

Task 1. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend Mary who writes

... It was great to hear that you went to Italy during your spring holidays. I have always wanted to visit this wonderful country. Did you enjoy your journey? What places of interest did you visit? What impressed you most of all? Did you like your hotel?

As for me, I am awfully tired because we've got too many tests at school. Can't wait for the summer break...

Write a letter to Mary.

In your letter

- tell her about your journey to Italy
- ask 3 questions about her plans for the summer

3/9 B. Polyanka Street
Moscow
Russia
May 2013

Dear Mary,

Thanks a lot for your letter. I hope you passed all your tests!

First of all, let me tell you about my one-week package holiday to Rome. Everything was OK, but we didn't like our hotel. It was too noisy and the food was awful. We even had a stomachache and consulted a doctor. However, all the excursions were extremely interesting. We visited the Vatican and were impressed by the famous St. Peter's Cathedral. I also enjoyed the Colosseum and other sights of Rome. All in all, we enjoyed our holiday.

And what about you? What are your plans for the summer? Will you come to visit us? Russia is a unique country and I'll show you lots of interesting things. If you make up your mind, let me know what cities you would like to visit.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Lots of love,

Lucy

Task 2. This is part of a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend.

...Do you often have arguments with your parents? I do. My mother thinks that I spend too much time hanging around with my friends. Do you often meet your friends?

What do you usually do together? And what do you do when you disagree with your parents about how you spend your free time?

Write back soon.

Love,

Ann

Write back to Ann.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her relations with her younger sister

10 Lenina Street
Vladimir
Russia
15/06/12

Dear Ann,

Thanks for your letter. I'm glad you passed your History test!

I'm sorry you don't get on well with your parents. As for me, I have practically no problems with mine, although we do quarrel sometimes because I spend too much time playing computer games. In this case I try to talk to them and find the way out. Unfortunately, I can meet my friends only at weekends and we usually play football together. It's our favourite game.

And how do you get on with your sister? Do you play together? Do you help her with her homework? I wish I had a sister or a brother!

Anyway, keep smiling whatever happens! I'd better go now as I've got loads of homework to do (as always).

Write back soon!

Lots of love,

Kate

Task 3. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend who writes

...We moved to a new house a few weeks ago and I changed school. At first I was a bit afraid but I made new friends sooner than I expected. The teachers are nice and everything seems to be working out well. And what about you? Have you made any friends in your new school? Do you enjoy studying there? Have you got any new subjects this year?

I've got to go now! It's time for my music lesson. Drop me a line when you can.

Lots of love,

Emily

Write a letter to Emily.

In your letter

- answer her questions and tell her about your new school
- ask 3 questions about her preferences in music

3 Spartakovskaya Street

Moscow

Russia

20/09/12

Dear Emily,

Thank you for your letter. It was great to hear about your new house!

As for my new school, it's very big! It has three computer rooms and wonderful sports facilities. Actually, it seems a nice place and I enjoy studying there. The kids in my class are very friendly. I've already made some new friends and we often meet after classes. I've got only one new subject this year. It's Economics and I'm beginning to think that it's not difficult, after all!

By the way, what music styles do you enjoy? Have you got any favourite bands? Would you like to go to their concert? As for me, I prefer Radiohead. They are cool!

I'd better go now. Mum wants me to help with the housework. Take care and stay in touch!

Lots of love,

Ann

Task 4. This is part of a letter from Harry, your English pen-friend.

...I'm fine but I've got a very busy week ahead. I'm a member of the school team and we are preparing for an important match in the National Championship. Are you fond of football? Do you watch football matches on TV? What other sports do you enjoy?

Well, I'd better go now. I've got to do some more training — I don't want to lose this match.

Take care and write back soon.

Write back to Harry.

In your letter

- answer his questions
- ask 3 questions about his preparation for the match

8 Palekhskaya Street

Moscow

Russia

October 1st

Dear Harry,

Hi! How's it going? Thanks for your last letter. I'm glad you are in your school football team now!

In your letter you asked me about football. Well, I'm really fond of it. It's a great game and I'm always happy when my team wins. But I don't watch football matches on TV because it's rather boring. I prefer playing to watching as it's more exciting. I'm also keen on roller-skating. It's fun to take part in street competitions and to perform different tricks.

Anyway, what about your preparation for the National Championship? Do you work hard? How many times a week do you train? Do you get on well with your team-mates?

