DESCRIBING A PLACE
Essay Writing

Worksheets

NAME: ________________________________ STUDENT ID: ______________________
SECTION : ____________ CLASS TIME: ______________ TEACHER: Mary

The PORTFOLIO is made up of the homework and in class tasks that help you prepare for the projects and the exams. The portfolio is worth 5% of your mark. For more info, go to the PORTFOLIO page on the blog, www.uauefpwriting.wordpress.com

Example Portfolio Tasks include:
- Worksheet Tasks (in class and homework)
- Journal Tasks (2)
- Other - Any classroom activities/assignments could be evaluated. Ask your instructor to be clear.

Example TOPIC: Describe your favourite city in the world.

TASK Write an essay describing the place and what you like to do there. Write four paragraphs, 150 to 200 words. Include: introduction, 2 body paragraphs, conclusion.

Practice 1 - Brainstorm

1. What are the best cities you have ever visited?
2. Where do you WANT to travel in the future (one place ONLY)?
3. How often do you go to Dubai?
4. What is the first thing you do when you go to a mall?
5. Name some things you do NOT like about Dubai
6. What famous building is next to Dubai?
7. Name a place in Dubai that you NEVER visited, but that you WANT to visit.
8. Who do you like to go shopping with?
9. Did you ever go swimming at a beach in UAE?
10. What is your favorite place in UAE?
11. Do you know how to barbeque outside? Could you teach someone?

**Practice 2: Write an Example Essay. Double Space**

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**INTRODUCTION**

---

**Body 1**

---
Practice 3: Study the essay

Look at the model essay and answer the following questions.

1. What is the TOPIC of the essay?
   a) Favorite city in UAE
   b) Different cities in the world
   c) Favorite place in Dubai
   d) History of Dubai Mall

2. How many PARAGRAPHS are in the essay? _____ How many words? _____

3. What is the topic of Body 1?
   a. Information about Dubai
   b. experience and opinion about Dubai

4. What is the topic of Body 2?
   a. Information about Dubai
   b. experience and opinion about Dubai

5. Which paragraphs are short? ________ long? ________

6. Where is Dubai located? __________________________

7. What is something the writer does NOT like about Dubai? __________________________

8. When she goes to Dubai mall, where does she go FIRST? __________________________

9. How many sentences in Body 1 ________? Body 2 ________?

10. Does the writer give examples from her own life? [YES / NO] If yes, where? ________
Review of Sentences

What is a sentence?

Directions: Arrange the words into a sentence that answers the question above. 😊

Answer: A sentence / an idea / expresses / a group of words / that / is

Parts of a Sentence. Sentences ALWAYS have:

1. a su_______
2. a v_________
3. a ____________ letter at the beginning
4. a full _________ at the end
5. a complete idea

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complete Sentences</th>
<th>NOT Sentences</th>
<th>explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>She is a doctor.</td>
<td>Hot climate in Kuwait.</td>
<td>no verb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reckless driving kills.</td>
<td>The man bought.</td>
<td>no complete idea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It's hot today.</td>
<td>Because I'm tired.</td>
<td>no complete idea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She looks beautiful.</td>
<td>Is very difficult.</td>
<td>no subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you ready?</td>
<td>Every morning before class.</td>
<td>no subject or</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Practice: Read each group of words. If it is a complete sentence, make a check (✓). If it is not a complete sentence, make an X and explain why the group of words is not a sentence.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>1. Is very difficult.</td>
<td>No subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>2. It is very easy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Saeed speaks English fluently.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. When Amal first came to university.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. Waleed wants to go to the mall.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. Enjoys many activities, especially football.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. Your teacher give you homework every day?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9. Because they are new students.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10. I don't want.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11. My friends didn’t enjoy.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12. The Writing Center is a good place to get help.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subjects and Verbs Practice: Underline the subjects, and box the verbs in these sentences.

1. My favourite shop at the mall is Mango.
2. I always have coffee at Starbucks.
3. MaGrudy’s Bookshop is at the top of the escalator.
4. Her children are very well-behaved when she takes them shopping.
5. Hessa loves to buy fashionable clothes.
6. She goes to the mall every Saturday.
7. She works in the Etisalat kiosk at Jimi Mall.
8. She goes to the cinema at the weekend.

Writing Practice: Write 3-4 sentences about your favourite Malls (2 positive and 1 negative)

Bawadi Mall is in Al Ain.
Bawadi Mall is not the biggest mall in Al Ain
It is on the Meyzad Road
There are more than 400 shops at Bawadi Mall

1._____________________________________________________________________
2._____________________________________________________________________
3._____________________________________________________________________

Errors - Correct the errors

A. Subject or verb missing or extra. Underline the sub. And the v. if one is missing (or extra) fix it.

1. My home in Al Ain.
2. Also has beautiful decorations.
3. Each room a different color.
4. I am live in a beautiful house
5. My house it is very big.

