

Topic 1:

I went to a great restaurant with my family last night.

Which do you prefer: eating at home or in restaurants?

Tell me about your favorite place to eat.

Answer:

Hi Linda,

I am really happy to hear from you. How are you? I hope you are fine. I'm writing to tell you everything about restaurants.

First of all, I want to tell you that I love to go out to eat because it is a way to socialize and to talk about things that you don't want to talk about in another place. I also like to eat in my house but for me it's better to eat in a restaurant because you don't need to stand up for anything and it's much more comfortable.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Love,

Topic 2:

My favorite subjects at school are history and arts. I don't like Maths. Tell me about the subjects you study and what you think about them! What would you like to study in future? Why?

Answer:

Dear John,

My favorite subjects are Music and French literature because I've been playing the piano for 2 years. So, it makes it easier to be a successful person.

I don't like history because if you want to learn it, you must memorize all the past events. It is very boring! I hate memorizing. Also, I don't get on with my history teacher in the school. We often argue in each history lesson. So, I become angry and I don't want to study for the exams which are supplied by him.

I want to study French literature in the future because I'm really interested in foreign languages and their literatures.

I'm waiting for your answer.

Love,

Topic 3:

We might have a school trip to your country next year. What do you think is the best time of year to visit? What are the most interesting things for teenagers to do in your area?

Answer:

Dear Alice,

I'm very glad that you are going to visit my country next year. I haven't seen you for a long time and I would like to make friends with your classmates very much. If the main question is when to make, I think the best answer is in May or in September because it's not very hot but not too cold too. The parks and squares are very beautiful in spring and autumn. I remember that you are keen on ancient architecture, so I think you'll enjoy walking along the old parts of our city. There is a lot of sightseeing in our area, for example, amusement parks, theatres and museums with modern exhibitions. I think you'll find a lot to do. I'm really looking forward to seeing you.

Love,

Topic 4:

I'm starting a new school next term and I'm worried because I won't know anyone there.

What do you think are the best ways to make friends? Please write back soon.

Answer:

Dear Peter,

How are you? Thanks for your letter. I know it's very hard to start a new school. It's not very easy to find new friends, but I think you can find ways to do it. First, you should meet somebody, then talk with him about music, films, games and something like that. Maybe you two will be interested in something together. It is not too challenging for you because you are a very friendly and handsome boy. Don't worry about it! Next week you will know everyone in your class, I promise you. Please write me when you have a friend.

Goodbye!

Love,

Topic 5:

I know you often go to the cinema. Tell me about the last film you saw and whether you enjoyed it.

Answer:

Dear Linda,

How 's it going? I was very busy this week. But, you know that I love films. I saw the film with the name of "Bend it like Beckham". It is a very interesting film about football. An Indian girl who wanted to play soccer was the main story. Her parents don't let her play. But she's a very good football player, and she's even better than a boy who doesn't know how to play football. Finally, she went to America for professional league, Santa Barbara. I'm not sure of the team name. Anyway, it's a happy ending for her and for her family.

I recommended the film to Mike and Mike saw the film. He loved it. So I do recommend to you the film "Bend it like Beckham".

If I were you, I'd go to the cinema right now. Have a good weekend. See you soon.

Love,

Topic 6:

In your next letter, could you give me some advice? Tell me how to keep fit and healthy!

Answer:

Dear Kathy,

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

In your letter, told me to give you some advice about how you keep fit and healthy, right?

Well, there are many ways to keeping fit. First of all, doing exercise regularly can help to stay young and healthy longer. Secondly, your diet plays an important role. In order to have a good health, you should eat more fruits and vegetables but less fattening or fast food. Finally, your work regime and life-style are also factors which affect your health. You should work and relax properly, don't work too hard, don't play too much. Relaxation improves your health physically and mentally.

I hope to have a reply from you soon.

All the best,

Topic 7:

I want to find out about music on your country. Are there many live concerts? What music do you like listening to?

Answer:

Dear Jenny,

Are you interested in music in my hometown? Well, in my country, there are various types of music such as pop, ballad, rock, folk music, etc. People with different ages, gender, hobby and personalities will have different tastes of music. I prefer rock music because I love to dance. In addition, I also love pop music because of its musical rhythms and soothing beat. Burying myself in the wonderful melody of pop songs makes me feel relaxed and happy. I have a collection of famous songs presented by the best Vietnamese singers. If you like, I can send them to you through email. Remember to express your thought and feeling when listening to them.