Well, I'd better go now as I have to tidy up my room. Write back soon!

All the best,

Ivan

Task 5. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend George who writes

...At school we are doing projects on famous singers from different countries. Could you tell me about any famous Russian singer? What is he or she famous for? How long has he/she been singing? Do you enjoy his/her songs? Have you ever been to his/her concerts?

As for my school trip to London last week, it was really wonderful...

Write a letter to George.

In your letter

- tell him about the singer you admire most of all
- ask 3 questions about his trip to London

135 Bashilovskaya Street
Moscow
Russia

April 11th

Dear George,

Thanks a lot for your letter. Sounds like you had a great time in London! What impressed you most of all? Did you take any pictures? Were you tired?

I'm glad I can help you with your project on famous singers. Well, my favourite singer is Dima Bilan. He made his debut at the festival 'New Wave' in 2002 so he has already been singing for 10 years. Now Dima is a famous pop singer known for his songs like 'Never Let You Go' and 'Believe'. I enjoy his songs because of his beautiful voice. Unfortunately, I've never been to his concerts but I'd love to.

Anyway, let me know if you have any other questions. I'd better go now as I have to take my dog for a walk. Write soon!

Yours,
Alex

Task 6. This is part of a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend.

...So you see that I enjoy films based on true historic facts whereas most of my friends are fond of soap operas. Do you agree that soaps don't show life realistically? What kind of films do you like watching? Do you prefer watching films in the cinema or at home? Why?

We all miss you, too. Everybody sends their love. Can't wait to see you in the summer. Write back soon.

*All my love,
Tina*

Write back to Tina.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her family

41 Kosmonavtov Street
Moscow
Russia

15/02/13

Dear Tina,

Thanks for your letter. I'm glad you liked the postcard I sent you!

In your letter you asked me about my attitude to soaps. Well, I agree that soaps don't show life realistically because their plots are rather unbelievable and all emotions are exaggerated. As for me, I prefer whodunits, which keep me in suspense till the very end. I usually watch films at home but I never miss a chance to go to the cinema with friends. It's much more exciting to watch films together.

I miss you greatly! Write back soon and tell me all your latest news. How is your sister? Has she passed her driving test? And what about your mother? Has she got over the flu?

I'd better go now as I promised mum to help her with the washing.

Love,
Ann

Task 7. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend Rob who writes

...and then there's this chess tournament on Saturday. If I win, I'll be the champion of our school. Who knows? Oh, yeah. I wanted to ask you something. We have to write a report on technology for school. Could you tell me a few things about how you use technology in your life? You know, computers, mobiles, TV, that sort of things. Oh, and tell me something about the other members of your family, too, and how they use technology. Anyway, I was talking to Sam the other day and he says that...

Write back to Rob.

In your letter

- answer his questions
- ask 3 questions about playing chess

14 Dubrovskaya Street
Moscow
Russia
25/05/13

Dear Rob,

It was great to hear from you! I'm glad you managed to talk to Sam. Please give my best regards to him.

You asked me about technology. Well, I've got a new mobile. It's got a camera so I'm taking lots of pictures at the moment. I've also got a computer but I use it mainly for surfing the Net. Of course we've got things like a TV, a DVD player and a music centre. My parents usually watch TV whereas my brother spends hours playing computer games.

Anyway, I'm glad you've made such progress in chess. Is it difficult to learn how to play it? Will I be able to do it on my own? How can I get started?

I've got to go now as I'm helping my Dad in the garage.

All the best,

Andrew

Task 8. This is part of a letter from Jane, your English pen-friend.

...My home town is rather small but I like it. The people here are very friendly and they try and keep our town clean and beautiful. And do you enjoy living in a big city? How do you spend your spare time there? Anyway, I'm thinking of travelling around Russia next summer. Could you tell me what weather to expect? Should I take warm clothes with me?..

Write a letter to Jane.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her home town

14 Pushkinskaya Street
Moscow
Russia
May 19th

Dear Jane,

Thanks for your letter. I'm glad you're going to visit Russia. The weather in summer is usually hot so I don't think you'll need lots of warm clothes. However, you'd better take a jacket as nights can be quite cool.

In your letter you asked me about the life in a big city. As for me, I enjoy living in Moscow as there are lots of parks and cosy cafes, museums and galleries. In the evenings I usually go for a walk with my friends and at the weekend we go to the theatre or visit a museum. Have you got any museums in your town? Are they free for students? Are there any sports facilities?

