

Writing skills practice: A postcard from Scotland – exercises

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

Preparation

Write the sentences in the correct groups.

The food is disgusting.	The people are very friendly.	We're having a great holiday.
The countryside is beautiful.	The weather is awful.	It rains almost every day.
The hotel is in a convenient location.	The hotel staff are not helpful.	

Good	Bad

Hi Eric!

We're having a great holiday here in Scotland. We're staying in a hotel in the centre of Edinburgh. It's got a swimming pool but it's too cold to swim! There are lots of things to do. The people are very friendly, but sometimes I can't understand them.

Last week we went to Loch Ness but we didn't see the monster, unfortunately. Scotland is very beautiful but the weather is awful. It's very cold and windy and it rains every day!

Are you having a good holiday at the beach?

See you soon

Jenny x


Affix stamp here

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Top Tips for writing

Use contractions in informal writing.

We are having a great holiday = **We're** having a great holiday

It has got a swimming pool = **It's got** a swimming pool

It is very cold and windy = **It's** very cold and windy

1. Check your understanding: true or false

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

- | | | | |
|----|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | Jenny is on holiday in the Scottish city of Edinburgh. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | Eric is on holiday on a beach. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Jenny is not having a good holiday. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | The weather is beautiful in Scotland. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | Jenny went swimming in the hotel. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | Jenny likes the people in Scotland. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. | Jenny is going to Loch Ness to see the monster tomorrow. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. | The hotel is in a good location. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your writing: contractions

Rewrite the sentences using contractions.

- It is so hot and sunny at the beach today.
.....
- The hotel is very big and it has got a games room.
.....
- Tomorrow, we are going on a tour of the old castle.
.....
- They are not meeting us for dinner.
.....
- We could not go to the museum yesterday because it was closed.
.....
- I did not bring my sunglasses.
.....
- I cannot understand the words on the menu.
.....
- She is the tour guide for today's trip.
.....

Discussion

Have you ever sent a postcard or e-card when on holiday? Would you like to visit Scotland?