Name _____ Class _____

# An email from a friend

*Read an email from a friend you haven't heard from for a long time to practice and improve your reading skills.*

***Task 1 Match the definitions (a—h) with the vocabulary (1-8).***

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | to oversee | A | something that is fast, exciting and unpredictable |
| 2 | to be posted | B | several days continuously |
| 3 | kind of | C | to regularly check the progress of a project |
| 4 | a whirlwind | D | in some way, sort of |
| 5 | to figure | E | to be sent to a place for a job |
| 6 | to be off to | F | one out of every two |
| 7 | days on end | G | to move or travel to a different place, often quickly |
| 8 | every other | H | to think, to suppose |

***Task 2. Read the text and do the exercises.***

Hi!

I've been meaning to write for ages and finally today I'm actually doing something about it. Not that I'm trying to make excuses for myself, it's been really hard to sit down and write, as I've been moving around so much. Since we last saw each other I've unpacked my bags in four different cities. This job has turned out to be more of a whirlwind than I expected, but it's all good!

I went from London to Prague to set up a new regional office there. You know I'd always wanted to go, but maybe I was imagining Prague in spring when I used to talk about that. Winter was really hard, with minus 15 degrees in the mornings and dark really early in the evening. But at least it was blue skies and white snow and not days on end of grey skies and rain, like at home. It's tough being away from home over Christmas, though, and Skype on Christmas Day wasn't really the same as being with everyone.

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From there I was on another three-month mission to oversee the set-up of the office in New York. Loved, loved, loved New York! It's like being in one big TV show, as everywhere looks just a little bit familiar. I did every tourist thing you can think of when I wasn't working, and must have spent most of my salary on eating out. It was really hard to leave for the next job, especially as I kind of met someone (!) More about Michael later ...

So then I was posted to LA, which felt like a whole other country compared with the East Coast. I could definitely get used to that kind of outdoor, beach lifestyle, but I didn't spend as much time getting to know California as I could have because I was flying back to see Michael every other weekend. He came to see me when he could, but his job means he's often working at weekends, so he couldn't make the flight very often. Those three months flew by and then I was off again, to Frankfurt, which is where I am now. And ... so is Michael! He got a month off work and we're trying to work out how we can be in the same place at the same time for a while. We figure the first step in that direction is getting married, which is also why I wanted to write — I can't get married without my oldest friend there! The wedding's going to be at home in London in September and I hope you can come!

Anyway, tell me all your news and I promise not to leave it so long this time!

Lots of love,

Kath

## *Task 2. Match the descriptions (a—e) with the cities (1-5).*

| | *Cities* | | *Description* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | New York | A | Where she will get married |
| 2 | London | B | A city that wasn't what she expected |
| 3 | Frankfurt | C | An expensive place |
| 4 | Prague | D | A place she didn't really see much of |
| 5 | LA | E | The most recent city she's lived in |

## *Task 2 Circle the best answer.*

1. Recently, Kath has been ...

a. making an effort to email people she knows.
b. too busy to even think about writing emails.
c. thinking about writing an email to her friend.

2. Prague was ...

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a. better than Kath imagined.
b. just as Kath imagined.
c. not as nice as Kath imagined.

3. Kath says Christmas was ...

a. exciting because she was in a new place.
b. difficult because she missed her family.
c. as good as usual thanks to technology.

4. In New York, she spent most of her money on ...

a. tourist attractions.
b. restaurants.
c. a TV.

5. How did Kath feel about LA?

a. It's nice for a holiday but not to live.
b. She would have enjoyed spending more time at the beach.
c. She didn't really like the beach part of the LA lifestyle.

6. Kath and Michael are ...

a. thinking about how to spend more time together.
b. working out where to hold the wedding.
c. planning to get engaged.

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