Vocabulary 1: **HOLIDAYS**

**Types:**

adventure, beach, camping, skiing, all-inclusive, family, backpacking, cruise, safari, city break, tour, cultural trip

**Adjectives:**

enjoyable, exciting, fun-filled, wonderful, disastrous, horrible, terrible

**Verbs:**

to go on holiday, to book, to cancel, to return/to come back, to reach

**Accomodation:**

hotel, guest house, self-catering apartment, villa, hostel, cottage, chalet, bungalow, tent

**Activities:**

taking photos, sightseeing, bungee jumping, eating out, sailing, scuba-diving, horse-riding, rock-climbing, swimming, sunbathing

**Weather:**

good, great, nice, fine, lovely, beautiful, wonderful, excellent, gorgeous, fair, mild, pleasant, bad, awful, terrible, nasty, lousy, foul, rotten, miserable, unpleasant, dull, gloomy, ugly, sunny, warm, hot, mild, cool, chilly, cold, freezing, icy, frosty, rainy, wet, humid, dry, arid, frigid, foggy, windy, stormy, breezy, windless, calm, still; sky: cloudy, overcast, cloudless, clear, bright, blue, gray, dark

**Beach holidays**:

crowded beach,

unspoiled beach,

sandy/rocky beach,

to sit on a deck chair/ to recline on a sun lounger

to lie on the towel,

to lie in the sun/to sunbathe,

to get a tan,

to walk on the quay.

**Mountain holidays:**

breathtaking/spectacular landscapes,

meadows,

slopes,

to follow a path/trail,

away from the hustle and bustle of city life,

to do rock climbing,

cable car,

peak.

Writing an informal e-mail

* *Write an e-mail to your best friend to inform him/her about your plans for this holiday and ask him/her if it is possible to join you. Use no more than 100 words.*

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* *You have just won two tickets to spend a weekend at the seaside. Write an e-mail to your best friend to invite her to come with you. Use no more than 150 words.*

TIPS

- identify the key words and what you are expected to write

*you have just won* = you should include a short explanation of the circumstances in which you have won the tickets;

*best friend* = a highly familiar tone;

*to invite* = details of the location and the period of time involved; reasons for inviting the recipient and not someone else.

- pay attention to the format of an e-mail:

* Use a specific way to write the sender’s and the recipient’s addresses

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

* It usually starts with *Dear…* (the recipient’s first name), separated by the rest of the text, but you can also use any other familiar greeting according to the type of the relationship you have with the recipient: *Hello!, Hi!, My dear…*
* All the paragraphs start from the left side of the page because e-mails are a fast way of writing messages on computer that require the least typing effort.
* The introduction should always include the reason for writing.
* The conclusion should always include closing greetings.
* Separated by the main body of the text, at the end we should include a greeting such as *With love, Hugs,* *Yours*, etc.
* Informal register.
* Use connectors to make your ideas easy to follow: *because, firstly, so, that’s why, if, in the end,* etc.
* Use paragraphs to organize your explanations.
* Use varied grammatical structures so that your language makes a good impression upon the reader.
* Use vocabulary related to *holidays, seaside, making invitations (informal)\**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| \* Do you want + V?  Why don't we + V?  Let's + V.  How about + V-ing? | *Do you want to have a drink with me?*  *Why don't we go out for dinner?*  *Let's go away this weekend*.  *How about going to a movie?* |

Suggested answer

TO: [jeremysmith…@yahoo.com](mailto:jeremysmith@yahoo.com)

FROM: [johnthomas…@yahoo.com](mailto:marythomas@yahoo.com)

SUBJECT: Invitation to the seaside

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Greeting* | Hello Jeremy! |  |
|  |  |  |
| *Reason for writing*  *Factual details* | How are things going? I hope everything is ok, because I have great news: I have just won two tickets at the prize draw promoting the new chocolate wafers! They are for a stay at the seaside. Will you come with me next weekend to Mamaia, at Park Hotel? | *Interrogative forms*  *Connectors* |
| *Expressing feelings* | I can’t think of anybody else since you are my best friend and you will stay in Romania only for two months! | *Connectors* |
| *Convincing details* | I hope you’ll enjoy the resorts here, the discos, the sun, and the people on the beaches, and you shouldn’t worry at all about speaking English, because a lot of people know the language. | *Modal verbs* |
| *Asking for an answer* | Please let me know if you can come asap, for the reason that I have to send them the name of the person I’ll bring along in two days’ time. |  |
| *Closing greetings* | Yours,  John. |  |

Writing a postcard

TIPS

Make notes about the weather, the type of accommodation, the activities you can do there.

* Start with Dear… or Hi!.
* Say where you are.
* Say what the place is like and what the weather is like.
* Say what type of accommodation you are staying in.
* Say what the picture on the postcard is of.
* Say what you do every day.
* Finish with *Love* or *Bye for now* and your name.

Suggested answer

Dear Mark,

We’re in Mallorca. It’s lovely here, and the weather is fantastic! We’re at a campsite in a small village. This is a picture of the beach we are at. We go swimming every morning and Kate goes sailing in the afternoon too.

Wish you were here!

Love,

Dan and Kate.