There are a lot of concerts in my country, especially in Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam. People often go to the concert and listen to different kinds of music at the weekend. It's a very interesting way to spend free time for everyone who like music.

Next month, an exciting concert of rock music will be taken place, and I'd like to invite you if you have time.

I'm waiting for your reply.

Love,

Topic 8:

I'm glad you like learning English. Your teacher sounds really nice – and your friends do too!

Tell me all about your English classes.

Answer:

Dear Nani,

I will tell you about my international English class. There are thirty-five students in my class. We come from different countries: Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia... We often help each other to study.

The most respected person in our class is our English teacher, Evelyn. She is rather tall for a lady, about twenty-four years of age, and I find her really slender. Her method of teaching differs somewhat from that of our other teachers. Her patience is wonderful. She will never give up explaining until every one of us understands. She pays much attention in correcting our pronunciation and drills us in expressing ourselves in short English sentences.

What about your class? Don't forget to write soon.

Lots of love,

Topic 9:

You're keen on cooking, aren't you? What meals do you like to cook? Where do you buy all your food from?

Answer:

Dear Marry,

How are you? I'm pretty good. Well, today I'm going to tell you about my cook. You know that my favorite food is pasta. It's not difficult to cook and it tastes great. You like cheese, don't you? I know a good cheese shop. It's on Tran Hung Dao street, near a theatre that holds "Le miserable". You can try all cheese in the shop. Yesterday, I went to that shop and found some nice cheese but I forgot the names. So I'll check the names again and tell you next time. Anyway if you want to find nice cheese, you should go to the shop. And almost every time I use basil. But I don't buy it in a shop because I bring it up in my small garden. So if you like, I'll give it to you. And I use aubergine, garlic, bacon, tomatoes and sometimes chilli. You can buy these ingredients at the supermarket but I recommend to buy at organic vegetable shop and meat shop. Don't forget to fry some garlic before the pan becomes too hot.

Love,

Topic 10:

Could you give me some advice? I want to travel around your country for a month. Where should I go? What should I see?

Answer 1:

Dear Julie,

I'm very happy to hear that you are going to Vietnam.

First of all, be careful with your bag and camera because it's common to have our thing stolen. Don't forget to take some sun cream because it's very hot and sunny in summer in Vietnam. Remember to bargain when you want to buy something on the street or in the stores.

I think the most beautiful city in Vietnam is Danang. There you can visit Bana hill and play the adventure games here. In addition, the beach in Da Nang is very beautiful. You can get a walk across the Han river to see the sunset, sunrise and enjoy the cool weather in the night as well as 4 popular bridges of this beloved city. Another destination you should visit is Hoi An

where you can find the best special food such as 'cao lau', 'my quang', etc. Besides, if you have chance, visiting Hue and taking wonderful pictures of the city is not a bad idea.

Love,

Answer 2: (cách 2)

Dear Marta,

I'm pleased you're going to visit my country. You'll need to know about various things so I'll try to give you as much information as I can. First of all the best time to visit is autumn. It's fine, sunny, dry and cool at that time. There are a lot of interesting places to visit. First, you should come to Hanoi where you can try famous local food and explore the culture of an old capital city. From Hanoi, it's good idea to go to Halong Bay. It's one of the World's Natural Wonders. Then you should fly to Nha Trang to enjoy beautiful beach and seafood. Saigon should be the last destination. You can do a lot of shopping and enjoy exciting nightlife there.

The best way to travel in the city is taxi. It's cheap and safe. I hope you will enjoy your trip.

Looking forward to seeing you in Hanoi.

All the best,

Topic 11:

In your last letter, you said you had made some changes to your room. What does it look like now? What new furniture have you got? Tell me all about it!

Answer:

Dear my friend,

How 's going?

Thank for your letter.

Last week I made some changes to my room. It was a big event for me because I bought big red shelves and a red coach. As I like red coaches, I have been looking for a red shelf and coach, and last Wednesday, I found a good one. After two days, they were delivered to my house. It was too heavy to carry them upstairs and it took me three hours to rearrange and organize the furniture. Although I was exhausted after moving such heavy furniture, I feel happy because the furniture looks good in my room. Would you like to come to my home and see these furniture? Let's have English tea on that red sofa.

Sincerely yours,

Topic 12:

**I know I spend too much time watching television! How much television do you watch?
What else do you do to relax?**

Answer 1: (cách 1)

Dear Mark,

How are you?