What is an essay?

- An essay is a group of __________ that expresses ____ main idea.
- Also, it supports the main idea with __________ and __________

Why do we write essays? IELTS – University - life

HOW?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>__ __ __ s of the Essay</th>
<th>__ __ __ s in Essay writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="diagram.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="diagram.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Brainstorming -- places on campus – your house – your room

Practice 1: in the boxes below, write the names of some places you know very well.
Practice 2: With your group, choose a place, and complete one table below. Write as many ideas as you can.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NAME of Place</th>
<th>Experience / ADVANTAGES (+) 😊</th>
<th>DISADVANTAGES (-) ⌒</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LOCATION</td>
<td>features</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Writing the Introduction

The introduction has about 3 sentences.

1. General Background - why the topic is important
   - “There are many …” - “All over the world…” “Everyone…”

2. The Essay topic / main idea - name of place – general adjective
   - My favorite … is … / If I must choose just one …, it is …

3. THESIS Your plan (for the body paragraphs)
   - In this essay…

___ clear language (subjects, verbs, singular/plural, prepositions, pronouns, etc.)

Practice 1: complete the introduction below with excellent verbs

My Favorite Restaurant

If you ______________ in Al Ain, you can ____________ delicious food in many different restaurants. My favorite restaurant ____________ Food World. In this essay, I will ____________ Food World and ____________ my experience. (42 words)

Practice 2: Write a practice introduction about “A Famous building in Abu Dhabi)”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sentence 1</th>
<th>Sentence 2</th>
<th>Sentence 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Practice 3: Write a practice introduction about an excellent place on UAEU campus

Practice 4: Write a practice introduction about an interesting place in your Hometown
Verbs - Practice

Subject Verb agreement (sva)

Practice 1: Read these sentences carefully. Underline the subject(s) and put a rectangle around the correct form of each verb.

1. Shaikha and her sisters (go, goes) to the cinema at Bawadi Mall every weekend.
2. Ahmed and Saad (doesn't, don't) like Horror movies.
3. Mohammed (doesn't, don't) know the answer.
4. Mangi (is, are) Mariam's favourite shop while Zara and Cotton (is, are) Eiman's favourite shops.
5. I (like, likes) Al Ain Mall because it (is, are) interesting.
6. The Food Court and the cinemas (is, are) on the second floor.
7. I (go, goes) to the mall with my sisters.
8. In the afternoon, we usually (meet, meets) our brother at the cinema.

There is/ There are

We also use there is (for singular nouns) and there are (for plural nouns) when describing a place:

Write there is or there are at the beginning of each sentence:

1) ______________________ a coffee table next to the chair.
2) ______________________ luxurious carpets in the bedroom.
3) ______________________ a DVD on the table.
4) ______________________ many desks and chairs in the library.
5) ______________________ some flowers in my room.
Practice 2: What the Burj Al Arab looks like:

Choose the correct VERB:

1. This famous hotel [look / looks] like the shape of a [sailboat / helicopter].
2. There [are / is] 60 floors in the hotel.
3. It [have / has] 202 luxury suites.
4. At night, the outside lights [change / changes] colours every 30 minutes.
5. The lobby is 180 m high and it [have / has] very lavish, beautiful Arabic [decorations / subjects].

Adjectives

Write an adjective in each space:

| noisy | crowded | peaceful | sunny | expensive | large | comfortable | impressive | tasty |

1. My room is ______________ because it has three huge windows which let in a lot of light.
2. I love my room. It’s quiet and ______________, so I always feel relaxed and happy in it.
3. The decorations for my room were very ______________; I spent a lot of money on them!
4. The TV screen is ______________ and flat, so you can see every detail of the movie clearly.
5. I love to sit and talk with my brother on the big, ______________ sofa in our living room.
6. I don’t like ______________ places; it is stressful when there are so many people around me.
7. The Burj Khalifa in Dubai is an ______________ building; you feel small when you look up at it!
8. The coffee shop is always ______________ because the students talk, laugh and shout loudly.

Combining Sentences -- use and, but, so, because to combine each pair (2) of sentences into 1. Then, find some sentences in YOUR writing to combine.

1. You can pay your etisalat bill there. You can register for the internet.

2. I enjoy the new shops. I don’t like the kids’ zone.

3. It is too busy on weekends. We usually go during the week.

4. I often go there with my family. We usually see other friends when we go there.

Writing Practice Describe your Hometown

Step 3: WRITE practice sentences for each BODY paragraph.