I'd better go now as I've got to do my homework — boring! Can't wait to see you!

Lots of love,

Rita

Task 9. This is part of a letter from your German pen-friend.

...I find it a bit difficult to understand English grammar. What about you? Do you do grammar exercises? Do you think that it's necessary to remember all grammar rules?

Have you got any plans for the summer? I was thinking of going to a language school in the UK to improve my English. It would be a lot more fun if we went together. What do you think?

Anyway, I have to go now as I'm helping my Dad in the shop.

Hope to hear from you soon.

All the best,

Kerstin

Write back to Kerstin.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about the trip to the UK

Kasatkina Street
Moscow
Russia

October 1st

Dear Kerstin,

Thanks for your letter. I'm glad your arm is out of plaster now!

I agree with you that English grammar is rather difficult so I think it's necessary to learn grammar rules and to do exercises. As for me, I do it on a regular basis.

Going to a language school together is a great idea! We could practise our English and visit lots of places of interest. I'm absolutely free this summer so I can go whenever you like.

Write and tell me what dates suit you best. Which course would you like to do? What level do you think we are? Where would you prefer to stay? Meanwhile, I'll make some enquiries about language schools in the UK. I'll get in touch soon. I hope it all works out!

Lots of love,

Helen

Task 10. This is part of a letter from Adam, your English pen-friend, whom you're going to visit in summer.

...As for me, I'm crazy about skateboarding and I love rock and pop music. I think my favourite band at the moment is Radiohead. Do you know them? What kind of things do you like doing and what music do you enjoy?

Is there anything you particularly want to do while you're here? / guess you'll be busy at the language school during the day, but we can do something in the evenings and at weekends. Also, let me know if there are any kinds of food you don't like...

Write back to Adam.

In your letter

- answer his questions
- ask 3 questions about his family and the language school

Lazo Street
St. Petersburg
Russia

21/04/13

Dear Adam,

Thanks for your letter. It was great to hear from you. I can't wait to meet you and your parents in July!

Well, we've obviously got a lot in common. I'm also crazy about rock music and my favourite band is Radiohead, too! I've never done skateboarding, though, but I'd love to try. I enjoy basketball and I love playing computer games. Do you?

I'm a bit worried about the language school. Is it far from your house? Should I bring any books with me? Will I have to do much homework? If I have, I'm afraid I'll be busy in the evenings. Actually, I wouldn't mind any activity. It will be fun just to be in another country.

Anyway, I know we're going to be really good friends. Please write back soon.

All the best,

Sasha

Task 11. You have received a letter from your English pen-friend Mary who writes

...In your previous letter you told me that you had joined your school Literature Club. I wonder what you do at your club meetings. Can I help you in any way?

As for me, I enjoy reading very much and I would be really interested to know about famous Russian writers. Who is your favourite writer at the moment? Have you got enough time for reading?..

Write a letter to Mary.

In your letter

- answer her questions and tell her about your Literature Club
- ask 3 questions about her reading preferences

49 Gagarina Street

Orel

Russia

October 15th

Dear Mary,

It was great to hear from you again! I'm glad you have no problems at school now.

In your letter you asked me about our school Literature Club. Well, at our club meetings we share our views on books we've read and do projects on popular writers and poets. My favourite writer is A. Chekhov, who was one of the most famous Russian playwrights. However, I particularly admire him because of his wonderful short stories. Unfortunately, I don't have much time for reading as I'm too busy at school.

It'll be great if you could help me with my project. What kind of books do you enjoy? What book are you reading now? Who is your favourite writer?

Well, I'd better go now. There is a film starting in a minute. Keep in touch!

Lots of love,

Dasha

Task 12. This is part of a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend.

...I've always wanted to visit Moscow so it'll be great to spend a week at your place. Any ideas as to what we might do? Should I bring any special clothes? Do let me know if there is anything I can get you from England?

Write back soon.

All the best,

Gloria

Write back to Gloria.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her eating habits.

30 Dubninskaya Street

Moscow

Russia

September 30th

Dear Gloria,

Hi! Thanks a lot for your letter. Sorry I haven't answered earlier but I was really busy with my school.

I'm glad you are going to visit Moscow. We can go wherever you want but I think you'd like the Kremlin and the Tretyakov Gallery.

