2.7 Writing

An article

I can write an article about a past event.

1 Make lists of the following. Then compare your ideas with a partner.

- four sports you have tried
- three sports you haven't tried but would like to
- two sports you would never try

2 Read the article. Did the writer enjoy the experience?

Snowboarding for the first time!

opening

Last month my friend and I went to Austria and tried snowboarding. We'd both skied before, but snowboarding was a completely new sport for us.

body

We'd booked some lessons before we arrived and on the first morning we hired our helmets, boots and boards. We were both feeling quite nervous, but very excited as we took the lift up the mountain. The first lesson was really challenging and we fell over A LOT! By the end of the first day, we were exhausted.

The following morning, our legs were aching and tired, but we didn't give up. After three days of lessons, we felt more confident and we were really starting to enjoy ourselves. On the fourth day, we tried a more difficult slope and I'm proud to say I got all the way to the bottom without falling over.

closing

By the end of the week, we'd both fallen in love with snowboarding and we didn't want to go home. Snowboarding requires determination, but I'd definitely recommend it. We can't wait for next winter and the chance to do it all again.

3 In pairs, discuss the questions.

1 Have you ever tried snowboarding or skiing? In what ways was your experience similar or different to the writer's?

2 If you haven't tried the two sports yet, would you like to? Why?/Why not?

4 Read the WRITING FOCUS. Then complete it with the words and phrases in pink in the article.

WRITING FOCUS

An article about a past event

Opening

- In the first paragraph, say where and when the events took place and who was involved.
  Last winter, [1]_____ went to Austria …

Body

- In the main paragraphs, use narrative tenses to say what happened and how you felt (see lesson 2.2).
- Use linkers to describe the events in sequence.
  - Beginning: [2]_____ we arrived/left/got there, (at) fi rst, on the fi rst morning/day
  - Middle: then, later, the [3]_____ morning, after that, on the third day
  - End: eventually (= after a long time), finally, in the end
  - Other: [4]_____ the fi rst day/lesson/journey

Closing

- In the final paragraph, say what happened in the end and how the people involved felt.
  By the end of the week, we'd both fallen in love with snowboarding.
- Finish with a general point, something for the reader to think about, or something about the present or future,
  Snowboarding requires determination, but I'd definitely recommend it.

5 Complete the tips for writing an article with the words in the box. There are two extra words.

[end final general how linkers reader sequence what ~~when~~ who why]

1 In the first paragraph say where and when the events took place and _____ was involved.

2 In the main body, use narrative tenses to describe _____ happened and _____ you felt.

3 Use linkers to describe the events in _____ .

4 In the _____ paragraph say what happened in the _____ and how the people involved felt.

5 Finish with a _____ point, something for the _____ to think about or something about the present or future.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Verb patterns

- **verb + to infinitive**

  Of course, they **need** [1] to prepare *physically.*

  Examples: *aim, arrange, attempt, can't afford, decide, expect, hope, intend, manage, offer, plan, refuse, remember, seem, tend, try, want*

- **verb + object + to infinitive**

  I **help them** [2] _____ *for important competitions.*

  Examples: *advise, allow, encourage, force, remind, teach, urge, warn (not)*

- **verb + -ing**

  But after they've **spent time** _____ *their body, I …*

  Examples: *avoid, can't help, can't stand, don't mind, enjoy, fancy, finish, imagine, keep, miss, stop, waste time*

- **modal verb + infinitive without to**

  … they **should** [4] _____ *plenty of sleep …*

  Examples: *can, could, might, should, would*

- **verb + object + infinitive without to**

  I **make them** [5] _____ *and prepare the mind.*

  Examples: *make, let*

opening

body

closing

Writing task

You have seen this announcement on an international students' website.

> Have you had a new experience or tried a new activity for the first time?
> Write an article about it for our website and other people can read about it.

A Write your article in 100–120 words. Follow these steps.

- Say when and where the experience took place and who was involved.
- Describe what happened in terms of hours or days.
- Say how you and/or the other people involved felt.
- Say what happened in the end.
- Say how you and/or the other people felt at the end.
- Conclude with a general point and a personal recommendation.

Useful language

- Last summer I went …
- It was a completely new experience for me.
- The first day was …
- I was feeling really …
- By the end of the day we were/had …
- I would definitely recommend it.

B Use the ideas in the WRITING FOCUS and the model to help you.

C Check.

✓ Have you followed the task?
✓ Does the introduction include location, people and a date?
✓ Have you used a variety of narrative tenses?
✓ Have you used linkers to describe events in sequence?
✓ Have you organised your article into paragraphs?
✓ Have you concluded with a general opinion and a recommendation?

LIVEWORKSHEETS