I'm very happy to receive your letter .

You know, me too, I spend too much time watching television. I like enjoying wonderful programmes, live shows and interesting films on TV. However, my mother does not want me to waste much time on TV. She is angry whenever I glue my eyes on it. For her, television is not good for me and it has negative effect on my intellectual competence. But I like it. I often watch TV for about 30 hours a week. The exciting films on TV makes me relaxed and comfortable. Sometimes, I also go shopping with my friends or go jogging in the afternoon. I think that it's good for my health. Yet, the best relaxing is 'watching television'.

Kiss,

Answer 2: (cách 2)

Dear Mark,

I am happy to get your letter. You told me you spend too much time watching TV, don't you? It is not unusual because TV provides good education and entertainment as well.

I am a fan of television. Every day, it takes me at least 5 hours to watch TV because I am able to see popular and expensive shows cheaply and comfortably without leaving my home.

Apart from TV, I like listening to music, reading books, going dancing, doing yoga, shopping..... I also love going out to Lenin park, Thu le zoo or Bao son Paradise with my husband and my kids to find relaxation after hard working days.

What about your hobbies? Send me an email to tell me about your interests, your work and your family.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

Topic 13:

I guess there are many traditional festivals in your country. What's the most important one? Why do people celebrate this festival?

Write and tell me all about it!

Answer:

Dear Joe,

I've just received your email in which you asked me to tell you about the most important traditional festival in my country.

There are a number of festivals in VN but the most important one is certainly TET. It is the time when family members come home from all parts of the country to have family reunion. It is often a one – week holiday.

Before Tet, people often redecorate their houses by repainting walls, buying beautiful flowers, bonsais, food, drinks, cakes, candies...

During Tet, people visit their relatives, teachers, friends. People wish each other good luck, good health and good success. They also go to temples, pagodas... to pray the best luck for their families. Children are so happy because they are given new clothes and they receive lucky money in red envelopes from adults...

What about the most important holiday in your country?

Hope to hear from you soon.

Best wishes,

Topic 14:

I've just bought a new computer game. Do you like playing games on the computer – or have you got a Play Station? What else do you use the computer for?

Answer:

Dear Peter,

I'm very glad to hear that you've bought a new computer game. What's a pity that I cannot talk with you about it.

I also have had a computer for a couple of years rather to study and work than play. It helps me a lot in preparing lessons for my students, sending and receiving emails or chatting with my friends. But sometimes, when having difficulties and feel stressed at work, playing some

strategic online games makes me feel relaxed and forget about troubles in daily life. I like playing game, yet I think that it's not necessary to have got a play station. Are you having one?

Enjoy your new amusements.

Love,

Topic 15:

It's so hot here! What's the weather like in your country at the moment? What outdoor activities are you able to do at this time of year? Tell me about it.

Answer:

Dear Kathy,

I am so happy to get your letter. It is summer in Australia now, right? But the situation is opposite in my country .

In winter, the weather in North Vietnam gets colder and colder from November to March and considerably warmer in April (a leap into summer). This is also time to observe much cloud and frequent drizzle. The average winter temperature is 17.2°C. Particularly, the mountainous areas (Northwest) are often much colder, temperature may keep below 10°C for long period. Ice and snow even cover Hoang Lien Son Mountains and nearby Sapa town for some times with the lowest record of -3°C in Feb 2008.

With that cold weather, football is the most suitable sport that young people as well as adults like playing. They also play basketball, volleyball, tennis..... Many people are fond of cycling.

What about activities people in your country like playing in winter? Please write and let me know.

Best wishes,

Topic 16:

I want to earn some money at the weekends, so I'm looking for a part-time job in a café or a shop. Which do you think would be more fun? Write soon – I need your advice!

Answer:

Dear Mary,

Thank you for your letter that I got last week.

I'm very happy to know that you are looking for a part-time job in café or a shop. I think it's a good idea and I support it. However, you should carefully consider before making a final decision and the reasons are as follow.

First, I think that having a part – time job can train you how to earn money and let you know that it is not an easy thing to make money. Then you will use your money more and more carefully. Besides, if you want to buy something, you can pay for them by yourself. It's really fun. The second reason is that having a part-time job, you will have the working experience and have chance to adapt the different relationship between classmates and colleagues earlier than the people do not have a part-time job. However, if having a part-time job affects your study, you should stop working and focus on your primary work.

