

LPF Writing Exemplar

Bidding Farewell to Jia Jia and An An

Task Description

Students played the role of a panda keeper who had been taking care of the two pandas (Jia Jia and An An) in Ocean Park for five years but had to leave them in order to take up a new job in the USA. Before taking up the new post, the panda keeper decided to write a story about his last day with the pandas and post it on the park's website. The story includes the following points:

- the relationship between the panda keeper and the two pandas,
- what happened on the last day, and
- how the panda keeper felt.

Preparation

Before the writing activity, students read a magazine article about pandas and a blog written by a panda keeper working in Ocean Park to know more about his daily work. They also played a word game practising the use of adjectives to describe different feelings. They then brainstormed ideas in groups with the help of a mind map.

Learning Outcomes: ATMs4–5

Content	Organisation	Language and Style
<p>ATM5 Writing texts to convey simple information, ideas, personal experiences and opinions on familiar topics with some elaboration</p>	<p>ATM5 Linking ideas quite coherently in some parts of a text, and showing some overall organisation of ideas</p>	<p>ATM4 Using a small range of quite appropriate and accurate language forms and functions, and showing an awareness of tone, style, register and features of some text types</p>
<p>The student can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • include relevant information about the setting, e.g. a panda keeper writing a story about two pandas for the Ocean Park website • develop a simple plot with a climax in Paragraph 2 when ‘I shouted at the two pandas • provide some details to support the characterisation of ‘I’, the panda keeper, e.g. ‘When I said goodbye to them, I cried.’, ‘I felt sad to scolded them.’ 	<p>The student can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establish links within Paragraph 2 using adverbial phrases and clauses of time, e.g. ‘On the last morning’, ‘When I said goodbye to them’, ‘When I went away’ • arrange ideas in a logical way, talking about the close relationship between the writer and the two pandas in Paragraph 1, which explains the writer’s mixed feelings towards the pandas in Paragraphs 2 and 3 • structure the story using three paragraphs with a clear focus reflecting the task requirements 	<p>The student can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use appropriate vocabulary to describe the panda keeper’s feelings, e.g. ‘sad’, ‘upset’ and describe the pandas, e.g. ‘kind’, ‘lovely’ • use a small range of sentence patterns to present ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - participle phrases, e.g. ‘Getting a new job in the USA, I must leave them.’ - time clauses, e.g. ‘When I said goodbye to them, I cried.’ • use direct speech to add vividness to the story, e.g. “‘Get out! Two stupid pandas””

I was a panda keeper in Ocean Park. I cared for the two pandas, Jia Jia and An An, for 5 years. Getting a new job in the USA, I must leave them. I could get a lot of money in this job but I lost two best friends. It was upset for me to lost two best friends. An An and Jia Jia were kind and lovely. They never hurt me and always make me laugh. They were my best friends forever.

On the last morning, I prepared the usual bamboo breakfast for Jia Jia and An An and sadly said goodbye to them. When I said goodbye to them, I cried. They knew I will leave them, they cried too. I'm sorry that I must leave them. I could not cared for them. When I went away, they followed me. "Get out! Two stupid pandas," I shouted them. They really went back to Ocean Park.

I felt sad to scolded them. I think they will understand my meaning. They were my best friends forever. I will never forget them. I hope they will never forget me too.

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