I've also got some ideas for our nightlife! And if you fancy going to the theatre in the evening, you should bring an evening dress. I'll be delighted if you could get me a T-shirt with views of London.

Well, Mum wants to know what kinds of food you enjoy eating. Do you eat meat and fish? What do you usually have for breakfast? Are there any kinds of food you don't like?

Now I've got to do my homework. Please write back soon. Can't wait to meet you!

Lots of love,

Kate

Task 13. This is part of a letter you have received from your English pen-friend.

...We are doing a project at school on how computers are changing people's lives. Please could you tell me how computers are changing things and how people feel about it? Have you got a computer at home? What do you use it for?

As for me, I'm going on holiday with my parents next weekend...

Write back to your pen-friend.

In your letter

- answer his/her questions about computers
- ask 3 questions about his holiday

120 Fedoskinskaya Street
Moscow
Russia

June 16th

Dear Sam,

Hi! How is it going? I hope you're well. Thanks for your last letter. It was great to hear from you!

I'll try to answer your questions. No doubt computers have made our lives easier and more exciting. We needn't go to libraries as we can find almost all information on the Net. Moreover, computers help us to relax although some people feel that they are rather addictive. I'm happy that I've got a computer. It helps me with my projects and I also use educational programmes. Of course I do play computer games but not very often.

Anyway, write back soon and tell me about your holiday. Did you enjoy it? What interesting places did you visit? Did you make any new friends?

I'd better go now as I have to feed my kitten.

Best wishes,

Artem

Task 14. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend Paul who writes

...At school we are doing projects on sports popular in different countries. Could you tell me about two kinds of sports that are popular with Russian teenagers? Why are they popular? Do you have enough time for sports? By the way, I am thinking of joining our school drama club. Is that a good idea ?..

Write a letter to Paul.

In your letter

- answer all his questions
- ask 3 questions about his school drama club

54 Kirova Street
Novosibirsk
Russia

September 28th

Dear Paul,

Thanks for your letter. I'm really glad you like your new school!

I guess I should start by telling you about sports in Russia.

I believe the most popular sport with boys is football because it's a very exciting game. Girls enjoy gymnastics as it helps them to keep fit. As for me, I'm crazy about football, too. I wish I could play every day but I don't have enough time (unfortunately!).

Well, I think joining a drama club is a good idea. One day you may become a famous actor. Who knows? Write back and tell me about your club. How many pupils are there? What plays are you going to put on? Are you given any costumes?

Anyway, I'd better go now as I've got loads of homework to do. Keep in touch!

Best wishes,

Slava

Task 15. This is part of a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend.

...By the way, we are doing a project at college on the fashion industry in different countries. It would be nice if you could tell me what clothes are popular with teenagers in Russia. Do you have any special fashion for teens? What kind of clothes do you prefer?

Write back soon.

*All my love,
Jessica*

Write back to Jessica.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her tastes in clothes

43 Borodina Street
Krasnodar
Russia
May 1st

Dear Jessica,

Hi! I was so happy to get your letter! It was great to hear your news.

In your letter you asked me about popular teenage clothes in Russia. Well, I guess today's teenagers have a new tag line, 'I've just got to be me.' Wearing baggy jeans and T-shirts is still important but teens like to add their own unique pieces of clothing. As for me, I enjoy a popular layered style and I usually wear denim jeans, button up shirts and open cardigans as they're very comfortable.

Anyway, write back and tell me about your tastes in clothes. What kind of clothes do you prefer? Do you follow any fashion trends? Do you enjoy wearing a school uniform?

Well, I'd better go now as I have to cook dinner. Take care and keep in touch!

Love,
Marina

Task 16. This is part of a letter from your English pen-friend.

...I'm going to visit Russia in July. I've read a lot about Moscow but I'm especially interested in its history. What historical sites and museums would you recommend me to visit? Is museum entrance fee high in Moscow? Are there any weekdays when the entrance is free for students? Do they allow taking pictures inside?

Well, I must finish now because I've got an exam tomorrow. Write back soon and tell me all your news.

*All the best,
John*

Write back to John.

In your letter

- answer his questions
- ask 3 questions about his exams and his journey to Russia

Nagornaya Street
Moscow
Russia

15/06/12

Dear John,

Hi! How's it going? Thanks for your letter. I hope you did well at your exam. Was it difficult?

