
Student 4 - Writing Sample 3

From STUDENT 4

Dear RH,

I'm really sorry for forgetting to tell you how I can send the pictures over email. I save the pictures to my folder on my pc first. When I finish writing an email by Outlook Express software, ("I") click "Insert", and then click "File Attachment". I have to look for the pictures that I want to send. Finally ("I") click "OK". This way I can send the email with pictures. I taught my father how to send or receive emails and how to send pictures. That's why he can send pictures to me. (This was a wonderful paragraph! You had so few errors!)

You are right. Liubiju pickle shop has been around for a long time. I hope you will get a chance to taste the pickles some day.

Today I "take" ("took") Instructor 1's class and "practice to communicate" ("practiced communicating") with my friend. The topic "is about how to reduce the stress" ("was how to reduce stress"). The topic "is" ("was") interesting. You must feel stressed at college too. How do you "reduce the stress" ("reduce stress"* or "reduce your stress")? The one thing that "will reduce" ("reduces") my stress is listening to music. The way that my friend "will reduce the stress" ("reduces her stress") is ("by") working ("out")* and doing exercise. Instructor 1 says that I am a couch potato. I don't "like to be a" ("like being a" or "want to be") couch potato. I would like to do exercises and improve ("my") self-image. I prefer to have a friend who can accompany me to "do exercises" ("exercise"). I "see many students often go to gym and want to join" ("often see many students going to the gym and I want to join"). But I don't have a friend who like("s") to go to "a" ("the") gym. So I don't go there. In fact I like to exercise "my body" (don't need this). I wish I could learn how to play tennis and how to swim and so on. Do you "like to have a sport" ("play a sport" or "play any sports")?

Tomorrow is the night of the 15th of the 1st lunar month. It is a Chinese holiday "named" ("called") Lantern Festival. Usually people eat sweet dumpling("s") made of glutinous rice flour. "Did you hear" ("Have you heard") about that? I like to eat sweet dumpling("s"). Some contain black sesame, some contain sweet-scented osmanthus, some contain chocolate, "and etc" ("etc" or "and so on"). When I was little, I lift("ed") a lantern outside to celebrate the Festival ("of the") Lantern.

Tommorw evening from 6:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. I will practice piano at rehearsal. I like to rehearse but I like to take piano lessons at ("a") music school better. If there "is" ("was") a piano performance

major at RIT, I would "like to" (don't need this) take "the" ("that") major instead of ("the") applied computer technology major. But my father thinks the major related to computers is better than ("the") music major because it "is easy" ("will be easier") for me to get a good job in the future. So I "look the piano as amateurism" ("look at the piano as an amateur hobby"). I played ("the") piano for Instructor 1. If you are interested in it, I would love to play it for you. Have a good day!

Sincerely, STUDENT 4

Dear STUDENT 4,

That was a great message. Thank you for telling me how you send pictures over e-mail. I was very curious about that.

I am not as stressed out now that I am at home doing my internships. My life is just not as busy now as it was in college. I was involved in a lot of clubs and other activities, and now I just do my internship during the day and have my evenings free.

There are lots of things I do to reduce my stress. I enjoy listening to music. My favorite kind of music is "country". What's your favorite kind? I like to cross-stitch, watch TV, work on my scrapbook and write letters. At school, if I was really stressed out, sometimes I'd go for a walk or a drive in my car. I don't play any sports. I know how to swim and have sort of learned how to play tennis. My sister is a runner and is very competitive. She runs 4 or 5 miles every day. That's not my thing. When I was younger I played soccer in a summer league with one of my sisters. My dad was our coach. I was the goalie. It was fun but I was terrible.

I know how to play the piano too. One of my sisters and I used to take lessons. The teacher would come to our house and teach us. We still have our piano, but I'm very rusty. I can usually play the top hand of a song, but not the bottom hand.

Keep in touch!

RH

*reduce stress: a very American expression that is used to mean reduce stress is "distress". When I was in college at Geneseo, the RAs used to host "Distress Fests" which were like silly parties. We would do all kind of activities that were fun and not stressful. We had play-doh, coloring books, finger paints, and bubble wrap to pop. Tell me if you don't know what any of those things are.

*"work out": This can be a noun or a verb. A "work out" is a noun, and there are different types of workouts. Some people lift weights as their workout, others take aerobics classes, other go swimming.

"Working out" as a verb means exercising.

*sweet dumplings: This is a difficult concept to understand, but when you are talking about a class or group of foods, you need to refer to it as a plural. "I enjoy eating sweet dumplings." "I like pickles." "I hate vegetables." If you are talking about a specific meal and describing how you ate one of something, then you can use the singular word. "For lunch I had a sweet dumpling and a pickle." Does this make any sense to you?