



Family and Relationships

Review: reviewing a family learning morning

1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you write.

1. What kind of school event could families enjoy together?
2. How can parents or relatives support learning?
3. What might make a family event awkward or difficult?

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 held a family learning morning. Your teacher has asked you to write a review of the event for the school magazine.

Here are some comments about the family learning morning to help you:

'The quiz helped families work together.'

'Some instructions were confusing.'

'My grandparents enjoyed seeing my classroom.'

'The room felt crowded.'

Now write a review of the family learning morning 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

Learning Together, Not Just Watching

Would your family enjoy spending a morning in your classroom? I was not sure at first, but our family learning morning was warmer and more useful than I expected.

Families joined students for a short quiz, a classroom tour and a problem-solving activity. The event was informal, so visitors did not feel as if they were sitting through a serious meeting or being tested themselves.

The quiz was the strongest activity because it encouraged families to work together instead of just watching. My grandparents also enjoyed seeing my classroom and meeting some of my teachers.

Even so, the morning was not completely smooth. Some instructions were confusing, and the room felt crowded when several families arrived at the same time.

Overall, I would recommend this event to families who want to understand school life better and take part rather than just listen. Next time, clearer instructions and an extra room would help everyone feel more comfortable.

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 event and key activities?	
Content point 2	Where does the writer develop positive opinions from the comments?	
Content point 3	Where does the writer balance the review with organisation problems?	
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 event was like	descriptive list + tone	You are explaining the activities and atmosphere.	joined students for... / The event was informal
evaluation of comments	evaluative language + contrast	You are explaining strengths and balancing them with drawbacks.	the strongest activity / Even so...
recommendation	recommendation + audience	You are saying who would benefit from the event.	I would recommend... / families who want...

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	Would your family enjoy...? / I was not sure at first / Families joined students for... / informal / did not feel as if...
evaluate positives	the strongest activity / also enjoyed...
balance negatives	Even so... / not completely smooth
recommend clearly	Overall, I would recommend... / to students who... / Next time...

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 event	family learning morning / classroom tour / quiz / problem-solving activity	
describe positives	work together / seeing my classroom / meeting teachers / warmer	
describe negatives	confusing instructions / crowded room / arrived at the same time	
sound review-like	Would your family...? / warmer than I expected / Even so...	
recommend	understand school life / clearer instructions / more comfortable	

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 / activities		
positive points		
problems or limits		
recommendation		

