



## Education and School Life

Review: reviewing a science museum trip

### 1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you write.

1. What makes a school trip memorable?
2. How can a museum make learning more interesting?
3. What practical problems can affect a trip?

#### Exercise 6 at a glance

Write a review, often for a student magazine.  
Use an engaging title.  
Describe key features clearly.  
Evaluate positives and negatives.  
Make a clear recommendation.

### 2. Exam-style task

Your year group recently went on a trip to a science museum. Your teacher has asked you to write a review of the trip for the school magazine.

Here are some comments about the science museum trip to help you:

'The space exhibition was amazing.'      'We did not have enough time there.'  
'The workshop made science easier to understand.'      'The cafe was too crowded.'

**Now write a review of the science museum trip for your school magazine.**

The comments may give you some ideas, and you should also use some ideas of your own.

**Write about 120 to 160 words.**

### 3. Model review

#### Science That Finally Made Sense

Can a museum make science feel exciting rather than confusing? After visiting the City Science Museum last Wednesday, I would definitely say yes.

The museum is huge, with interactive displays, a planetarium and a workshop area for school groups. Our visit focused mainly on space and forces, which linked well to our lessons and made the topic feel less abstract.

The space exhibition was easily the best part. The models were detailed, and the videos made difficult ideas much easier to understand. The workshop was also useful because we could test ideas practically instead of just reading about them in class.

The main drawback was time. We had to move through some rooms quickly, and the cafe was so crowded that lunch felt rushed.

Overall, I would recommend the trip to students who enjoy practical learning and want to see science outside the classroom. If the next visit were longer, it would be even more worthwhile.

## 4. Explore the model: structure, content and tone

Work with the model review. Underline, label or make short notes.

Focus	What to find	Done?
Review structure	Find the title, hook, key facts, description, opinion and recommendation.	
Content point 1	Where does the writer describe the trip and key facts?	
Content point 2	Where does the writer develop positive opinions from the comments?	
Content point 3	Where does the writer balance the review with practical drawbacks?	
Audience and tone	Find two places where the review sounds lively or suitable for the reader.	
Development	Find one extra detail, example or personal reaction that improves the answer.	

## 5. Language from the task prompts

The task prompts can guide your grammar and content choices. Notice which language each prompt naturally needs.

Prompt	Useful language	Why it fits	Example from the model
what the trip was like	descriptive detail + link to lessons	You are showing why the trip was relevant.	focused mainly on... / linked well to...
evaluation of comments	evaluative language + contrast	You are explaining strengths and balancing them with drawbacks.	made difficult ideas... / The main drawback was...
recommendation	recommendation + conditional	You are recommending it to the right reader.	I would recommend... / If the next visit...

## 6. Build a clear review

Notice how review phrases help you move from the opening to the final recommendation.

Job	Useful review phrases
open with key details	Can a museum...? / After visiting... / interactive displays
evaluate positives	easily the best part / also useful because...
balance negatives	The main drawback was... / felt rushed
recommend clearly	Overall, I would recommend... / to students who... / If... it would...

## 7. Vocabulary and useful review phrases

Use chunks that sound natural for this review. You can also upgrade your writing with precise words and phrases.

Purpose	Useful chunks / language	Add your own
describe the trip	science museum / interactive displays / planetarium / workshop area	
describe positives	space exhibition / detailed models / easier to understand / test ideas	
describe negatives	not enough time / move quickly / crowded cafe / rushed	
sound review-like	Can...? / easily the best part / The main drawback was...	
recommend	practical learning / worthwhile / longer visit	

## 8. Plan your own review

Use the same task, or change the details to a similar event, place, service or activity.

Prompt	My idea	Useful language
title and opening		
description / key features		
what worked well		
drawbacks or problems		
recommendation		

