

Writing L2WLO4

A Day in my Life

Learning Outcome 4: Write a short description of people, places and activities

EXPLORING WRITTEN ENGLISH

LANGUAGE FOR WRITING Writing Descriptions of Daily Activities

When you write descriptions of people's daily activities, you need to organize the information about the person's day from the first thing they do to the last thing they do.

You need to use the simple present tense to describe the things that the person does.

You also need to use adjectives to describe things like the person's hometown (e.g. *small, large*), his/her job (e.g. *difficult, fun*), what he/she is like (e.g. *kind, shy*) and how he/she feels (e.g. *happy, tired*).

A Read the text. Complete the following tasks:

1. Write *first* next to the first thing he does.
2. Write *last* next to the last thing he does.
3. Underline the simple present verb forms.
4. Circle the adjectives.

A day in the life of a farmer in Norway

My day starts at 5:00 a.m. I get up and I have breakfast while my family are still asleep. Then I get dressed. I put warm clothes on because it's very cold here. I live in a very small town in the countryside. At 6:00 a.m., I start work. In my job, I look after the reindeer on my farm. Reindeer are very nice, friendly animals. I never have any problems with them and I'm very happy when I'm at work. I give the animals their food and clean the place where they sleep. Then I check all the animals to see if they're healthy. At 12:00 p.m., I finish work for the day and sleep for another two hours. Then I have lunch with my family. I sometimes help my children with their homework. Sometimes it's quite difficult! I also play games with them. In the evening, we have dinner and I read an interesting book. I'm usually tired. At 10:00 p.m., I go to bed.

B Work in pairs. Read the text in exercise A again and discuss the questions.

1. When does the farmer's day start and end?
2. What is the place where the farmer lives like?
3. How does the farmer describe how he feels? What words does he use?

EDITING PRACTICE Sentence Structure

When you write sentences, check that you use the correct sentence structure.

First, the subject of the sentence – that's a person or thing (e.g. *I, we, the town, my job*).

Then, the verb in the correct form for the subject (e.g. *work, works*).

After that, you have the words for a time, a place or an activity or, if the verb is *to be*, an adjective.

C Put the words in the correct order. Remember to use a capital letter for the first word in each sentence.

1. a big city / live / I / in _____

2. first lesson / at / 9:00 / starts / my _____

3. interesting / the meeting / was / very _____

WRITING TASK

GOAL You are going to write a paragraph about a day in your life.

PLANNING A Make notes for your paragraph about the things below.

1. the activities you do on a normal day in your life and the order you do these activities in
2. the most important activities that you want to write about in your paragraph
3. the adjectives you can use to describe activities, places, people (including you) and any other important things in your day

FIRST DRAFT B Write a first draft of your paragraph.

EDITING C Now use the questions below to edit your paragraph.

- ☐ Did you include all the information about your daily activities in the correct order?
- ☐ Did you use the simple present tense correctly?
- ☐ Did you use adjectives correctly?
- ☐ Did you check the structure of your sentences?