Well, I'm really glad you're going to visit Russia. There are lots of historical sites and museums in Moscow. You should by all means visit the Kremlin, the State Historical Museum and the Borodino Panorama Museum. Unfortunately, there is no free admission for students; however, the entrance fees aren't very high. Taking pictures is usually allowed although sometimes you'll have to pay a small fee.

Anyway, write back and tell me all your travel details. Would you like me to meet you at the airport? How long are you going to stay in Moscow? What other cities are you planning to visit?

I've got to go now because Mum's calling me to dinner. Take care!

All the best,
Paul

Task 17. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend Andrew who writes

...In your letter you said you were organising a surprise party for your friend. Was it difficult to organise? Did you decorate the place? What kind of food did you provide? What did your friend say? I'd love to hear how it went because my parents let me have a big party at home on my birthday but I've got to organise everything myself I've never done anything like that before...

Write a letter to Andrew.

In your letter

- answer his questions giving relevant details
- ask 3 questions about his birthday party

7 Kirova Street
Kazan
Russia

March 1st

Dear Andrew,

It was great to receive your letter and to learn the latest news! I wish you a happy birthday and many happy returns of the day!

In your letter you asked me about a surprise party. Well, it wasn't difficult to organise it. A friend of mine offered his flat for the party as his parents went on holiday. We decorated it with flowers and balloons. We also bought sandwiches, fruit and lots of mineral water. Everybody danced and played different games. Our friend was delighted. He said he had never had such a party before. I hope this helps.

Anyway, write back soon and tell me how it all went. Did you have many guests? What did you do? Did you enjoy your party?

Unfortunately, it's time for me to go to bed.

All the best,

Dima

Task 18. This is part of a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend.

...Guess what! My parents let me have a pet for my birthday. Isn't that great? I haven't decided yet what kind of pet to get. Have you got a pet? What animals do you think make good pets? Is it difficult to look after your pet? Let me know what you think.

Anyway, I'd better go now. I've got loads of homework to do tonight (unfortunately!). Write soon!

All my love,

Donna

Write back to Donna.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her house

17 Pilotov Street
St. Petersburg
Russia

15/05/13

Dear Donna,

I was glad to receive your letter. It's really great that your parents let you have a pet.

As for me, I've got a kitten called Musik. It's not difficult to look after him as I only need to clean his litter tray and to feed him. I think cats, dogs, hamsters and parrots make good pets because they are funny to watch and it's easy to take care of them.

Is your house big? Have you got a room of your own? Is there a garden around your house? If you say 'yes', you may have a dog or a cat. Otherwise you'd better buy a hamster or a parrot as they don't need so much space.

Well, I must finish now as I've got my aerobics class. Take care and stay in touch!

Love,

Mary

Task 19. This is an extract from your pen-friend's postcard:

...I'm having a busy time at the moment as I have to write lots of Christmas cards to all my friends and relatives. Do you celebrate Christmas in Russia? What holidays are celebrated in your country? What is your favourite holiday? How do you celebrate it?

Well, I'd better go now. I've got to help mum with cooking.

I can't wait to hear from you.

Lots of love,

Jackie

Write back to Jackie.

In your letter

- answer her questions about Russian holidays
- ask 3 questions about British holidays

5 Tverskaya Street
Moscow
Russia

26/12/12

Dear Jackie,

Thanks a lot for your postcard. I also wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Actually, in Russia, we celebrate Christmas but we do it on January 7th. There are lots of other holidays such as Women's Day, May Day and Victory Day. My favourite holiday is New Year's Day as I always get lots of presents. We usually decorate a fir-tree and put presents under it. When the Kremlin clock strikes twelve, we wish each other 'Happy New Year'. Then we usually go for a walk and let off fireworks.

And what about you? How do you celebrate New Year's Day? Are there any holidays connected with British history? How do you mark them?

Well, I'd better go now. It's time to do my homework. Take care and write back soon.

Love,

Nina

Task 20. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend Susie who writes

...We're doing a project this month at school on eating habits and customs around the world. Will you be able to help me by telling me what the traditional meals are in your country? What do people typically eat and at what time of day? What are your favourite dishes?

As for me, I'm thinking of going on a diet as I feel I'm too fat...

Thanks very much!

Write a letter to Susie.

In your letter

- answer her questions and tell her about eating habits in Russia
- ask 3 questions about her new diet

43 Sedova Street
Tula
Russia

12/07/12

Dear Susie,

Thanks for your letter. I'm glad you did well at your GCSE exams!

