



## Public Places and Services

Review: reviewing a new library space

### 1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you write.

1. What makes a library useful for teenagers?
2. Would you use a library more if it had modern spaces?
3. What problems can affect public places such as libraries?

#### 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

A new library space has recently opened near your school. Your teacher has asked you to write a review of the library space for the school magazine.

Here are some comments about the new library space to help you:

'The study area is quiet and comfortable.'

'There are not enough computers.'

'The staff are very helpful.'

'The signs are confusing.'

**Now write a review of the new library space 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

#### A Quiet Corner Worth Finding

Do libraries still matter when everything is online? After visiting the new library space near school, I think they definitely do.

The library has a reading area, a small computer section, group tables and a bright study zone upstairs. The design feels modern without being noisy or distracting, which is exactly what many students need.

The quiet study area is the best feature because it gives students a comfortable place to focus after school. The staff are also very helpful, especially when visitors need support finding books or printing work.

However, the space is not perfect. There are not enough computers at busy times, and the signs are confusing, so first-time visitors may waste time looking for the right area or service desk.

Overall, I would recommend the library to students who need a calm place to study, read or finish homework after school. More computers and clearer signs would make the service even more useful.

## 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 library space and its main areas?	
Content point 2	Where does the writer develop positive opinions from the comments?	
Content point 3	Where does the writer balance the review with access or 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 place is like	descriptive list + contrast	You are helping the reader picture the space.	has a reading area... / without being...
evaluation of comments	evaluative language + contrast	You are explaining strengths and balancing them with drawbacks.	the best feature / However...
recommendation	recommendation + audience	You are saying who would benefit from the place.	I would recommend... / students who need...

## 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	Do libraries still matter...? / has a reading area...
evaluate positives	the best feature / staff are helpful
balance negatives	However... / not enough computers
recommend clearly	Overall, I would recommend... / to students who need...

## 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 library	library space / reading area / computer section / study zone	
describe positives	quiet / comfortable / helpful staff / calm place	
describe negatives	not enough computers / confusing signs / first-time visitors	
sound review-like	worth finding / I think they definitely do / However...	
recommend	study or read / clearer signs / more useful service	

## 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 / facilities		
positive points		
problems or limits		
recommendation		

