

NEW

listening
speaking
writing

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plus

PRE-INTERMEDIATE

Contents

Unit 1	What I look like	
	Listening	6
	Speaking	7
	Writing a description of a person	9
Unit 2	All about me	
	Listening	14
	Speaking	15
	Writing an informal letter (I)	16
Unit 3	Places I've been to	
	Listening	22
	Speaking	23
	Writing a description of a place	24
Unit 4	On holiday	
	Listening	28
	Speaking	29
	Writing an informal letter (II)	30
Unit 5	An imaginary world	
	Listening	35
	Speaking	36
	Writing an imaginary story	38
Unit 6	Let's celebrate	
	Listening	43
	Speaking	44
	Writing an informal letter (III)	45
Unit 7	Films I've seen	
	Listening	50
	Speaking	51
	Writing a film review	52

Unit 8 My everyday experiences

Listening57
Speaking.....58
Writing an account of a true event.....59

Unit 9 Our green world

Listening64
Speaking.....65
Writing a formal letter66

Unit 10 Revision

Listening70
Speaking.....71
Writing72

Speaking Activities75

unit Let's celebrate

LISTENING

Pre-listening

- Have you ever been to a wedding or a formal dance?
What did you wear?
Where did you go?
What did you do there?



Activity 1

You will hear two students talking about some arrangements which they have to make for the end of the school year dance. In which order will they have to do the three tasks below? Write the numbers 1-3 in the boxes.

send the invitations	<input type="checkbox"/>
book the reception hall	<input type="checkbox"/>
hire the DJ	<input type="checkbox"/>

Activity 2

Listen to the recording. The two students are discussing what they are going to wear to the school dance. Complete the blanks in the sentences below with a word or a short phrase.

- Formal dresses are _____.
- Christine is going to _____ a dress.
- Christine's sister _____ to the dance last year.
- Christine is _____ than her sister.

SPEAKING

Activity 1

Work in pairs. Student **A** turn to page 75 and student **B** turn to page 78.
Don't look at each other's information.

Activity 2

Imagine that you and your partner are organising a New Year's Eve party and that you are going to invite people of your age. Discuss and decide which five of the ideas below are appropriate for the occasion. Then, explain why the other ideas aren't appropriate. Use the expressions given.

Suggested expressions

We could buy ...

Why don't we have ... ?

I would like to ...

Shall we ...

How about having ... ?

We must buy ...

I think it would be nice to ...

I don't think ... is a good idea because ...



Fireworks



Drinks



Music



Board games



Hats, streamers



Live band



Food



DVDs

an informal letter (III)

Discuss the topic

- What do you and your family usually do on Christmas Day?

Sample writing

1. Look at the boxes A-D below. Where should this information be placed in the letter? Write the answers on the letter. Then, read the letter. Who is definitely going to spend Christmas with Harry and his family?

A

Love,
Harry

B

December 17

C

18 Fenwick St
Roseberry
Berkshire BK6 4EA

D

Dear Aunt Sharon.

How are you? I'm fine and so is the rest of the family. It's nearly Christmas time and we'd like you, Uncle Fred and baby Charles to come and spend Christmas with us. Grandfather is coming, too, so we can all spend Christmas Day together. How about it?

We are going to have the guest room ready so we can put you up on Christmas Eve. That way we can all open our presents together when we wake up on Christmas morning.

Later on, we are going to have Christmas lunch. Of course, we're going to have turkey and vegetables and guess what! Mum's going to make traditional plum pudding! I love plum pudding!

After lunch we are going to gather round the fireplace and play board games. We're going to try some new games this year. It will be a great day!

We really want you to come. After all, you're only a few hours away! We'll be waiting for your reply.



2. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Write your answers in the boxes.

- 1 Harry's family are inviting their relatives for Christmas Day only.
- 2 Harry's favourite part of Christmas lunch is the dessert.
- 3 On Christmas Day they're all going to have lunch before playing board games.
- 4 Harry's family know for sure that all their relatives are going to spend Christmas with them.
- 5 Harry's aunt and uncle live very far away.

Plan

This unit deals with informal letters which we write to invite someone to a celebration and/or describe how we are going to celebrate. Below is a general plan for an informal letter of this type, with questions to guide you.

Greeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use first names 	
Opening paragraph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use set phrases to begin your letter • say why you are writing 	<p><i>Why are you writing this letter?</i></p> <p><i>What are you going to celebrate?</i></p> <p><i>When are you going to celebrate? (could also be included in the main part)</i></p> <p><i>Are you inviting the reader to the celebration?</i></p>
Main part (2-3 paragraphs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe what you are going to do to celebrate 	<p><i>What are your plans for the celebration? What are you going to do on that day/evening?</i></p> <p><i>Where are you going to celebrate?</i></p> <p><i>What other details do you want the reader to know?</i></p>
Closing paragraph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if you have invited the reader, restate your invitation • use set phrases to end your letter 	<p><i>Do you want the reader to reply to your invitation?</i></p> <p><i>Is there anything you want to repeat/emphasise?</i></p>
Signing off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use a signature ending and your first name below that 	

Guide to writing

- Follow the layout of informal letters (p.18).
- Use the following expressions to make your writing more lively and personal: *well, of course, anyway, what's more, actually, as you know, by the way, you see.*
- Include exclamation marks and questions to express your emotions more clearly (e.g. *We're going to have a wonderful time! Isn't it great?*).
- Use the Future *Going to* or the Present Continuous to describe what you are going to do to celebrate.
- Use linking words/phrases to list the events which are going to take place: *firstly, first of all, at the beginning of + noun, secondly, also, then, next, after that, later on, finally, at the end of + noun, etc.*

Use set phrases to invite the reader. Look at the box for ideas.

Would you like to come to ... ?
How about coming to ... ?
I'm writing to invite you to ...
I'd like to invite you to ...
It would be great if you could come to ...

Remember to use set phrases to begin and end your letter. Look at the table for ideas.

set phrases for opening paragraph	set phrases for closing paragraph
Thanks for your letter.	Write soon.
Sorry I haven't written for so long, but ...	Waiting for your letter/reply.
I'm writing to invite you to ...	I hope you can come.
I was very happy to get your letter.	I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Writing practice

1. Read the parts (A-E) of five different letters. Continue the letters imagining you are writing them. Describe what you are going to do in each situation.

A By the way, it's Mother's Day on Sunday. What are you going to get your mum? I'm going to surprise mine this year. I'm going to buy her _____

B I'm so glad tomorrow's the last day of school! My friends and I have planned to do something special. _____

C My volleyball team made it to the finals, but we lost. Anyway, our coach says that we played well and tonight he's taking us out to celebrate. _____

D I had a great time on Christmas Day and now I'm really looking forward to spending New Year's Eve with my family. We're all getting together that evening.





E

Do you remember my best friend, Frank? Well, his family is moving to Paris and they're leaving in a few days. We both feel sad. Anyway, we've organised to spend the whole day together tomorrow. _____



2. Read the letter below. The sentences in the main part of the letter are jumbled up. Put them in the correct order by writing the numbers 1-9 in the boxes.

Dear Tony,

Sorry I haven't written for so long, but I've been really busy. Anyway, I've got some great news! My team won the local football championship yesterday. Isn't it fantastic?

- Jerry, the captain of the team, was asked to make one too, but he's nervous!
- Firstly, we're going to have dinner.
- Our coach told us that we're all going to attend an awards ceremony.
- After the ceremony, most of us are planning to go to a club, you know, to dance.
- Then, the President of the Football Association is going to award us medals.
- After dinner, our coach is going to make a speech.
- The event is going to be held at the Seaview Hotel restaurant.
- Let me tell you what's going to happen there.
- At the end of the ceremony, a photographer is going to take our pictures.

Well, that's all for now. I'm looking forward to hearing from you soon. Of course, I'll send you pictures of the awards ceremony in my next letter.

Bye for now,
Keith



3. It's your birthday next week and you have decided to write a letter to a friend who has moved to another city and invite him/her to your birthday celebration. Tell him/her what you are going to do on that day. Make notes in the space below and organise them into paragraphs. You don't have to answer all the questions which are mentioned in the plan below.

**Opening
paragraph:**

Main part:

How old are you going to be? _____

When is your birthday celebration? _____

Where is it going to take place? _____

Who else are you going to invite? _____

What are you going to do: _____

Firstly, _____

Secondly, _____

After that, _____

Finally, _____

**Closing
paragraph:**

4. Task for homework.
Write the letter using the plan
you made in exercise 3.

