

Task 3 – Reading into Writing: Holidays and Hotels

At a glance:

Level: ISE Foundation

Focus: Task 3 – Reading into writing

Aims: To give the students practice in talking about 'holidays' using the past tense, to provide a reading task that can be carried out communicatively and to get students to write a text using a written prompt

Objectives: To practise carrying out a reading comprehension, to practise speaking about holidays and to write an advert using a written prompt

Skills: Skimming and scanning, extensive and intensive reading and writing in the past using the past simple

Topic: Holidays and hotels

Language functions: Talking about past events connected with holidays and holiday places

Lexis: Holidays & hotels

Materials needed: Paper and pens and student worksheet

Timing: 45 minutes

Procedure

Preparation

Print one student worksheet for each student. You may like to cut up extra copies of the texts so that each student has just one 'hotel' to start but they will need to see all three texts later in the lesson.

In class

1. Tell the students that in today's lesson they are going to be talking about holidays and they are going to carry out a number of tasks which will help to prepare them for Task 3 – Reading into writing of the ISE F Reading & Writing test.
2. Write '*holidays*' on the board. Give the students 1-2 minutes to think of words connected with holidays and tell the students to write a list. Feedback in open-class. While the students are giving you ideas

related to holidays, you could write them up on the board. Check everyone understands all the words. Ask a few words at random for the students to explain or maybe translate for the weaker students.

3. Put the students in pairs. They have to talk and tell each other about their last holiday where they went / who they went with / what they did and if they stayed in a hotel they can describe it to their partner. While the students are talking, walk around to check they understand, they are speaking in English and using past simple to talk about the past and there are no major problems.
4. Put the students in groups of three. Give each student a copy of the student worksheet. Tell them you are going to allocate each student a short text which describes a hotel somewhere in the world. Tell the students to look only at their hotel and not at the other two texts. At this stage you could give each student the whole worksheet or if easier a cut out version of Text 1, 2 or 3. Ask the students to look at the questions in Task A and answer them accordingly.
5. Tell the students they are now going to tell the other two in their group key information about their hotels: where it is and how it's different. They should read their texts twice then turn them over (so they can't copy) and then write some notes about the text they have read. They then briefly tell the other two in their group what the text is about. **They mustn't read their text to the others.** Tell the other two students to complete the table in Task A on the student worksheet while their partner tells them information about their hotel. They can repeat information if the other two students ask, but they mustn't show their texts to the others or read them aloud.
6. Tell the students they can now look at all three texts and answer the questions in Tasks A, B and C. While the students are completing the tasks, walk around and check the students understand what to do, they are doing the work and speaking in English.
7. Go through the answers to Tasks A, B and C and write them up on the board. Give some general feedback to the class on how well they completed the task and what they could do to improve.
8. Now write on the board 'Holiday Adverts'. Brainstorm with the class what they would expect to see in a holiday advert for example:

Information about the hotel

The place itself

What they can do there

The food

The price etc

Also elicit what words are generally used in adverts adjectives to say how good it is for example superlatives, positive adjectives, etc.

Writing activity

9. Put the students in pairs. Tell them to think of adverts for holidays on T.V., in magazines etc. Now they have to **write** an advert for a magazine about a place they know or somewhere they are interested in. Give them 10-15 minutes to write the advert. Tell the students they can use text and drawings.
10. Walk around to check that the students understand what they are doing and offer assistance where necessary. As you go around, indicate where their mistakes are but try to get them to correct them themselves.
11. At the end of the class, collect the adverts and put them up on the wall in the classroom, if possible.

Extension activity

For the faster students, tell them they are on holiday together in another country or other town and they're going to write a postcard to their classmates saying where they are, what they are doing, what they did yesterday and the day before and what they visited and anything else they would like to add.

Further support activity

As a lot of the activities have been done in groups the weaker students have had the help of the more able students. However, you are probably aware of who the weaker students are and therefore you can give them a bit more help as you walk around, monitoring.

After class

Ask the students to write a postcard (100-120 words) from a holiday destination they have been to recently. The postcard should be written in the present and past simple. It should include: where they are on holiday, when they arrived and what they did yesterday.

Student Worksheet**Task 3 – Reading into Writing:**
Holidays**Task A – Complete the table**

	Burj Al Arab	Jukkasjarvi	Hilton
Where is the hotel?			
What's different about it?			

Task B - Match the following with the hotel

1. It's not made of normal building materials.
2. You can see fish swimming close up.
3. You are given rose water and dates when you arrive.
4. Reindeer fur is used for something
5. Helicopters are a common means of transport here.

Task C - Which of these sentences are TRUE?

1. The hotel in Dubai has 4 swimming pools.
2. In the ice hotel they often have barbecues in the bar.
3. The underwater hotel is partly under water not totally submerged.
4. In the underwater hotel, the fish are swimming in your room.
5. The ice hotel has been there for a long time.

Reading Texts

Text 1

Burj Al Arab Hotel

This 7 star hotel that people say is the world's most luxurious hotel is situated in Dubai. From a distance, it looks like the sail of a very tall ship. It is, in fact, one of the tallest hotels in the world.

The hotel has everything you need for a great holiday. There are 4 swimming pools, a private beach, a spa and restaurants with fantastic food. If you need a taxi, you can choose a Mercedes, a Rolls Royce or even a helicopter. When you arrive at the airport you can be collected by one of the hotel's cars or of course the helicopter.

On your arrival at the hotel you are welcomed by several members of staff offering you rose water, dates and coffee. In your room you have your own butler. He is there to look after you and provide whatever you need during your stay.

The price? Well that can be \$2000 a night.

Text 2

Ice Hotel - Jukkasjarvi

This hotel is called the Ice Hotel because it's made completely of ice and snow. It's in Sweden in a town called Jukkasjarvi. It's a temporary hotel, they have to build it again every winter because in the summer it melts when the temperature starts rising. It needs a constant temperature of below freezing so less than 0 degrees centigrade.

You can stay there for a few days and nights of course. You probably won't want to stay longer unless you really like living in a very very cold place!

The bar is made of ice and the glasses are also made of ice! The entrance is full of ice statues and even the beds are made of ice so the visitors sleep in sleeping bags on animal skins, reindeer skins actually.

The food and drink is specially chosen for somewhere that is freezing all the time. Hot food is prepared but they can't cook it in the hotel, they cook outside on an open fire.

Text 3

The Hilton - Maldives

This hotel is partly above the water and partly under the water. It's one of the world's first underwater hotels.

Imagine waking up and seeing fish swimming around your room. But of course they aren't actually in your room, you are watching them through huge glass windows. It's the same in the restaurant, you sit at your table and the fish are just a few centimetres from you but on the other side of the glass.

It has a swimming pool (without fish of course), tennis courts and a golf course.

It's not the only underwater hotel, others have been built in other tropical paradise resorts around the world and they are ideal places for couples on their honeymoon.

Answer Key:

Task A – Complete the table

	Burj Al Arab	Jukkasjarvi	Hilton
Where is the hotel?	Dubai	Sweden	Maldives
What's different about it?	One of the tallest hotels in the world You can use a helicopter as a mode of transport	It is made completely of ice and snow They have to build it every year in winter	The hotel is partly underwater You can see fish swimming in your room

Task B

1. Jukkasjarvi
2. Hilton
3. Burj Al Arab
4. Jukkasjarvi
5. Burj Al Arab

Task C

1. True
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. False

Original sources:

<http://conradhotels3.hilton.com/en/hotels/maldives/conrad-maldives-rangali-island-MLEHICI/index.html>

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<http://www.jumeirah.com/en/hotels-resorts/dubai/burj-al-arab/>