. There should be...
- G. Implementation of the above ideas would result in...
- H. This proposal is intended to present the...
- I. It would be advantageous to...
- J. Many (students/citizens...) have commented that...
- K. This proposal describes / evaluates....

3