WRITING LESSON

Focus 2/ Science and technology



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Revision

when tells us the time or moment something happens.
"I eat ice cream when it's hot outside"

during means something happens at the same time as something else.
"I read a book during my bedtime"

while is similar to "during" and means doing two things at the same time.
"I sing while I do my homework"

as soon as means something happens immediately after another thing.
"I will play outside as soon as I finish my dinner"

until tells us when something continues or lasts, and then it stops.
"I will play games until the sun sets"

1

1 I read the biography of Martin Luther King *during / while* I was at home sick.
2 They didn't have smartphones *when / by* my father was a student.
3 *As soon as / While* we downloaded the song, we listened to it six times.
4 I learned a lot about web browsers *during / while* the weekend computer course.
5 It was minus ten every day last week *until / by* Friday.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2

You can take my laptop now but I need it on Wednesday. **BY**
You can take my laptop now but return it *by Wednesday*, please.

1 The moment you get home, send me a text message. **SOON**
Send me a text message _____ home.

2 Susie drove to Manchester and listened to the CD in the car. **WHEN**
Susie listened to the CD _____ to Manchester.

3 I was watching the film and began to feel cold. **DURING**
I _____ the film.

4 We had something to eat and waited for the program to download. **WHILE**
We had something to eat _____ downloading.

5 James did the experiment then showed me his notes. **AFTER**
James showed me _____ the experiment.

6 I read my book and waited for you to arrive. **UNTIL**
I _____ your arrival.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Writing

Read Paul's story and choose the best title, A, B or C.

- The Holiday of a Lifetime
- Surprise by the Sea
- Beautiful Cornwall

I was twelve years old and my parents and I were on holiday in Cornwall. They are both biologists and we all love nature. One morning, Dad suggested walking along the beach to a distant village.

It was a lovely day for a walk, but after an hour, I noticed some dark clouds. I asked my parents if they thought we should go back. They smiled at each other, and then Mum said we were nearly there.

What was going on? Mum usually made me go indoors during storms. What's more, we were still far away from the village. Anyway, suddenly, there was loud thunder and it started to rain. "Come on, quick!" my father said. "We're almost there."

I noticed a cottage not far away. Dad started running towards it so we ran after him. When we got there, he seemed really excited, which I must admit was a bit strange. Unfortunately, there was no one home. 'That's unlucky,' said Dad 'but wait...' Suddenly, he took a key from his pocket, unlocked the door and pushed it open. He was silent for a moment. Then with a smile he said: "Come in. And welcome home!" What a surprise!

In fact, thinking back to my parents' behaviour during the first part of our holiday, I knew something strange was going on – but I had no idea what! Our new holiday home was the perfect place for nature lovers. It was awesome!

We still live in London, but our cottage in Cornwall is our dream house, and I will never forget the day I first saw it.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Writing

Read the story again and put events in the correct order.

a Nobody answered the door. ☐
b The weather changed. ☐
c The family went into their new holiday home. ☐
d The family went to Cornwall on holiday. ☐
e Paul saw a cottage in the distance. ☐
f The family went for a walk along the coast. ☐



WRITING FOCUS

A story

- Set the scene:
  I [1] was twelve years old when …
  It was late in the evening when …
  It [2] _____ a walk.
  I was in the classroom when …
- Use questions, short dramatic sentences and occasional exclamation marks to show surprise or excitement:
  What was [3] _____ on?
  What a [4] _____ !
  What a nightmare!
  It was [5] _____ !
  We were in trouble.
- Use adverbs to add interest:
  All of a sudden, / [6] _____, / [7] _____, / Luckily,
  … really (good)
  … incredibly (beautiful)
  … completely (lost)
- Use a summarising statement to begin or end your story:
  I'll never forget [8] _____ I first saw … /
  the time I decided to … / when I first went … /
  … was an event I'll never forget.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Writing

Match suitable parts of useful phrases for writing a story. There are two extra endings.

	It was four years	i	a years later when …
1	What a		b in trouble
2	I'll never		c a surprise!
3	It was a few		d nightmare!
4	It was a lovely day		e forget …
5	What		f going on?
6	Meeting my husband was		g for a walk …
			h an event I'll never forget.
			i ago when …

Hitting the JACKPOT*



It was four years ago when my luck started to change. I was walking home from work when a man rushed out of a newsagent's and jumped on a bus. [a]*Unfortunately / Incredibly*, a small piece of paper fell from his pocket.

It was a lottery ticket. I put it in my bag and forgot all about it until a few weeks later when I found it again in my handbag. I checked the ticket. [1]_____ It wasn't the winning ticket, but it won a small amount of money.

[b]*Anyhow / I must admit* I thought about taking the money, but I decided to keep the ticket for good luck instead. [c]*Actually / While*, my luck did change after that.

[2]_____ I met my husband, Paul. On our wedding day, he said he felt like the luckiest man alive. At that moment, I decided to tell him the story of my lottery ticket to show him I was lucky too. [d]*Then / Unfortunately* Paul started to laugh. [3]_____ the next thing he told me. He used to play the lottery and the numbers on the ticket were his lucky numbers. [e]*During / Suddenly* I knew who he was. It was Paul who dropped the ticket. I couldn't believe it! We weren't rich, but we were very happy [f]*anyway / luckily*.



* Hit the Jackpot – to be very successful or lucky

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read the extracts from different stories. Find and correct three mistakes in each.

1 I was 14 years old then I first became interested in archaeology. I was looking for fossils one Sunday afternoon when I made the discovery that made me famous. I am never forget the feeling of seeing it there in the ground for the first time. It was awesome?

2 We were in the Chemistry lab at school when we noticed the strange smell. All of a suddenly, there was a loud bang. What is going on? Our teacher walked in from a lab next to ours. Her hair was a mess and her glasses were black with smoke. Lucky, she was more shocked than hurt. 'What happened, Miss?' asked one of my classmates.

3 The school trip to the science museum is a day I'll never remember. We had a great time at the museum. When we were going back to meet the others at the bus to go home, my friend and I got stuck in a lift. The lights went off and the alarm didn't work. We were on trouble. What we were going to do?

Choose one of the extracts and say what you think happened next.

LIVEWORKSHEETS