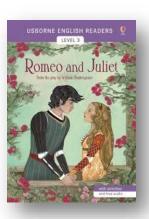
EXERCISES

1. Imagine you have been reading a blog where people write about their favourite forms of entertainment (shows, films, songs, books, etc.), and why they like them.

Monday, October 17, 2011 My favourite play is Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare. It is about a young couple who fall in love and want to be together but their parents disagree. The play shows how their happiness is destroyed by their parents' stupidity. I think the story is great and the language of the play is very beautiful. It is a sad play but there are very beautiful moments in it, too, especially the scene where the two lovers meet. It's a brilliant play.



1. Imagine that a famous author is coming to your town to promote his new children's story book. Write an announcement (100 words) for your school newspaper informing your schoolmates about the event and urging them to go. The hints below will help you.

Where and when the author will appear

What the author will do at this event

What other activities will take place

What prizes will be given away

- 2. Write what your favourite children's story is about and why you like it (80 words). The model below will help you to write your own text.
- 3. Read the text below and choose the best answer (A, B, or C) for item 1.
- 1. The text gives information about
- **A.** the most famous skyscrapers in the world today.
- **B.** the people who designed skyscrapers.
- C. why skyscrapers were needed.

The first skyscrapers The term 'skyscraper' has been used in a number of ways over the years: an ornament on the top of a building, a high-flying bird, a very tall man and a sail at

the top of a mast. At the end of the nineteenth century, the word was used to refer to buildings of ten storeys or more. Later, a lift was used to take people up to the higher floors, as in the most famous skyscraper, the Empire State Building.

During the middle ages, the people who lived in the cities of northern Europe began to build great cathedrals. Tall spires were added to make these churches higher and bring them closer to heaven.

In the nineteenth century, as cities grew more crowded with people looking for work the value of land rose. New businesses were starting and in order to make room for offices on a small plot of land, it was necessary to build higher. But the problem was that to put up a stone building of such height, the walls on the ground floor would have to be more than two metres thick to hold the weight of the building. So another material was required to make skyscrapers possible.

About this time, three buildings were put up that used iron or steel to support great weight with safety. They were the Crystal Palace in London, the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Brooklyn Bridge in New York. From then on, architects started to experiment with buildings that had steel frames. Today, the tallest skyscrapers are a hundred storeys or more, compared to the first 10 storeys skyscrapers, which seem tiny

Read the text again and choose the best answers (A, B, or C) for items 2-6

2. In the past, the word 'skyscraper' had

A. only one meaning. **B.** different meanings. **C.** the same meaning as today.

3. In the middle ages, they built tall churches because

A. they were more beautiful. **B.** it felt like approaching God. **C.** they took in more people.

4. Why were taller buildings necessary in the nineteenth century? Because

A. they were cheaper. **B.** land was expensive. **C.** they made better offices.

5. In the nineteenth century, skyscrapers were needed

A. for offices. **B.** as houses for the poor. **C.** for shops.

6. What was the problem with making tall buildings with stone?

A. It was an expensive material. **B.** It was too heavy. **C.** It wasn't strong enough.

4. Match the underlined words in the text below (items 7-11) with a suitable definition.

a	To spend time relaxing or sleeping	d	To arrive somewhere
b	To travel	e	To become less bright
С	To go from one side of something to another	f	To have a small meal

The first swallow of summer During March and April, the first of our summer visitors (7) **reach** Greece. Arriving to feast on insects of summer, millions of birds cross the Mediterranean. One of the most familiar is the swallow. Let's look at what these much-loved visitors have been doing since we last saw them in October.

In comparison to other migrants, like swifts, swallows are relatively slow travellers. They **(8) move** by day and the fact that they catch their food in the air means they can **(9) snack** on the way. This is a great advantage over other migrants that have to reach rich feeding areas a long distance away before they can eat.

I remember watching thousands of swallows coming in to (10) rest at Lake Koronia in northern Greece, one September. As the light faded the air was full of wheeling birds, all onto the reeds below.

Normally, most birds will travel between 100 and 200 kilometres a day for a couple of months and more. But swallows travel south, (11) crossing the Mediterranean and the Sahara Desert, in one flight.