All body paragraphs should have 65-80 words, TS, SS, lots of details, good grammar

**BODY 1: INFORMATION**

*location – size – looks – most famous/popular features*

**(Topic Sentence)** use a general adjective like: “popular” – “famous” “impressive” “important”

1. 

**(Supporting Sentences)** – use there is/there are – adjectives - prepositions

2. 

3. 

4. 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Looks</th>
<th>Most Famous/Popular Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>Large</td>
<td>Modern</td>
<td>Highrise buildings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic Sentence</th>
<th>Supporting Sentences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City is popular due to its diverse culture.</td>
<td>Many restaurants and cultural events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city is famous for its art museums.</td>
<td>National Gallery of Art is a must-see.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city is impressive due to its historical landmarks.</td>
<td>The Eiffel Tower is a significant symbol.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The city is important for its role in international trade.</td>
<td>Paris is a major economic hub.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supporting Sentences</th>
<th>Supporting Sentences</th>
</tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BODY 2: PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

(use always/oft, present simple)

(Topic Sentence) – general adjective about your experience/opinion (enjoy)

1. 

(Supporting Sentences) always/sometimes/often – favorite/least – where first

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

(Concluding Sentence) – repeat the main idea, but use different words

________ words
Writing the Conclusion

- 30-40 words, 2-3 sentences
- signal word (in conclusion, ...)
- repeat thesis (topic & main idea) – use different words
- suggestion, advice or prediction

Example (a famous building in Dubai)

In ______________, the Burj Al Arab _______________ one of the most important _________________ _______ Dubai. Don’t leave until you see it!!

Practice – Write a conclusion about your HOMETOWN

Checklist for Conclusion

par. 4: CONCLUSION

__ 30-40 words

__ signal word (in conclusion, ...)

__ repeat thesis (topic / main idea) – use different words

--- suggestion, advice or prediction
Language Practice:

Prepositions: near – in – on – by

Directions: Complete the Introduction: Use **PREPOSITIONs** TO DESCRIBE THE LOCATION

The Burj Al Arab is a famous landmark _____ the United Arab Emirates, and it is one of the most expensive hotels in the world.

The Burj is an excellent place to visit. Destination for tourists. It is located ............. Dubai, and it is ............. Jumeirah Beach Road. It is ................. the Arabian Gulf, and it is ................. Wild Wadi Park and the Mall of the Emirates. Actually, the building is ................. a special small island, so you should go there arrive there ...... boat. It is not ................. the airport.

More Vocabulary for Describing a Place

Which words could go in the groups? You can use words in more than one group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>location</td>
<td>Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative words</td>
<td>Positive words</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. amazing 10. dangerous 19. modern
2. ancient 11. exciting 20. natural
3. boring 12. expensive 21. picturesque
4. charming 13. famous 22. polluted
5. clean 14. fantastic 23. popular
6. comfortable 15. fascinating 24. region
7. contemporary 16. huge 25. touristy
8. convenient 17. interesting 26. view
9. crowded 18. lively 27. wonderful
More prepositions – for places

Listening Activity
Directions: Four friends visit a shopping mall: (Ahmed, Sara, Nabil and Lulwa). Listen for the names of the places where each person wants to go. Put the letters the map to mark each person. For example. Write “A” for Ahmed. “S” for Sara, “N” for Nabil and “L” for Lulwa.

Body Paragraph
Sentences – More Practice

MATCHING EXERCISE
1) There are many different shops...
   2) On the second floor there is the Food Court...
   3) There are escalators and lifts...
   4) Beautiful plants are...
   5) Near the cinema there...
   6) There are car parks...
   7) Inside the front entrance there is a cafe...
   8) The mall opens at 10am every day...
   9) There are also services like Etisalat...

   a) ... on every floor to make the mall look pretty.
   b) ... where people can sit and eat.
   c) ... on the roof and underground.
   d) ... and Du for paying your telephone bills.
   e) ... that sell clothes, perfumes, sports goods etc
   f) ... to take you to the next floor.
   g) ... is a play area with games for children.
   h) ... where you can see many kinds of restaurants and cafes.
   i) ... and closes at about midnight.