In your letter you asked me about eating habits in Russia. Well, we've got lots of traditional dishes, for example, studen (jellied chopped pieces of pork or veal meat) or pelmeny (meat-filled dumplings). My favourite dish is pancakes with caviar but I also eat them with honey or sour cream. In Russia, we have three main meals a day: breakfast in the morning, dinner at midday and supper in the evening. We also like to drink tea with lemon in the afternoon.

Anyway, I'm not quite sure about dieting. What kind of diet have you chosen? How long are you going to be on a diet? Will you eat meat?

Well, I've got to go now. Hope to hear from you soon!

Love,

Vera

Task 21. This is part of a letter from Sheryl, your English-speaking pen-friend.

*...My friend and I are planning to start a new hobby but we haven't decided yet what hobby to choose. Do you have any hobbies? Do you feel you have enough time for your hobbies? What hobbies are popular with teenagers in Russia? Are there any hobbies you'd like to take up?
As for my school exams, they are almost over and I'm looking forward to my summer break...*

Write back to Sheryl.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her plans for the summer

13 Shirokaya Street
Moscow
Russia
June 16th

Dear Sheryl,

It was great to hear from you! I'm really glad you passed your History test.

You asked me about hobbies which are popular with Russian teens. Well, many teenagers are interested in music and playing computer games. Others are into collecting or doing sports. As for me, my hobby is cooking. I collect traditional Russian recipes and cook these dishes. However, I feel I don't have enough time for my hobby as I've got too much homework. If I had more free time, I'd take up photography. It's really exciting.

Anyway, it's great that school is over. What are you going to do in summer? Will you stay with your grandparents? Would you like to visit other countries?

Well, I'd better go now. I've got to get ready for my piano class. Wish me luck!

Take care,

Alina

Task 22. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen friend David who writes

...At school we are doing projects on teenagers in different countries. What is your idea of a typical Russian teenager? You will help me a lot if you could tell me about Russian teenagers. What do they enjoy? What are their most popular leisure activities?

Anyway, the weather is fine today and I'm going to try my new skateboard...

Write a letter to David.

In your letter

- tell him about Russian teenagers
- ask 3 questions about his hobbies

13 Primakova Street
St. Petersburg
Russia

24 April 2013

Dear David,

Thanks for your letter. Sorry for not having written earlier but I was too busy at school.

You asked me about a typical Russian teenager. Well, Russian teenagers are in fact very ordinary. They think their teachers make them work too hard and friendship is the most important thing in their lives.

Teens always invent new hobbies and the most popular leisure activity nowadays is playing computer games. Most teenagers are fond of sports and are crazy about modern music. Parents think that modern teens are awful but I think they are criticised for no reason.

Anyway, it's great that you like skateboarding. It's an exciting sport. How long have you been doing it? Do you know any tricks? Have you got any other hobbies?

I've got to go now. Take care and keep in touch!

Yours,

Andrew

Task 23. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend Sam who writes
...At school we are doing projects on the greatest capitals of the world. I've decided to write about Moscow. Could you tell me about your city? What is special about your capital? As for the family news, my sister got married last week...

Write a letter to Sam.

In your letter

- tell him about Moscow
- ask 3 questions about his school

5 Otradnaya Street
Moscow
Russia
16/03/13

Dear Sam,

Thanks for your letter! It was great to hear from you so soon!

You asked me to tell you about Moscow. Well, it is a very beautiful city especially in autumn when all trees are of different colours. The heart of Moscow is the Kremlin. It's an ancient fortress with beautiful churches inside.

Moscow is a unique city, where history and modern life are brought together. On the one hand, you can enjoy traditional Russian festivals such as Maslenitsa. On the other hand, Moscow is a modern 24-hour city where you can visit different theatres, cinemas and exhibitions.

By the way, will you tell me about your school and school life? Do you have any clubs at school? Are you given much homework?

Please write back. I look forward to your reply.

Yours,

Boris

Task 24. This is part of a letter from Jill, your English-speaking pen-friend.

...Thanks for inviting me to stay with you when I visit your country next month. I'm not sure how to get to your apartment from the airport. Could you write back giving me some basic instructions? What would be the best way of transport for me? I'd prefer one that isn't too expensive! Just one other thing — what will the weather be like when I get there? (Just so I'll know what clothes to pack!)...

