

English Writing Exercises – A Description

Preparation

1. Read the text below then determine which paragraph in the text (1, 2 or 3) tells you about ...

| TEXT | ANSWER |
|--|--|
| 1. I live in a fairly small apartment with my parents and my younger brother. The apartment is in a large block just outside the town. There are two other blocks, a supermarket and a cinema in the same street. There aren't any other shops in the area, although it's very easy to get a bus into town. | a. The size of the rooms in the apartment b. Writer's activities in the evening c. The location of the apartment d. The other buildings near the apartment e. Number of the rooms in the apartment |
| 2. The apartment only has two bedrooms, so I have to share a room with my brother. There are two bathrooms, a kitchen and a living room. The kitchen is not very large, but there's a table. I usually do my homework in the kitchen because it's quieter than the living room. | a. The size of the rooms in the apartment b. Writer's activities in the evening c. The location of the apartment d. The other buildings near the apartment e. Number of the rooms in the apartment |
| 3. We often go to the cinema in the evening, because it's very near our home. It's also pretty cheap. We don't eat in restaurants very often, but we sometimes have a special meal when it's somebody's birthday. There aren't any restaurants nearby, so we have to get a bus into town. | a. The size of the rooms in the apartment b. Writer's activities in the evening c. The location of the apartment d. The other buildings near the apartment e. Number of the rooms in the apartment |

2. Rewrite each pair of sentences as a single sentence. Include the conjunction in the brackets.

1. The house is modern. It's very comfortable. (*although*)

2. We were tired. We went to bed early. (*because*)

3. We stayed at home. It was a cold evening. (*so*)

4. The cinema is expensive. Tickets for children are cheaper. (*although*)

5. The café closed. It was not very popular. (*because*)

Writing Guide

Writing Strategy

We often use modifiers like **very** or **fairly** before adjectives when we are writing a description. Modifiers make the description sound more natural.

The apartment is very / fairly modern.

3. Read the Writing Strategy. Then complete the sentences using a modifier and an adjective from the list below. More than one answer is possible.

Modifiers: extremely fairly not very pretty really very
Adjectives: busy expensive large modern noisy popular

1. There's an French restaurant in the next street.
2. Our house is in a part of town with lots of shops.
3. There's a café opposite our house and it's with teenagers.
4. All three bedrooms are
5. The streets are during the day, but quiet at night.
6. There's a TV and a hi-fi in the living room, but they aren't

Extra Exercise

Strategy

When you write a description, the sentences should not be too short or too long. Each one should have two or three pieces of information. Remember you can join two ideas with conjunctions such as and, but, so or because.

1. Read the Strategy. Then use a conjunction to rewrite the two sentences as one.

1) It isn't in the city centre. It's quiet and peaceful

2) I'm not lonely. My friends often visit me.

3) It's a large flat. It's on the tenth floor.

4) 4 It's got a lot of windows. The rooms are very bright.

2. Write a description of your ideal home. Include information about:

- The location
- The rooms
- Your room