When you make your final decision, write and tell me soon. I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Topic 17:

Writing a letter for your friend about: a new house in another town when you and your family moved to last month: what new in that house; neighbours; the area.

Dear Kate,

We finally moved house last month and now life has changed. The house we are living in is situated in the suburb of HCM/HN city, within thirty minutes' drive off the central city. It consists of four bedrooms, a living-room, a bathroom with a shower, a dinning-room, a kitchen and a toilet. The living-room, which is rather large, is decorated with beautiful pictures on the walls. There, on Sundays and holidays my father usually spends his time playing chess or drinking tea with our new neighbors. All of them are very friendly; they have helped my family so much since we moved here. The weather here seems good to me, so I feel nice.

What about your house? Please write and let me know.

All the best,

Topic 18:

You are on holiday with some friends. Write a letter about two things you have done and mention (kể ra) something unpleasant (khó chịu) which happened a few days ago.

Dear Kate,

We arrived in Vung Tau five days ago. We got here by bus. On the way to Vung Tau resort, we met a lot of our friends who also went there to escape from the terrible heat of a crowded city. We reached Vung Tau beach only to find that it had been packed with people. Although the beach was crammed with people, we still felt more relaxed by the fresh morning air coming in from the open sea. When we went to the seaside, we took off our clothes and put on our swimming costumes and then plunged into the sea. Then we dug sand to catch little crabs which in no time darted into their sand holes. I met an accident when I caught a crab. My finger bled with a deep wound.

In this way, I spent my holidays happily in Vungtau, a place I shall never forget.

I hope that I may hear from you soon.

All the best,

Topic 19:

You have just finished a short language course in Hanoi: what you did on the course, How you spent your free time and what the other people were like.

Dear William,

I've just finished a short language course in Hanoi and I want to tell you all about it. It's lasted 4 months and it was at pre-intermediate level. I had class in the evening, 3 times a week. In this course I studied New English File with grammar and vocabulary. I also learned to speak, write and listen in English. I tried hard to practice a lot in class and did my homework at home. In my free time, I joined an English speaking club where we spoke English, played language games together. It's interesting and fun.

Our teachers were nice, they spoke English very well. My classmates were friendly and helpful. We got on well with each other. I really miss my English class.

I hope to have a reply from you soon.

All the best,

Topic 20:

This is a part of a letter Peter receives from his English friend - Linda

I've just joined a film club. I've already seen some fantastic films. What kinds of films do you like watching?

Now, you are Peter, write a letter to this friend in the space below to answer her questions. You should write about 100 words on your answer sheet.

Answer:

Dear Linda,

I am very happy to receive your letter. How are you?

I have already seen some fantastic films, too. I like movies the best. I often watch TV at 9:00 pm.

I like films about social psychology and family relationships. They help people to become closer and understand each other better. Those films also make our life better. I especially likes movies about love between young people because love is gentle and romantic. In addition, I usually feel happy and comfortable after watching a film about love.

The film I like most is "The autumn in my heart". The music of the film is very beautiful. The actresses and actors in the film are so lovely, young, pretty and handsome. I felt touched and sometimes cried while watching the film.

What kind of films do you like watching?

I hope that you will write to me soon and let me know about your favorite film.

I am looking to hearing from you soon.

Best regards,

Peter

Topic 21:

This is a part of a letter Peter receives from his English friend - Linda

Can you tell me about your work, your hobbies and interests and say what you hope to do while you are in England?

Now, you are Peter, write a letter to this friend in the space below to answer her questions. You should write about 100 words on your answer sheet.

Answer:

Dear Linda,

Thank you very much for your letter. I am very happy to receive it.

How are you? What are you doing these day? I know that you often stay up late, but you should go to bed early.

As you know, I'm an electronic and telecommunication engineer. I work in Ha Noi. I start work at 8:00 AM and finish work at 5:30 PM every day. Although it's hard work, I feel happy with it.

I like playing sports, I play tennis every Thursday and Saturday afternoon. This helps me to keep fit and healthy.

I also like pop music. I listen to music in my free time. At the weekend, my friends and I sometimes go to the cinema.

Next year, I am going to London. I want to understand much about your country and that will be useful for my job. I also want to learn how to speak good English and I hope that I will meet some new friends in London.

Well, it's late now. I should stop because I feel sleepy.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Peter

Topic 22:

I guess you'll get this when you've just come back from your holiday. I'd like to hear about it. Where did you go? What did you do there? What sort of place did you stay in?