Answers: 1) ______ 2) ______ 3) ______ 4) ______ 5) ______ 6) ______ 7) ______ 8) ______ 9) ______
**Pronouns / Possessive Adjectives (pro)**

When you don’t want to repeat words in your sentences, you can use pronouns. Review the pronouns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A. S_ _ _ _ _ pronouns</th>
<th>B. O_ _ _ _ _ pronouns</th>
<th>C. Possessive A_ _ _ _ _ _ _</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
<td>me</td>
<td>my book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mobile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>car</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wedding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>we</td>
<td>us</td>
<td>our house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>exam</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>father</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Complete the 2nd sentence with a good **subject** pronoun

1. Mary is a teacher. ___________ teaches English.
2. My car is green, and ___________ is new.
3. Maryam and I are sisters, and ___________ are both students.
4. Steve and John are cousins. ___________ live in London.
5. Abdullah loves sports. ___________ plays football, tennis, and squash.

B. Complete the 2nd sentence with a good **object** pronoun

1. We called Mr. Smith. We want to make an appointment with ___________.
2. I drove my mother to the airport. I drove ___________ to the airport.
3. Ali and I called Ahmed about our problem. Ahmed came and helped ___________.
4. I emailed my friends last week. I emailed ___________.

C. Complete each sentence with the correct **possessive adjective**.

1. I live in Al Ain but ___________ parents live in Iowa.
2. You should bring ___________ kids to my house for a visit.
3. My sister loves ___________ new kitten. She plays with it every day after school.
4. Mom and Dad see ___________ grandchildren every week.
5. Daniel likes to play games on ___________ computer.
6. We moved! ___________ new house is near Bawadi.
**Error Correction**

A. Discuss with a partner.

1) What kind of grammar mistakes do you make a lot?

2) What kind of mistakes do you see in the sentences below?
   a) UAE University **have** the best students. ______
   b) **my** name is **fatima**. _____
   c) I have two **brothers Fatima** has one brother. _____
   d) There are many excellent **shopping center** in my city.
   e) There is a **beutiful** fountain where the kids love to play. ____
   f) **Yas Mall have** many different shops i go there every week. ______

B. Codes: Guess the meanings of the codes below

   V = _____________       C = _____________

   # = _____________       P = _____________

   Sp = _____________

C. Practice each group of sentences has ONE kind of mistake. What is it? Use the Codes above.

**Group I: Type of mistake ________________  Notes: __________________________

1. Her name Fatima.
2. Every weekend, she **is go** to the cinema.
3. She love to eat Arabic food.

**Group II. Type of mistake ________________  Notes: __________________________

1. her name is Maitha.
2. She is from al ain.
3. I go shopping Every Weekend with My Family.
Group III. Type of mistake ______________________ Notes: __________________________

1. She has two brother and seven sister.

2. She enjoys doing many thing.

3. There are many activity at Dubai mall.

Group IV. Type of mistake ______________________ Notes: __________________________

1. She is a fun parson.

2. In the future, she wants to work as a businiswoman.

3. Every holiday, I go shobbing with my family in Abu Dhabi.

4. I can do all my fevirite hobbies in my room.

Group V. Type of mistake ______________________ Notes: __________________________

1. My name is Fatima, I am 18 years old.

2. Yas Mall is the best. But it is far from my house.

D. Write the code near the mistake. Then, correct it. The first one is completed.

1. I is very happy to meet aisha Aisha. ___C___

2. I have one sisters. _____

3. I have two brother. _____

4. I study english. _____

5. My name Fatima. _____

6. My name is Fatima, I am 18 years old. _____

7. On the first floor, there are two sitting room. _____

8. She live in Al Ain. _____

9. The garden is the best place because it is very quit. _____

10. There are eight room in our house. _____

11. We have tow rooms for the people who come to visit. _____
Practice: Fix the mistakes in the introduction below.

There are mistakes in:

- spelling (sp) 5 mistakes
- punctuation (P) 2 mistakes
- capitals (C) 5 mistakes
- Verb (V) 4 mistakes

The Best Place on Campus

UAE university have so many servcs that subort the students in their studys.

i in my first year at university, i need to learn about these places, one of the best places the Writing Center. in this esay i will describes the Writing Center and tell you about my expence.

Re write the Introduction below. Don’t forget to indent & double space.
Practice:

The sentences below are from **Body 1** of an essay about the Writing Center at UAEU.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td><strong>In addition, there are friendly teachers.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td><strong>The Writing Center is very easy to find.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td><strong>For example, there are convenient tables and comfortable chairs.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Which sentence gives an **example** of something? ____ (of what?)
2. Which sentence gives **additional** information? ___
3. Which sentence is the **first sentence in the paragraph**?

Put each sentence in the best place in the paragraph below.

(1) __________________________________________________________ It is located in Building C5, on the first floor. It is next to the mosque, and across from the Reading Center. It is in a lovely room, with bright windows. You can find many helpful things there. (2) __________________________________________________________ __________________________________________________________ (3) __________________________________________________________. Also, there are useful exercises for IELTS and English courses, and you can find help with Arabic language, too.