



Work and Careers

Review: reviewing a work experience website

1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you write.

1. What information do students need before work experience?
2. Would a website help you prepare for a placement?
3. What can make career information confusing?

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 launched a work experience website for students. Your teacher has asked you to write a review of the website for the school magazine.

Here are some comments about the work experience website to help you:

'The placement checklist is useful.'

'Some pages are hard to navigate.'

'The interview tips are clear.'

'There are not enough local examples.'

Now write a review of the work experience website 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 Helpful Start Before the First Day

Can a website make work experience feel less nerve-racking? The new school work experience website does not answer every question, but it is a helpful starting point.

The site includes a placement checklist, interview tips, example emails and advice about workplace behaviour. The sections are written in clear language, so students can understand the basics without needing a long meeting or extra explanation from a teacher.

The placement checklist is the most useful feature because it breaks preparation into small steps. The interview tips are also clear and practical, especially for students who have never spoken to an employer before.

However, some pages are hard to navigate, and it takes too many clicks to find key documents. There are also not enough local examples, which makes some advice feel a little general.

Overall, I would recommend the website to students preparing for their first placement. A simpler menu and more local case studies would make it much stronger.

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 website and what it includes?	
Content point 2	Where does the writer develop positive opinions from the comments?	
Content point 3	Where does the writer balance the review with navigation or content 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 website is like	feature list + so	You are explaining what students can use.	includes... / so students can...
evaluation of comments	evaluative language + contrast	You are explaining strengths and balancing them with drawbacks.	most useful feature / However...
recommendation	recommendation + audience	You are saying who would benefit from the website.	I would recommend... / students preparing...

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 website make work experience...? / includes a checklist / interview tips / clear language / understand the basics
evaluate positives	most useful feature / also clear
balance negatives	However... / hard to navigate
recommend clearly	Overall, I would recommend... / to students preparing...

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 website	work experience website / checklist / interview tips / example emails	
describe positives	useful / clear / practical / small steps	
describe negatives	hard to navigate / too many clicks / too general	
sound review-like	helpful starting point / most useful feature / However...	
recommend	first placement / simpler menu / local case studies	

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 / features		
positive points		
problems or limits		
recommendation		

