

Student name :

Date :

29-08-2020

Index number : ST000318

Time :

14:46

- How were you rescued?
- How are you feeling after rescue?
- To write this letter, assume your name is Hai and your friend's name is Minyukh. Start this letter with "Dear Minyukh,". You don't need to write your address.

You will have 60 minutes to complete your writing. Spend a few minutes to plan your ideas before you start writing. If possible, try to finish writing your letter a few minutes early to proofread.

Dear Minyukh,

How are you? I'm feeling exhausted because for the last seventeen days I **was** trapped **into** a deep, dark, mysterious cave. Out of the other caves I've been to, this is my favourite one. In my opinion, I would say that this cave was the most adventurous since there were numerous nooks and crannies.

Use past perfect tense (had been trapped)

Use the preposition 'in'

Revise as 'and then I realised I had forgotten to ...'

~~When~~ I started to explore the mysterious cave, I **forgot** to bring my net, which was used to catch fish or other slippery, slimy items. The team and I planned to stay in the cave for one hour but we didn't even get out after two weeks. We were deep down in the cave and suddenly, a ferocious, immense wave slapped the team and **I** in our faces and most of us could hardly even breathe at that moment.

Use the object form of the pronoun (me) here/

Use a comma before the coordinating conjunction 'but'

After the water level stopped rising I noticed that I was at the very back of the dull and gloomy cave. A few days **past** and the weather

Wrong word: use the verb form 'passed'

Student name :

Index number :

ST000318

Date :

29-08-2020

Time :

14:46

was relentless and I felt the hair on the back of my neck rising. When the heavy-rainfall stopped, the water level in the cave rose by approximately five inches. Since then, every time I tried to swim out of the cave, the raging waves would always slap me with great strength.

Use a singular verb 'was' for 'moisture'

Unlike many other people, I was lucky since there were moisture on the walls of the cave, which allowed me to drink water. My team did not know that, so I tried to communicate and inform them that they could drink water. To make me able to breathe, scuba divers from the country set up an oxygen supply for the team and I. Straight after they gave the team and I supply, they strapped all of us to an individual scuba diver by a stretcher so we would be attached to them when they swim back to the front of the cave was.

Use 'divers'

Change to 'me'

SP: they

After what seemed like hours and hours, we all finally ...

~~Twenty minutes had past and we all serially got out of the gloomy cave. I was fatigued after the exhausting adventure. The next days I went back to playing football with my team. By the way we won our match. I was quite surprised since the team and I almost fell asleep.~~

I can't wait for your reply about your amazing adventure.

I've got to go. My mum is calling me.

From your best friend,

Hai



Feedback

Positives

- Use of some descriptive language.
- Some relevant information from the given passage has been incorporated in the writing.
- Good vocabulary seen at a couple of places.

Scope for Improvement

- An informal letter always begins with the writer asking the recipient some polite questions about their well-being, work (or studies) and family. Gradually, the topic (main purpose behind the letter) is introduced. For example:
How are you? Hope your exams went well and you are enjoying your break. How are your parents doing? Are you planning to go outside the country again for vacations?

I know I haven't written to you in a long while. Please don't be mad at me. Once I explain the reason for my long absence (by mail), I am sure you will forgive me. I am feeling exhausted ...

- Before you start explaining how you got trapped inside the cave, you could elaborate on the description of the cave. This would form the setting for the events that are to follow and will also allow you to use some figurative or descriptive language. For example:
The cave snaked 4 km into the earth—it was like travelling to the core of our planet. Impenetrable darkness surrounded us; barely a metre was illuminated by our torches. Small loose stones littered the floor like broken glass. At some places, the prehistoric cave walls were smooth and curved; at others, they were jagged and uneven. Our voices echoed inside this hollow, so we talked in hushed voices. While we were thus exploring, we were caught ...
- Note the use of advanced punctuation (:;--) in the example above to create effect. Use some instances of varied punctuation (at least three) in your writing to make it sophisticated and to improve your score.
- One small paragraph should talk about how you survived the ordeal. You could mention doing meditation, praying, playing some word games or maths games, telling one another stories, rationing the few biscuits you had with you etc.
- You should also focus on your thoughts and emotions during the period inside the cave. For example: *trembling with fear, vision became blurry, stomach growled*



because of hunger, bones groaned in pain, despair enveloped me, memories of my family during happier days flooded my mind, nightmares tormented me etc.

- In the conclusion, you could write about how you feel now that you are safe, before ending the letter. For example:

I can't tell you how blessed I feel. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that I would undergo such an ordeal and come out of it unscathed. Thanks to the engineers, divers and my coach I am alive today. Life has taught me a valuable lesson: never to take it for granted.

Category	Description	Marks
Organisation	Ideas are presented in an organized and logical manner.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Writing Style	The writer's voice (his/her choice of words, techniques and structure) is consistent, original and appropriate to the task. There are no shifts in the point-of-view.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Purpose & Audience	The writer clearly considers the purpose and audience while writing.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Focus	All details and specific ideas support the main ideas.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Clarity & Cohesion	All ideas are clearly expressed and connected with appropriate transitional words and/or phrases.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Creativity	Ideas and word choice are unique, creative, imaginative, and uncommon.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Grammar	Standard rules for using nouns, pronouns and verbs, as well as adjectives, adverbs and phrases are consistently applied.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Spelling	All age-appropriate and most challenging words are spelt correctly.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Vocabulary	The writer appropriately uses advanced, effective and descriptive vocabulary, often in a surprising or unusual way.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Structure	All sentences express a complete idea and are constructed correctly. All paragraphs are constructed correctly and connected with appropriate transitions.	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
	Total	70/100

Rate each category based on the following scale

0=None/Not evident
6=Acceptable

2=Very Poor
8=Very Good

4=Below Average
10=Exemplary