



Environment and Conservation

Review: reviewing an eco workshop

1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you write.

1. What makes an environmental workshop useful rather than boring?
2. Which eco-friendly habits are realistic for students?
3. What could make a workshop difficult to follow?

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 school recently invited a local group to run an eco workshop. Your teacher has asked you to write a review of the workshop for the school magazine.

Here are some comments about the eco workshop to help you:

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| 'The recycling challenge was fun.' | 'Some of the slides had too much text.' |
| 'I learnt simple ways to save energy.' | 'The room was too noisy for discussion.' |

Now write a review of the eco workshop 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

Small Changes, Big Message

Can one workshop make students think differently about the environment? The eco workshop held on Monday certainly gave it a good try from the start.

The session was run by a local conservation group and focused on recycling, saving energy and reducing waste at school. It mixed short talks with practical activities, so it was not just another lecture and kept most students involved.

The recycling challenge was the most enjoyable part because teams had to sort items against the clock. I also learnt simple ways to save energy, such as switching off standby lights and using natural light when possible.

However, some slides had too much text, so they were hard to follow. The room was also noisy during group discussion, which made it difficult to hear quieter students.

Overall, I would recommend the workshop to students who want realistic eco ideas. With clearer slides and a quieter room, it could have an even stronger impact.

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 workshop and its focus?	
Content point 2	Where does the writer develop positive opinions from the comments?	
Content point 3	Where does the writer balance the review with problems in delivery?	
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 workshop was like	passive + topic list	You are explaining who ran it and what it covered.	was run by... / focused on...
evaluation of comments	evaluative language + contrast	You are explaining strengths and balancing them with drawbacks.	the most enjoyable part / However...
recommendation	recommendation + improvement	You are saying who would benefit and adding practical changes.	I would recommend... / With clearer...

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 one workshop...? / gave it a good try / held on Monday / was run by... / focused on... / mixed short talks with...
evaluate positives	the most enjoyable part / I also learnt...
balance negatives	However... / hard to follow
recommend clearly	Overall, I would recommend... / With clearer...

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 workshop	eco workshop / conservation group / recycling / saving energy / reducing waste	
describe positives	recycling challenge / against the clock / simple ways / realistic	
describe negatives	too much text / hard to follow / noisy room / difficult to hear	
sound review-like	Small Changes, Big Message / gave it a good try / However...	
recommend	realistic eco ideas / stronger impact / clearer slides	

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 / focus		
positive points		
problems or limits		
recommendation		

