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Messages: Excuse notes

① Five pupils were absent from school yesterday. Complete their excuse notes with the right verb. Use the past simple. (There is one extra verb.)

1 Jason was absent yesterday because he*went*.... to his aunt's wedding.

2 Jenny was off school yesterday because she the school bus.

3 I am sorry that Euan was not at school. He ill.

- be break
- buy fall go
- have lose
- miss

4 I am sorry that Dominic was absent yesterday. He diarrhoea.

5 Rebecca was off because she and her arm.

② Johnny was absent every day last week! Write his excuses? Follow the letters and find the sentences.

1

H	I	S	H	A
D	E	R	E	M
I	D	T	S	

His hamster died.

2

H		F		
E	H	T	O	
H		R	O	T

3

H	E	L	O	
S	Y	S	I	S
E	K	H	T	

4

H		C	
D	A	A	E
O	O	T	H

5

H	C	A			
I	I	R	F	A	
S	F	R	O	M	
U	D	E	V	I	R
N	C	L	E	A	R



3 Look at the pictures and complete the Absence Record.



Alice Smith



Dean Armstrong



Richard Short



Kylie Preston

St John's High School	
Pupil	Reason for absence
Alice Smith	_____
Dean Armstrong	_____
Richard Short	_____
Kylie Preston	_____

4 You didn't go to school this week - you went to the park! Invent two excuses and write your mum or dad's name!

Your excuses can be sensible or funny.



Postcards: From a good hotel?


- ① Look at the picture. Sam is on holiday and she is staying at this hotel. She has written a postcard to her friend but she doesn't want to tell him how awful the hotel is. Read the postcard, cross out the wrong words and write the correct information.



terrible

Hello from a ~~wonderful~~ hotel! There is lots to do here. The swimming pool is enormous and the beach near the hotel is very clean and ~~tiny~~ how nice! The food is ~~delicious~~. It's hot and ~~strong~~, and the ~~cream~~ is really cheap! I wish you were here!

Best wishes,
Sam



**Use words from this box.
You won't need all of them!**

a long way from awful
comfortable dirty
expensive nothing
raining strong terrible
tiny wonderful



2 Cross out the adjectives which cannot complete the sentences.

1

clean soft
quiet dirty
fast tiny
modern enormous
expensive

Our hotel is ...

2

expensive
terrible modern
great
big sunny
strange

The weather is ...

3

delicious Italian
cold large
white
boring modern
round cheap

The food is ...

4

friendly expensive
cheap cool
empty honest
incredible awful

People here are ...

3 Now it's your turn. Look at the prompts and write two postcards. You can use any suitable adjectives.

1 I / on holiday / **ESP**



2 We / on holiday / **ESP**



③

- 1 I'm at home.
- 2 I'm just outside my house.
- 3 I'm at the bus stop opposite my house.
- 4 I'm on the bus.
- 5 My bus has just arrived in town.
- 6 Oh no! My battery's flat!

④

Callum is text messaging his friends, so he doesn't want any messages from his *mother*.

⑤

- 1 I've *missed* the bus. I'm at *the bus stop*. CU @ 6.30.
- 2 I'm *on the bus* now but the bus was late. CU @ 2.15.

Pages 16–17

Messages: E-cards

①

- 1 Merry Christmas
- 2 Get well soon!
- 3 Happy Birthday
- 4 Have a good trip!
- 5 Congratulations on your new baby!
- 6 Good luck with your driving test!

②

- 1 a; 2 d; 3 c; 4 e; 5 b; 6 f

③ (Suggested answers)

- 1 To Thomas
Get well soon!
Love,/Cheers,
- 2 To Mrs Jones,
Have a good trip!
Best wishes,/All the best,

Pages 18–19

Messages: Text messages

①

- 1 happy birthday to you
- 2 see you soon
- 3 today
- 4 wait for me
- 5 tonight
- 6 see you at school

②

The hidden message is *see you at school*.

③

- 1 See you at the swimming pool. Lots of love, Rachel
- 2 Wait for me at the park tomorrow. Joe
- 3 I've got a present for you! Lots of love, Nicola
- 4 I'll see you as soon as possible at the park. Bye bye, Mark

④

- Message 1 = C
Message 2 = A
Message 3 = E
Message 4 = D

⑤

- 1 CAN U MEET ME 2NIGHT? KEV
- 2 NO. I'M @ LAURA'S. I'LL PHONE U ASAP. AMY
- 3 GR8. SAY HI 2 LAURA 4 ME. BB.
- 4 C U 2MORROW. LOL, AMY

Pages 20–21

Messages: Excuse messages

①

- 1 went; 2 had; 3 was; 4 had; 5 fell, broke

②

- 1 His grandmother died.
- 2 He hurt his leg.
- 3 He lost his keys.
- 4 He had toothache.
- 5 His grandfather moved from Africa.

③ (Suggested answers)

Alison: My goldfish died.

