

Module 1



A. Circle the correct words.

1. She lives in a nice cabin in the forest. However, sometimes she feels kind of **cramped** / **isolated** because she's far from town.
2. It took Billy a few months to **adjust** / **occur** to his new school, but now he loves it.
3. Mary went out with Anna and they **missed** / **caught** up on each other's news.
4. One of the **surroundings** / **drawbacks** of living in a city is the traffic and noise.
5. I don't have a big suitcase, so I will have to pack my things **currently** / **wisely**.
6. Don't be so **impatient** / **fascinated**. Dinner will be ready in twenty minutes!
7. I live in a city that has many bicycle **lanes** / **avenues** so I use my bike all the time.

**B. Complete the sentences with the correct preposition.
(in, out, up, of, with, on)**

1. I really want to get rid of all our old furniture.
2. Liam's flatmate moved out because they didn't get along.
3. I don't think you're aware of the expenses of living alone.
4. It took us a few months to settle in, but now we love our new flat.
5. Carl put me up for the night, because I didn't have anywhere else to stay.
6. Tracy finds it difficult to cope with the stress at work.
7. Our house is on the outskirts of the city.
8. I'm going to sign up for the creative writing course at college.

C Complete with the Present Simple or the Present Progressive of the verbs in brackets.

1. A: This weekend we are having (have) a barbecue at our house. do you want (want) to come?

B: Sure, that sounds great! Is it a special occasion?

A: Not really, we just like (like) inviting friends over. We do (do) it often.

2. A: So, when are you leaving (leave) for France?

B: Next month. I enjoy (enjoy) taking trips in the autumn. I am very excited about it.

C Complete with the Present Simple or the Present Progressive of the verbs in brackets.

3. A: I heard about your new job. _____ doare _____ you
_____ living _____ (live) in Toronto now?

B: Well, yeah. I'm staying _____ (stay) at my cousin's
house for a few days but I'm looking _____ (look) for
a flat in the city centre.

4. A: Where's Dan? Don't tell me he's working _____ (work)
again this weekend!

B: No, he's shopping _____ (shop) for some furniture.

A: He should go to *Happy Home*. It's a furniture shop
that _____ sells _____ (sell) nice and cheap furniture.

D. Write questions. The words in bold are the answers.

1. **A:** When are you moving?

B: I'm moving **next Saturday**.

2. **A:** What did you take a picture of?

B: I took a picture of **the lighthouse**.

3. **A:** Who dropped by this morning?

B: **Mark** dropped by **this morning**.

D. Write questions. The words in bold are the answers.

4. A: What's your new flat like?

B: My new flat is **spacious**.

5. A: How long does it take you to get to work?

B: Well, it takes me **about half an hour** to get to work.

6. A: Who do you usually invite to your barbecues?

B: We usually invite **our neighbours** to our barbecues.

E. Match. Choose from the responses a-h. There are two extra responses which you do not need to use.

1. Could you tell me what happened at the meeting yesterday?
2. I'd really like to live in a location with some peace and quiet.
3. Guess what! I got accepted by the University of Chester!
4. The car is filthy! When are you going to clean it?
5. I was wondering how far the art gallery is from here.
6. If you ask me, this coffee maker is useless!

g

d

b

h

f

c

- a. I couldn't believe it when I heard it.
- b. Wow! That's fantastic news.
- c. You'll soon get the hang of it.
- d. Well, then I suppose somewhere in the suburbs will suit you.
- e. I think living on the outskirts of the city is boring.
- f. It's about ten minutes by bus.
- g. OK. Let me fill you in.
- h. I know. I've been meaning to do it.

Module 1



Reading

B.  Read the first paragraph of the text and the box showing the four phases of culture shock. What do you think people should do to get over the problems caused by culture shock? Read the rest of the text and compare your answers. Then choose the best title for the text a, b or c.

- a. Disadvantages of living abroad
- b. Feeling at home when living abroad**
- c. There's no place like home

When people decide to move abroad for work or study, they might experience culture shock at first. This is the phenomenon of disorientation people feel when they move to a country with a different lifestyle and culture. Studies have shown that there are four phases a person goes through when they have to **adjust** to an unfamiliar environment.



The 7 phases of culture shock

Honeymoon phase

(0→3 months): This phase occurs when you first move to a new culture. You observe your new environment and make new discoveries. You are fascinated by everything – the food, the lifestyle, the language and the cultural differences.

Negotiation phase

(3→6 months): The initial enthusiasm turns into anxiety. You become aware of the differences between the old and new culture as well as the difficulties in the language, and you often get frustrated. Feelings of loneliness and homesickness are common.

Adjustment phase

(6 → 12 months): Things start to feel normal, and you start thinking positively. You get used to the new culture, which you can now understand and appreciate.

Mastery phase

(12 months+): This phase occurs when you start feeling like a 'local.' You finally feel comfortable and you no longer have communication problems. You can participate in more aspects of the new culture without forgetting your own.



HELPFUL TIPS

Keep in mind that there are many new and positive experiences waiting for you in the new culture. Culture shock can cause problems, however, remember that there are things you can do to get over these problems.

MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME: Decorate your new home with familiar things that remind you of your old culture. This can include furniture, paintings and photographs of friends and family.

KEEP IN TOUCH: It can sometimes be difficult to stay in touch with loved ones if you're in a different time zone. However, phone calls, email and Skype are all ways that can help you catch up on their news and make you feel like you are not missing out on important events in other people's lives.

EXPLORE NEW SURROUNDINGS: After finishing with the sightseeing, go out and explore your new neighbourhood. Walk around or ride a bike to discover every corner of it and get to know it better.

DEVELOP A NEW ROUTINE: This helps you get used to the new lifestyle in a shorter period of time. Go to a coffee shop that you like every morning for breakfast or visit the same bakery. Small things like this can make you feel less 'foreign.'

GET INVOLVED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY: Join the local library or book club. Find out about any interesting entertainment events. Sign up for classes or sports that will help you meet new people and discover new hobbies. Also, take classes to learn the language if it is different from your native one.



Read again and answer the questions.

1. What can contact with an unfamiliar lifestyle cause some people to feel?

culture shock or a feeling of disorientation

2. During which phase do people have the most negative feelings?

during the negotiation phase

3. During which phase do people start recognising the good qualities of a new culture?

during the adjustment phase



Read again and answer the questions.

4. How long does it take for people to get used to a new culture?

from 6 to 12 months

5. Does keeping in touch with family and friends make people feel more homesick? Why? / Why not?

No, it doesn't.

6. Why does the writer suggest doing activities like riding a bike in the new neighbourhood?

Because these kinds of activities can help people discover every corner of their new neighborhood and get to know it better.



Read again and answer the questions.

7. What does the writer mean by *Small things like this can make you feel less 'foreign'*?

They can help you get used to the new lifestyle in a shorter period of time.

8. How can you make new friends when living abroad?

by signing up for classes or sports

D.   Look at the highlighted words in the text and match them with their meanings. Then check your answers in a dictionary.

1. adjust	e	4. initial	c	7. get over	g
2. observe	h	5. anxiety	i	8. surroundings	f
3. fascinated	a	6. frustrated	d	9. native	b

- a. very interested
- b. related to the place where you were born
- c. happening at the beginning
- d. annoyed or impatient because you can't achieve what you want
- e. to become familiar with a new situation by changing the way you think and behave
- f. everything that is around a person; the environment
- g. to find a way to deal with sth difficult
- h. to watch sth carefully and learn more about it
- i. a worried feeling you have about sb or sth

Vocabulary

Read the note and the sentences. What does 'get' mean in these examples?

The verb 'get' can be found in a variety of phrases, expressions and phrasal verbs and has many different meanings. Below are four broad categories to help you remember what it means:

OBTAIN: buy, receive, bring, begin to have, etc.

(*get some milk, get an invitation, get the kids, get a cold*)

BECOME / START TO BE

(*get frustrated, get ready, get older, get in trouble*)

MOVE: arrive, reach, leave, enter, rise, etc.

(*get to, get home, get off, get into, get up*)

IDIOMS

(*get rid of, get down to business*)

1. It is also a good idea to **get involved** in the local community. to become
2. Walk around or ride a bike to discover every corner of your new neighbourhood and **get to know** it better. to become/ start to be
3. I accepted the job because I want to **get** some teaching **experience**. to obtain
4. When you **get out of** the underground station, turn right and go down Maple Road. My house is number 48. to move
5. Please call me when you **get there**. to move
6. I always **get excited** when I **get email** from family and friends now that I'm living abroad. to become, to obtain

Listening



Listen to a radio programme about the problems three people had when they moved abroad. Match the speakers with the statements a-e. There are two extra statements which you do not need to use.



Speaker 1

d



Speaker 2

e



Speaker 3

a

- a. I didn't expect to like my new life.
- b. I had difficulty understanding the language.
- c. I didn't get much help from my friends in the beginning.
- d. Learning about the culture helped me settle in.
- e. I discovered ways to stop feeling homesick.

Writing An informal email



A. **Read the two emails and find:**

1. features that make them **informal**.
2. set phrases used to begin and end them.

1. a friendly and informal tone which shows the relationship between them, use of informal greetings (*Hello John, Hey Gary!*), use of short forms (e.g. *How's, I'm, don't, I'll, I've, they're*), use of exclamations to show their feelings (e.g. *Guess what!, Keep me posted!*), informal expressions (e.g. *Anyway, See you soon*), signature ending (*use of first name*)

2. set phrases for opening paragraph: How's life?
Guess what! / I've been meaning to get back to
you...

set phrases for closing paragraph: Thanks for
your help! / I'm really excited about... Keep me
posted!

Inbox

Hello John,

How's life? Guess what! I was accepted by the University of Brighton, so I'm coming to study in the UK too. However, I'm still trying to get organised and I have a few questions for you.

As I don't want to live on campus, I'll have to rent a place of my own. Which area do you consider convenient? I'm also thinking about bringing my bike. Do you think it's safe to travel by bike in the city? And can you tell me if there are any good places to ride it in my spare time?

