

Writing skills practice: A blog – The X Games – exercises

Look at the blog and do the exercises to improve your writing skills.

Preparation

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

1. You should blog about something you really love.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
2. Blog writing tends to be more conversational. You can write like you talk.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
3. Your readers don't want to see your pictures.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
4. You should avoid talking about your personal opinions and experiences.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
5. You should try to be original and show your personality and style.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
6. You should never copy ideas or content without saying where it's from.	<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>

Simon'sblog

The Barcelona X Games

Yesterday was the fourth day of our end-of-year trip to Barcelona and we had a really amazing day!

My friends Chris, Jules, Sam and me paid 30 euros each for tickets to see the Barcelona X Games. We thought it was really pricey but we wanted to go so much so we paid. The X Games are like the world championships of skateboarding, BMX bikes and motorbike Moto X riding. We saw the BMX bike Big Air final which was really cool. The riders went down a huge ramp at top speed, then shot upwards and did a trick in mid-air before landing on another ramp. They flew over a gap of more than 15 metres! The guy who won the gold medal was called Zack Warden and he did an awesome jump that had to be seen to be believed. We had seats near the action so we had a brilliant view of it. Check out the photo I took!



My friend Chris is a BMX rider and he knew one of the guys who was competing – he and Chris are from the same neighbourhood. Because of this contact, we got to meet some of the riders after the competition! We even got to talk to Zack Warden for a few minutes while he was chilling out after winning. He was super-friendly to us!

It was such a great day, so much fun! Can't wait to hang out with these guys again.

20 July

I'm Simon. Welcome to my blog ...



Top Tips for writing

1. Blog about something you really love.
2. Write like you talk! Blogs tend to have a conversational style.
3. Learn to take good pictures and share them with your readers.
4. Share your personal experiences and your opinions.
5. Be original and try to show your own personality and style.
6. Only include your own work and never copy content without saying where it's from.

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1. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best option to complete these sentences.

1. They've been on holiday for five days / four months / a year .
2. They thought the tickets for the Barcelona X Games were cheap / well priced / expensive .
3. They watched the final of the BMX bike race / Moto X race / BMX jumping competition .
4. 15 metres refers to the height of the winning jump / the distance between the two ramps / the size of the ramp .
5. Simon was able to meet some of the riders because he's a blogger and he had a press pass / one rider was a friend of a friend / they bought special all-access tickets .
6. Overall the experience was not worth the price of the ticket / really exciting and fun / not as good as he thought it would be .

2. Check your writing: gap fill – informal language

Write one informal word from the blog that has the same meaning as the word given.

1. expensive	_____ (one word)
2. inspiring a strong feeling of admiration	_____ (one word)
3. have a look at	_____ (two words)
4. had the opportunity to	_____ (two words)
5. relaxing	_____ (two words)
6. spend time	_____ (two words)

Discussion

Would you like to go to The X Games?

What would you write about if you were writing your own blog?