Dear Linda,

Thank you very much for your mail. I am very happy to receive it. How are you? What are you doing these days?

I had a two-day holiday with my friends in Cua Lo Beach last week. It was very interesting. Cua Lo Beach is 300 kms far from Ha Noi and it took us 6 hours to go by car.

We stayed in Cua Lo Hotel. It took us three minutes to walk to a very beautiful beach and the hotel was excellent.

In the first morning, we went to the beach, played football, swam and took a lot of photos. In the afternoon, we hired bicycles to go around the place. In the evening, we held a party near the beach. We danced and had seafood, cakes, beer, and coca.

In the next morning, we got up early to watch the sunrise and swam. It was very nice. Some of us went along the beach, collected shells and some others lay on the beach. After that we came back to the hotel to have breakfast. After breakfast, we went to the market to buy some seafood such as crabs, shells, fish, etc. as a gift for family and then we had lunch in Cua Lo Restaurant. During the meal, we had many jokes. We even made a poem by ourselves. In the afternoon, we came back to Ha Noi by car. Everyone was tired but very happy.

I hope that you will have a chance to visit Viet Nam, then we will have a trip to Nha Trang which is considered as a pearl in Viet Nam.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Peter

Topic 23:

I've always wanted to know more about your favourite sport. Tell me about it. Why do you like it?

Dear Linda,

I am very happy to receive your letter. How are you? What are you doing these day?

As you know, I love sports very much. I was born and grew up in a village near the sea. When I was a school boy, I went swimming or played football or volleyball with friends every afternoon. Actually swimming is my favourite sport.

Now I'm an engineer. I live and work in Ha Noi. Although I'm vevy busy with my work, I usually go swimming with friends at the weekends and we sometimes go to the sea with swimming equipments. Swimming always makes me happy and relax.

I also play tennis every Thursday and Saturday afternoon. For me, sports are very wonderful. I feel comfortable after playing sports and they also keep me fit and healthy.

Do you like sports? What's your favourite one?

Please write to me and let me know your next summer holiday plan.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Peter

Topic 24:

I recently went to a very good restaurant. Tell me about your favorite restaurant. How often do you eat out? What's your favourite restaurant like? What kind of food you often eat in this restaurant? Why do you choose this restaurant?

Dear Linda,

I was very happy to receive your letter. How are you? What are you doing these day?

As you know, I'm a young engineer and I'm vevy busy with my work and further study so I often eat out with my family or friends after hard work.

My favorite restaurant is Cauam Restaurant in Ha Dong City. Now, Cauam Restaurant is more modern than it was. It's a beautiful place with good new equipments. I feel comfortable there.

We often come there on special occasions. There is plenty of good food in Cauam Restaurant and their speciality is fried chicken.

I like this restaurant because of its various dishes, the beautiful view, the good service and the reasonable prices. Also, there is a large parking lot where I can park my car easily.

I hope I can invite you to Cauam Restaurant when you come to Viet Nam.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Peter

Topic 25:

I've just seen a brilliant programme about dolphins on television. Which programmes have you enjoyed recently? Tell me about one of the programme.

Dear Linda,

I was very happy to receive your letter. How are you? What are you doing these day?

I have just seen a brilliant program about sharks on VTV1 channel. I like watching TV, but I am very busy with a new project at the moment, so I don't have much time to enjoy it. However, I always watch the news, especially the news in the morning from 6:00AM to 6:45AM on VTV1 channel.

Watching the news is one of my habit. It helps me to know what is happening in our country and the world. I also like watching the weather forecast program at the end of the news. I think it is very important to know what the weather is like every day so that I can know what clothes to put on and whether I have to bring a raincoat to work.

I also like the sports coverage after the weather forecast. It's really lively with the new sports events in Viet Nam and in the world. That 's all for now.

Write to me and let me know about your new job.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Peter

Topic 12: Part time job in a café or a shop

Dear Linda,

I received your letter the day before yesterday. I am happy to hear that you have decided to look for a part-time job. I think it is a good idea as doing a part-time job can help you have more experience, social integration and especially have money for your living and studying.

Are you wondering about which job you choose? I think working in a café or in a shop is good. However, working in a café would be more fun because there you have more chances to practise what you are learning at college for your future job. In addition, working in a café can earn much more money.

Please send my regards to your parents.
I'm looking forward to hearing from you.
Yours sincerely