Write back to Jill.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her plans

Flat 24
28 Festivalnaya Street
Moscow
Russia
26/05/13

Dear Jill,

Thanks for your letter. I'm looking forward to your arrival!

It won't be difficult for you to get to my place. Just take an express bus to "Rechnoy Vokzal" metro station. When you get off, turn right and go down Festivalnaya Street. My block of flats is about five minutes' walk. I think it's the easiest and the cheapest way.

As for the weather, it's quite nice at the moment and the forecast is fine. I think it will be hot and sunny so take a swimming costume. By the way, what sights would you like to visit? What would you prefer to do in the evenings? I can buy tickets to the Bolshoi Theatre. Would you like to go?

Anyway, I'm sure we'll have a wonderful time together. Can't wait to see you!

Lots of love,

Nastya

Task 25. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend who writes

It's a really brave step to take a year out of college to come and spend 6 months in the UK! What are you planning to do with your time? Find a job? Learn some new skills? Write back and give me more details of your plans so I can do my best to help you have a good time...

*I've got to go now! It's time for my favourite TV show. Keep in touch! Lots of love,
Chemmy*

Write a letter to Chemmy.

In your letter

- answer her questions and tell her about your plans
- ask 3 questions about her favourite TV shows

13 Osipenko Street
Moscow
Russia

20/02/13

Dear Chemmy,

It was great to get your letter. Thanks a lot for offering your help.

As for my trip to the UK, I'm planning to study at a language school and take the FCE exam. I'm going to enter Oxford University so I have to speak fluent English. I hope you can advise me a good school for preparation. It would be great if it was not far from your place so that we could spend time together.

Oh, and another thing! I'd like to find a part-time job to pay for my expenses.

By the way, what TV shows do you enjoy? Are they funny or educational? Do you watch soaps? Actually, I do but not often. Just to relax.

I'd better go now as I've got loads of homework. Hope to hear from you soon!

Love,

Sonya

Task 26. This is part of a letter from your English pen-friend.

...Have you ever thought what you are going to do in the future? As for me, I really don't know what career to choose although my parents say it's time I made a choice. What kind of job would you prefer to do? Have you asked your parents for advice? Would you like to follow in their footsteps?

Anyway, we've got some time to think. Let me know what you think about it.

All the best,

Jack

Write back to Jack.

In your letter

- answer his questions
- ask 3 questions about his hobbies and leisure activities

60 Sverdlov Street
Ufa
Russia

23 March 2013

Dear Jack,

Thanks for your last letter. I'm glad you get on well with your brother.

Well, I agree that it's difficult to choose our future occupation as there are lots of different jobs. However, I wouldn't like to follow in my parents' footsteps as I'm not interested in their profession. I've asked my father for advice and he believes I must choose my future career according to my preferences.

As for me, I enjoy travelling and I want to see the world. So I'd rather work in tourism. But I haven't made the final choice yet.

Have you got any hobbies? What are your favourite leisure activities? Do you enjoy active or passive holidays? Some people turn their hobbies into their careers.

Hope this helps. Drop me a line when you can.

All the best,

Peter

Task 27. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend Pam who writes

...I don't think it's fair to make children do household chores because we're too busy at school. And what about you? Do you help your mum about the house? What kind of things do you have to do? Do you have enough time to do chores?

As for my plans for the summer, I am going to Italy with my friends. We 'll be studying Italian at a summer school. It's really great!

Hope to hear from you soon!

Love,

Pam

Write a letter to Pam.

In your letter

- answer her questions tell her about your household duties
- ask 3 questions about her trip to Italy

27 Kurchatova Street

Moscow

Russia

23 May 2013

Dear Pam,

Thanks for your letter. It was great to hear from you!

In your letter you asked me about my household duties. Of course I have to do some chores because my mum's too busy at work. I think everyone in the family has to do their fair share. Actually, I don't do much, just go shopping and clean my room. It doesn't take long so I have enough time to do my homework and to chat with my friends.

Anyway, it was great to hear about your trip to Italy! What city are you going to? How long are you going to stay there? Will you take any exams? Write back and tell me about your holidays.

Well, I'd better go now as I've got to take my dog for a walk. It's also my duty.

Love,

Lucy

Task 28. This is part of a letter from Jenny, your English-speaking pen-friend.

...I'm getting ready for my A -levels at the moment. It's rather difficult for me to remember all the necessary facts and figures. And when do you have exams in Russia? Do you find it easy to revise? Do you study at night? Is there any advice you could give me?

