



Global Issues

Review: reviewing a charity concert

1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you write.

1. What makes a charity event successful?
2. How can entertainment help raise awareness of a global issue?
3. What problems can happen when an event is very busy?

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 charity concert to raise money for flood relief. Your teacher has asked you to write a review of the concert for the school magazine.

Here are some comments about the charity concert to help you:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 'The student bands were excellent.' | 'The hall became overcrowded.' |
| 'The videos explained the cause clearly.' | 'The donation table was hard to find.' |

Now write a review of the charity concert 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

Music With a Message

Can a concert be entertaining and meaningful at the same time? Our charity concert for flood relief showed that it can.

The event took place in the school hall and included student bands, short videos about the floods and a donation table near the entrance. The atmosphere was lively but also respectful, which suited the purpose of the evening.

The student bands were excellent, especially the final group, which got the audience clapping along. The videos were also effective because they explained the cause clearly without making the evening feel too serious.

However, the hall became overcrowded halfway through the concert. The donation table was also hard to find, so some visitors did not notice it until they were leaving.

Overall, I would recommend this concert to students who enjoy live music and want to support a good cause at the same time. Clearer signs and better crowd control would help the next event raise even more money.

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 its purpose?	
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	purpose language + atmosphere	You are explaining the event and why it mattered.	for flood relief / lively but also respectful
evaluation of comments	evaluative language + contrast	You are explaining strengths and balancing them with drawbacks.	were excellent / However...
recommendation	recommendation + future improvement	You are saying who would enjoy it and suggesting a future improvement.	I would recommend... / could raise...

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 concert be entertaining and meaningful...? / took place in... / included... / lively but also respectful
evaluate positives	were excellent / also effective because...
balance negatives	However... / hard to find
recommend clearly	Overall, I would recommend... / With clearer signs...

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 concert	charity concert / flood relief / student bands / donation table	
describe positives	excellent / effective / explained the cause / clapping along	
describe negatives	overcrowded / hard to find / did not notice / leaving	
sound review-like	Music With a Message / showed that it can / However...	
recommend	repeat the event / clearer signs / crowd control / raise more money	

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 / purpose		
positive points		
problems or limits		
recommendation		

