Writing – Article

Unit 2

PART 2

TRAINING

- THE ARTICLE TASK IN PART 2 TESTS YOUR ABILITY TO WRITE AN INTERESTING TEXT FOR A MAGAZINE OR NEWSLETTER.
- YOU MAY NEED TO WRITE DESCRIPTIONS, GIVE EXAMPLES, MAKE COMMENTS OR GIVE YOUR OPINIONS.
- YOU ARE WRITING FOR READERS WHO ARE ALREADY INTERESTED IN THE TOPIC.
- YOU SHOULD WRITE 120–180 WORDS.

USEFUL LANGUAGE: STRONG EXPRESSIONS

A. Where would you use these linking expressions? Put them under the correct headings expressions. Replace the words in *italics* with the adjectives in the box.

awful - enormous - essential - exhausted - fantastic - fascinated - filthy - freezing - furious - terrified

1. By midnight, we were completely *tired*.
2. When I found out about it, I was *angry* with her.
3. The water was *cold*, so Holly swam quickly.
4. We all had a *really good* day at the theme park.
5. Matt was *afraid*, but he tried not to show it.
6. There are two *big* mountains on the island.
7. After playing rugby, Joe's shirt was *dirty*.
8. That nightclub is *bad*, the worst in town.
9. When you go diving, it is *important* to stay safe.
10. Visitors are *interested* by the ancient drawings.

B. Write a sentence of your own, using each of the words in the box.

FOCUSING ON INSTRUCTIONS

C. Look at this exam task. What two things does the writer have to do?

You have seen this announcement on an English-language website.

My favourite sport

Tell us why you enjoy your favourite sport so much, and what people should do if they want to take it up.

We will publish the most interesting articles in the next few days.

Write your **article.**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

D. Study these two articles written by First Certificate candidates (language errors have been corrected). For each question 1-12, write Yes or No under A, B or both A and B. Where possible, give a reason or example.

Which article	A	B
1. has an interesting title and introduction?	No. Title too similar to task, dull intro	Yes, they catch readers' attention
2. deals with both parts of the task?		
3. is well organised into paragraphs?		
4. is written in an informal style?		
5. makes good use of linking words?		
6. uses a good range of vocabulary?		
7. uses a good range of structures?		
8. gives relevant examples?		
9. includes the writer's opinions?		
10. describes personal experiences?		
11. asks the reader a question?		
12. has an interesting ending?		

E. Which article, A or B, got a better mark, do you think?

Article A	Article B
MY CHOICE OF SPORT In this artice I would like to explain why I decided, one day, to take up a certain sport. First of all, doing some sport is good for your health. This is obvious, but which kind of sport suits you? If you want to combine exercise with enjoyment, I can recommend volleyball. One advantage is that you can play in a team, which can be really fantastic! Also, volleyball is never boring, compared to endless hours in the gym. For me, this game is an art where you have to use your skill and brain as well! The main advice to anyone who would like to try this sport is to protect your joints! You can get high-quality equipment for this sport everywhere. Secondly, you have to be cooperative with your teammates. Last but not least, enjoy yourself!	DIVING DEEP Are you too scared to try something new, something unusual which involves more risk than everyday sports? If not, go diving – you'll love it. I am a 21-year-old girl and I've been scuba diving for three years. It's not just a hobby for me; it's much more than that. At first everybody is terrified of sinking into a deep, dark sea, because anything can happen, at any time. But you can't keep thinking about this, otherwise you'll miss a different, magical world down there. Everybody says you can see all that on TV, but it's not the same. You have to see everything with your own eyes. It's wonderful when you discover something you have never seen before, such as a shark swimming. It is unbelievable. I suggest everyone try scuba diving at least once. It needs practice, maybe for three weeks, to be good at it, but a good instructor can help. You also have to buy your equipment. Ask somebody to help you if you don't know exactly what you need. It's well worth it. I just know that everyone who decides to go scuba-diving will have a fantastic time!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

EXAM TIP

- READ THE INSTRUCTIONS. DO YOU KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE TOPIC TO WRITE AN ARTICLE?
- THINK ABOUT WHO YOUR READERS ARE AND WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO READ ABOUT.
- SPEND A FEW MINUTES MAKING A PLAN BASED ON ALL PARTS OF THE TASK, NOTING DOWN POINTS AND LANGUAGE FOR EACH PARAGRAPH. TRY TO INCLUDE SOME ADJECTIVES FROM USEFUL LANGUAGE ON PAGE 8.
- THINK OF A GOOD TITLE TO ATTRACT YOUR READERS' ATTENTION, AND AN INTERESTING INTRODUCTION TO MAKE THEM WANT TO KEEP READING.
- WRITE YOUR TEXT IN A LIVELY WAY THAT WILL HOLD THEIR INTEREST. YOU CAN DESCRIBE YOUR OWN EXPERIENCES AND GIVE YOUR OWN OPINIONS.
- USE LANGUAGE THAT IS FAIRLY INFORMAL. TRY TO INCLUDE SOME INTERESTING EXPRESSIONS, E.G. IT'S WELL WORTH IT, AND PERHAPS QUESTIONS LIKE: WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF ...
- MAKE THE ENDING INTERESTING BY ENCOURAGING READERS TO THINK ABOUT WHAT THEY HAVE READ.
- CHECK YOUR ARTICLE FOR MISTAKES – AND THAT YOU HAVE WRITTEN AT LEAST 120 WORDS.

EXAM TASK

F. Study the exam question and write your answer in 120-180 words in an appropriate style.

You recently saw this announcement in Transport 2020 magazine.

Readers are invited to write articles about the following:

Transport in the Future

How do you think people will travel in the future? What changes will there be and what differences will these make to the way we live?

The writer of the best article will receive a cash prize.

Write your **article.**

EXAM TIP

- PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THIS TASK BY READING ARTICLES IN ENGLISH IN MAGAZINES OR ON THE INTERNET.

G. Study the exam question and write your answer in 120-180 words in an appropriate style.

The story includes a number of events in which somebody is in danger. Your English teacher has asked the class to write an article describing one of these events and saying how the person deals with it.

Write your **article.**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

H. Study the exam question and write your answer in 120-180 words in an appropriate style.

The story includes a number of events in which somebody is in danger. Your English teacher has asked the class to write an article describing one of these events and saying how the person deals with it.

Write your **article.**

I. Study the exam question and write your answer in 120-180 words in an appropriate style.

You see this announcement on a website that publishes humorous stories.

The funniest thing I have ever seen

Write and tell us what happened, where and when, and say why you found it so amusing. We will publish the best article on our site.

Write your **article.**

J. Study the exam question and write your answer in 120-180 words in an appropriate style.

You see this announcement in the magazine of an English summer school.

Summer sports

The school intends to offer sporting activities outside lesson times, so we would like to know which sports our students would prefer. Football, basketball, tennis, swimming and cycling have been suggested. Write an article.

- Telling us which two of these five sports you would like to play, and why
- Suggesting one other sport and saying why you think we should include it.

Write your **article.**

LIVEWORKSHEETS