6.7 Writing

A forum post about an experience



A learning experience: making pasta

by Liam Sullivan

I've just been on a great course. It was on how to make pasta and it took place at an Italian restaurant. There were ten of us from my class. Our Food Technology teacher encouraged me to take the course.

First of all, our chef, Paolo, told us that hygiene is very important in the kitchen. He explained that we should always wash our hands. He also reminded us to wear an apron.

After that, we went on to make the pasta. Paolo showed us how to mix the ingredients – flour, oil and eggs – with a fork. Next, we made dough with our hands. He warned us not to add water. Finally, he advised us to leave the dough to rest for thirty minutes.

About half an hour later, we were ready to make our pasta. Everybody made a different type. I made fettuccine. Soon after, we were cooking our pasta. It was delicious!

I had never made pasta before. It was a fun learning experience. I highly recommend it to anyone who thinks cooking is difficult.

1 Read Liam's post and answer the questions.

1 What was the course on?
how to make pasta

2 Who recommended the course?

3 Had Liam made pasta before?

4 Did he enjoy the course?

5 Who does he think this course is good for?

2 Order the reporting verbs as they appear in the Liam's post. There is one extra verb.

a ☐ asked
b ☐ explained
c [1] encouraged
d ☐ reminded
e ☐ advised
f ☐ warned

3 Rewrite the sentences using the reporting verbs in brackets.

1 'Don't forget to check your writing when you've finished,' the teacher told us. (remind)
The teacher reminded us to check our writing.

2 'Don't touch that hot plate,' the waiter told me. (warn)

3 'This is how you mix the things together,' the chef told us. (explain)

4 'Make notes as you watch the video,' the trainer told them. (advise)

5 'You should show your work to your friends,' the tutor told Anna. (encourage)

4 Match paragraph functions 1–5 with example sentences a–e.

1 [d] getting your reader's attention and basic details
2 ☐ describing what happened first
3 ☐ describing what happened next
4 ☐ describing what happened in the end
5 ☐ summary recommendation

a At the beginning, the trainer explained how to survive in the wild.
b If you really want to try something different, I encourage you to try it.
c Eventually, we arrived at our destination.
d ~~Let me tell you about my outdoor survival course.~~
e After that, we tried to make a campfire.

WRITING TIME

5 Write a forum post about a real or imaginary learning experience.

1 Find ideas
Make notes about:
- how to get your reader's attention.
- the details of the training/event: what you learned and how you learned it.
- a summary recommendation.

2 Plan and write
- Organise your ideas into paragraphs. Use Liam's post in Exercise 1 to help you.
- Write a draft of your post.

3 Check
- Check language: have you used reporting verbs?
- Check grammar: have you used reported speech correctly?
- Write the final version of your post.

I can write a post about an event. Unit 6

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