Thanks for your help!

Bye for now,
Gary





B. **Read the emails again and answer the questions.**

1. What's the relationship between Gary and John?

They are friends.

2. Why is Gary writing to John?

to tell him that he was accepted by the University of Brighton and to ask him some questions about life in Brighton.

3. Does John answer all his questions?

Yes, he does.

4. Does he give him extra information?

Yes, he does (e.g. about cycling in winter, about day and night buses).



5. In which email are the following functions expressed? Write 1 or 2.

a. giving information

2

b. expressing opinion

2

c. asking for an opinion

1

d. expressing enthusiasm

2

e. asking for information

1

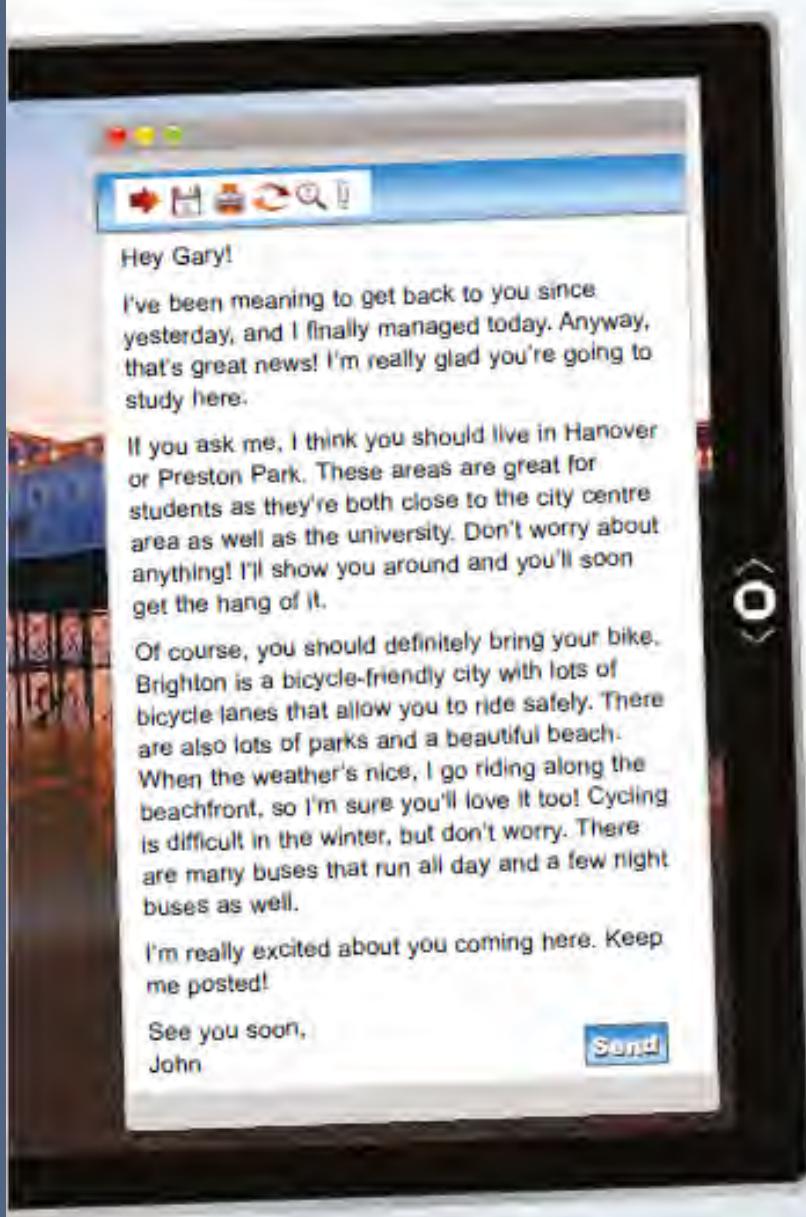
f. giving news

1





1. **Read John's email again and compare it to the model layout on page 65. Does John's email have an appropriate layout? Justify your answer.**



When writing an informal email:

- use the appropriate layout (see Writing Reference Section).
- organise it into paragraphs and use set phrases as shown in the plan.
- use informal language and expressions (e.g. *well*, *of course*, *anyway*, *you know*, *you see*, *actually*, *by the way*).
- use standard grammar and spelling conventions. Don't use forms such as *wanna*, *CU L8R*, etc.
- use short forms (e.g. *I'm*, *don't*).
- use exclamations (e.g. *Guess what!*) and direct questions (e.g. *What have you been up to?*).
- read the rubric and the email you are replying to carefully. Make sure you understand why you are writing (to give information, to express your opinion, etc.) and respond to all the requests suitably.
- use appropriate expressions/phrases to express enthusiasm, give news, express your opinion, etc.

Yes, John's email has an appropriate layout. He starts his email with an appropriate greeting on the left-hand side of the page. He also divides his email into paragraphs leaving a blank line between them. Finally, he signs off the letter appropriately placing the signing off signature on the left-hand side of the page.