And another thing! My parents say you could come and visit us in summer. Would you like to?...

Write back to Jenny.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about your trip to England

Flat 22

9 Ozemaya Street

Moscow

Russia

26/05/13

Dear Jenny,

I was happy to hear from you! I'm sure you'll pass successfully all your exams!

In Russia, we have State Exams in June and it's rather difficult to prepare for them, too. I started to get ready about a year ago but still have lots of work to do. I usually don't study at night as I find it useless. I think the best way of revision is to study with your friend. It's easier for me to remember facts and figures when I talk about them.

Thanks a lot for your invitation. I'll be glad to visit you in summer. What clothes shall I bring? How much money should I take? Will we be able to travel round Great Britain?

Anyway, I'm sure we'll have a wonderful time together. Can't wait to see you!

Write back!

Olesya

Task 29. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen-friend who writes

...All in all, my birthday party was great! However, one of my friends came to the party in casual clothes. Just jeans and a T-shirt! Of course I didn't say anything but she felt a bit left out. I was really sorry for her! And what do you usually wear when you go to a birthday party? Is it important in Russia to wear smart clothes at parties? What would you do if you were me?

I've got to go now as I have loads of homework to do. Drop me a line when you can.

Lots of love,

Patricia

Write a letter to Patricia.

In your letter

- answer her questions
- ask 3 questions about her birthday presents

13 Gagarina Street
Kazan
Russia

20/09/12

Dear Patricia,

Thanks for your letter. I'm glad your birthday party was a great success!

Well, in Russia we don't pay much attention to clothes but of course everybody wants to look great! Actually, any clothes will do if a person feels comfortable. As for me, I usually wear a skirt and a smart blouse. You were quite right not to take any notice of your friend's clothes. If I were you, I would have done the same. It's not the clothes that count, after all.

By the way, what birthday presents did you get? Did your parents give you what you wanted? What presents did you like most of all? As for me, I prefer books.

I'd better go now. Mum wants me to help with the housework. Take care and stay in touch!

Lots of love,

Ilona

Task 30. This is part of a letter from your English pen-friend.

...Guess what! All my friends are going to 'Water/and' next week and I can't swim! What shall I do? If I go with my friends, they will be teasing me all the time. I have wanted to learn to swim for a long time but I feel embarrassed to start learning at my age. What would you advise me to do? Is it difficult to learn how to swim? How many lessons will I need?

Well, I'd better go now as my mum's calling me for dinner.

Take care and keep in touch!

Yours,

Mark

Write back to Mark.

In your letter

- answer his questions
- ask 3 questions about his favourite sports

Larina Street
Rostov-upon-Don
Russia

May 2013

Dear Mark,

Thanks for your last letter. I'm glad you got over the flu!

Well, I think you shouldn't feel embarrassed. I guess there are lots of attractions in 'Waterland' like water slides or water games so nobody will notice that you can't swim. You should definitely go there and have fun!

Yet I would start learning to swim if I were you. It isn't very difficult so you will need five or six lessons. Swimming is my favourite sport because it's a good exercise for the whole body so you'll always stay in shape.

And what about you? What sports do you enjoy? Have you got any favourite sportsmen? Are you fond of extreme sports?

Well, I'd better go now as I have to do the shopping. Write back soon!

All the best,

Vasya

Task 31. You have received a letter from your English-speaking pen friend Steve who writes

...At school we are doing projects on reading habits of people in different countries. Could you tell me what kind of books you and the members of your family like reading?

As for the family news, my sister got married last week...

Write a letter to Steve. In your letter

- tell him about the kind of books you and your relatives like to read
- ask **3 questions** about his sister's husband

23 Lenskaya Street
Moscow
Russia

November 10th, 2012

Dear Steve,

Thanks a lot for your letter. I'm glad your sister got married. How are you getting on with her husband? Is he a student? What kind of music does he enjoy?

In your letter you asked me about the reading habits in my family. Well, my father often reads newspapers and magazines. He thinks that it is the only way to be in the know of everything. And my mother is keen on reading romances and modern novels. However, she wouldn't mind reading about the life of well-known people.

As for me, I enjoy reading detective stories because they have interesting story lines and unusual endings. I am particularly captivated by characters who conduct investigations.

Actually, I'd better go now as I've got loads of homework to do tonight. Write soon!

All the best,

Ivan