Lesley Jones

Vet S Speak Listen & Write





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SAMPLE



My Favourite Season

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Alison saw this notice in a teenage magazine, and decided to send in an article. This is what she wrote.

MY FAVOURITE SEASON

Although I really enjoy the summer, my favourite time of year is, without a doubt, autumn. For me, it is the perfect time of year.

Autumn is a time of change. It is full of wonderful colours, and a sort of calmness seems to settle over everything. The leaves on the trees change colour from green to varying shades of orange and brown. The trees then slowly shed their leaves in

Articles Wanted
Which is your favourite seese
Describe the season you like most
and tell us when it and tell us when it
ind tell us why that time of year
ppears to you.
he best articles will be published
the next issue of Teenage
Veekly.
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preparation for the coming winter. In early autumn, the weather is often warm, but not uncomfortably so. The days get shorter and towards the end of autumn the weather starts to become unpredictable. There can be light showers or torrential downpours, and the temperature drops so that both the days and the evenings become noticeably cooler.

There are many things I enjoy about autumn. I like the fact that everything calms down after the excitement of summer, and people get back into their normal routines. I like to walk through the countryside admiring all the different colours. All of nature seems to be preparing itself for the approach of winter. Moreover, the new school year begins and I'm happy to see all my friends again. We talk about our holidays and make plans for the following weeks.

All in all, autumn is a peaceful time of year when everything returns to normal. I'm quite a relaxed person, so perhaps it is the calmness of autumn that I find appealing and which makes it so special to me.

LANGUAGE ACTIVATOR

1 Choose the correct meaning of the word, according to the second paragraph of the article.

- 1 varying
- 2 shade
- 3 shed
- 4 preparation
- 5 unpredictable
- 6 shower
- _
- 7 torrential
- 8 downpour

- a changing
- a kind
- a lose
- a readiness
- a unknown
- a constant rain
- a frequent
- a heavy rain

- **b** different
- b colour
- b throw
- b training
- b changeable
- b short period of rain
- b very heavy
- b light rain

2 Fill in the correct prepositions to complete the sentence. There are two prepositions you do not need to use.

at • of • out • with • in • on

- 1 One of the things I like about spring is the wonderful scent flowers the air.
- 2 One of the best things about summer is staying late late the evenings.
- 3 The leaves the trees are so many different shades red and orange.
- 4 The warmth the sun makes people feel good and puts a smile their faces.
- 5 In spring, the countryside is **full** trees **blossom**.
- 6 There are new buds the trees and flowers are bloom everywhere.
- 3 Look at the list of words / phrases and put them in the correct box. Some words may go in more than one box.



4 Write G if the word is associated with good weather or B if it is associated with bad weather.

1	heavy snowfall	 7	stormy	-
2	cool	 8	high temperatures	-
3	heat wave	 9	mild	-
4	bitterly cold	 10	cloudy	-
5	scorching hot	 11	frost	-
б	drizzle	 12	overcast	-



Talk about the two pictures. Use the questions to help you.

- Which seasons are shown?
- What are the people doing?
- What do you think they are enjoying?
- Which scene appeals to you the most? Why?





In the first picture, ... whereas in the second one ...

LISTEN

Part 1 You will hear a weather forecast for the whole of Britain. Listen and choose the correct answer.

- 1 In Manchester, the weather will be during the day.
 - a cold
 - **b** wet
 - c showery
- 2 In the north, there'll be during the night.
 - a frost
 - **b** rain
 - **c** showers
- 3 In the south tomorrow, the temperature will be 7 For the next few days, the weather in Britain
 - a below 6°C.
 - **b** 6°C.
 - **c** 16°C.
- 4 The Midlands can expect
 - a heavy rain.
 - b some light rain.
 - c very hot weather.

- 5 The south coast will be
 - a snowy.
 - **b** rainy.
 - c sunny.
- 6 In Scotland, there has been for the last two days.
 - a light rain
 - **b** no rain
 - c heavy rain
- 7 For the next few days, the weather in Britain will be
 - a very different.
 - **b** better.
 - c almost the same.
- 8 The next weather forecast will be given after the news.
 - a tomorrow morning
 - **b** tomorrow evening
 - c this evening

Part 2 Now listen again and discuss the answers to the following questions.

- 1 What time of year do you think it is?
- 2 Which part of the country will be the coldest? Why do you think this is?
- 3 Which part of the country would you prefer to be staying in? Why?

WRITE PLANNING AN ARTICLE



- Articles are usually written for magazines and newspapers.
- They are usually descriptive and are often about favourite people, places, objects or things. Present tenses are generally used for descriptions.
- 1 Look at the article on page 5 again, and then match each paragraph with what it is about.

Introduction	a describes the things that happen during the season
Paragraph 2	 b gives an overall statement about the season and says what it is that is most appealing
Paragraph 3	c introduces the topic and favourite season
Conclusion	d mentions the good things that happen during that season

2a You are going to write an article about your favourite season. Which of the following should you include in your article? Tick (✓) the correct boxes.

- a descriptive language
- **b** information about all four seasons
- c what the weather is generally like at that time of year
- d your own feelings about the season
- e a comparison between two of the four seasons
- f what you usually do during that season

b Tick (\checkmark) the best two introductions.

1 There are things I like about all the seasons, but for me spring is definitely the best time of year.

2 There are four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter. I like spring the best.

- 3 I live in the countryside, so I'm sure that it comes as no surprise that my favourite season is spring.
- c Why is the other introduction not as good?
- **3a** Tick (\checkmark) the paragraph that you think is the best.
 - 1 There are lots of reasons why I like winter. I love the snow and enjoy sitting in front of a warm fire while I watch the snow falling outside. I like to wrap up in my warm clothes and go out for a walk. The air is so cold and fresh it really refreshes me. And, of course, there is Christmas!
- 2 There are many things I like about summer. First of all, there's no school. I have time to do things I enjoy. I can see my friends every day. I can go to the beach. I can stay up late at night. Also, I go on holiday with my parents. We stay with my grandparents in France. France is a nice place.

COMMON ERRORS

Choose the correct word(s) to complete the sentence.

- 1 In summer, I prefer walking to school with my friends to / than taking the bus.
- 2 We usually have **sun / sunny** weather until September.
- 3 At night, the sky is so **clear / clean** you can see the stars.
- 4 It often rains **strongly / heavily** during the autumn.

- 5 I like it / when the weather is hot because we can go to the beach.
- 6 I enjoy it so much / such that I can't wait for it to be spring again.
- 7 We usually have good weather / a good weather during this season.
- 8 However / Although it is often cloudy in autumn, it isn't always very cold.

Preparation for the Writing Task

You have decided to write an article about your favourite season in response to the notice on page 5. Write notes next to the following questions.

Introduction

- ▶ What is your favourite season? _____
- ▶ Which of the sentences in exercise 2b will you use to start your article? _____

Paragraph 2

- What changes take place during this season? _____
- ➡ What is the weather usually like? ______
- ➡ What are the days / nights like? ______

Paragraph 3

- ▶ What is the main thing you like about this season? _____
- ➡ Why do you like it? _____
- ▶ What is another thing you like about this season? _____
- ➡ How does it make you feel? _____
- ▶ Is there anything you especially like doing during this season?

Conclusion

- ▶ What is the most important thing about this season? _____
- ▶ What makes this season so special to you? _____

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