Dear Tom: He fell into the river.

Richard: He was at the dentist's./He went to the dentist's.

John: She hurt her finger.

④ (Students' own answers)

Pages 22–23

Postcards: Hello from different places

①

Carl's route: Spain, Germany, Scotland, Poland, Denmark, Czech Republic, Italy, Greece, England, France

② (Suggested answers)

I've taken lots of photos.

We've been to a brilliant reggae concert.

We've met some really nice people.

We've eaten lots of ice cream.

I've bought a souvenir T-shirt.

Address:

Alison Brown
16 Railway Street
Oxford OX12 4PJ
Great Britain

Pages 24–25

Postcards: From a good hotel?

①

Hello from a *terrible* hotel! There's *nothing* to do here. The swimming pool is *tiny* and the beach is *a long way* from the hotel. The hotel is very *dirty* and the food is *awful*. It's *raining*, and ice creams are really *expensive*!

② Students cross out:

- 1 soft, fast
- 2 expensive, modern, strong, big
- 3 large, modern, round, white
- 4 expensive, empty, cheap

③ (Suggested answers)

- 1 Hi!
I'm on holiday in Spain.
Our hotel is awful/dirty/expensive/tiny/etc.
But the swimming pool is enormous/great/etc.
And it's sunny every day!
See you soon!
- 2 Hi!
We're on holiday in England.
The food in this hotel is awful/boring/cold/terrible/etc.
and the swimming pool is dirty/tiny/etc.!
But the people are cool/friendly/great/honest/
interesting/etc.
See you soon!

Pages 26–27

Postcards: From a festival

Notes

Edinburgh Festival: The Edinburgh Festival, held annually in August, is a popular festival of performing arts, including music, films and theatre. The artists and performers, who can be seen in theatres, church halls and on the streets, range from internationally known orchestras to amateur theatre groups. The festival is known as a place where young performers can make a name for themselves.

Royal Yacht: For most of the second half of the twentieth century, the Royal Yacht served as a travelling palace for Queen Elizabeth II, especially when she visited distant countries of the Commonwealth. Made redundant by air travel, the Royal Yacht was taken to Leith (just outside Edinburgh), where it has become a tourist attraction.

Princes Street: This is the main shopping street in Edinburgh. Unlike many shopping streets, it has shops on one side of the street only. The other side is open, giving views to the castle and Edinburgh Old Town.

Tattoo: A traditional part of the Edinburgh Festival (see above) is the Royal Military Tattoo – a colourful military show, put on in the evening on the esplanade in front of Edinburgh Castle.

① Students cross out:

- 1 some great music
- 2 my uncle
- 3 a good cup of tea
- 4 a bus
- 5 my favourite book
- 6 a T-shirt

②

I'm in Edinburgh. I had brilliant weather! I haven't taken any photos yet because my camera is broken. But I've been to a brilliant photo exhibition and I've just bought a ticket for a mime show tomorrow afternoon. I've seen a few famous people! I've been so busy that I haven't visited the castle yet! So you see I've had a great time here in Edinburgh.

③

- 1 eaten; 2 taken; 3 had
- 4 seen; 5 met; 6 been
- 7 lost; 8 bought; 9 phoned

④ (Students' own answers)

Pages 28–29

Postcards: The outdoor activities centre

①

Note

To crack the code, write the number in the alphabet: z = a, a = b, b = c, etc.

- 1 We *made* a brilliant model.
- 2 We *crawled* through the tunnel.
- 3 We went *swimming*. It was so relaxing.
- 4 We *took* some food and drink with us.

Picture a: 3

Picture b: 2

Picture c: 1

Picture d: 4

②

1 hills; 2 fire; 3 jokes; 4 bridge; 5 race

③

1 got; 2 went; 3 had; 4 were; 5 them; 6 had; 7 the;
8 into; 9 wake; 10 craft; 11 some; 12 had; 13 water;
14 But; 15 bought

④ (Students' own answers)

Pages 30–31

Postcards: Famous people write home

①

1 last/on; 2 twice; 3 into; 4 fun; 5 On/Last; 6 luxury;
7 photographs; 8 to; 9 yet; 10 hello; 11 love

② Students cross out:

- 1 I've arrived; 2 I did; 3 I've taken; 4 I've been, I haven't seen;
- 5 I didn't go; 6 I ate; 7 I've had; 8 I took, I didn't buy;
- 9 I went; 2 I've had; 3 I've played; 4 drank; 5 haven't bought;
- 6 I saw, didn't have

④ (Students' own answers)

Pages 32–33

Online writing: A chat room

①

1 F; 2 F; 3 F; 4 T

② (Students' own answers)

③ (Students' own answers)

④

- 1 surfing the Internet
- 2 taking photos
- 3 reading magazines
- 4 watching sport on TV
- 5 playing the guitar
- 6 going to the sports club
- 7 making models