

Test prep **Starters** writing Part 5

Complete the story.

Look at the pictures and write the missing words!

Naughty Chip!

It's a really nice day.

Pat and Alice are playing in their 

The children are playing a throwing and catching game.

Their  comes to play with them, too.

His name is Chip.

Oh dear! Chip has got Pat's  in his mouth.

He runs behind the trees with it.

'Come here, Chip!' Pat says. 'Please, come here, now!'

But Chip doesn't come.

Chip is running behind Dad's 

But Alice has a good idea.

Chip loves playing with Alice's toy 

Alice goes into the house and gets her toy. Chip sees it! He runs to Alice, opens his mouth and picks it up. Pat laughs! 'Don't worry, Alice. I've got it!'

Now Pat and Alice are  again!

They can play their throwing and catching game!

And Chip is having lots of fun, too.

Writing

In the Starters reading and writing test part 5, learners look at a 3 picture story and have to answer questions about it. They can do this by looking at the story pictures. They are one word answers.

In this activity, learners don't answer questions, but they do have to write one word answers by looking at pictures.

Note, 'naughty', 'idea' and 'laugh' are Movers words.

- Learners read the story and look at the pictures that show the missing words. They then complete the story. Ask learners what 'it' refers to in the fourth line from the end. (it = the ball!)
- If learners need more support, they could do this activity in pairs. You could offer more help by add dashes for the number of letters in each word or the first letter of each word.

After the activity – speaking?

Learners could take it in turns to read out this story (one sentence at a time).

Remember to ask learners to continue with the story in a random order, so learners don't know which person will be asked to read out the next sentence.

Review pronunciation mistakes in open class. But do this after learners have read out the story, not during the activity.

After the activity – more writing or listening?

- Ask your learners in pairs to add two or three lines to this story. You could do an example in open class. For example:
It's a really nice day. **But Pat and Alice can't go to the park.**
- In pairs, learners then choose another two sentences to add to the story. Walk around and help with ideas and vocabulary if necessary then feedback in open class.
- If your learners are used to dictation and you think that is a useful activity, you could dictate two or three short additions to the story. For example:
(..) His name is Chip! **'Hello', Pat says. 'Good boy', Alice says.**
- Learners listen and write. Don't worry about also dictating the punctuation unless learners are confident users.

Extension

You could then find other short stories (perhaps from past papers) and delete five or six easy words (nouns are best, but you could also delete verbs and adjectives). Make sure that you don't delete more than one word in any sentence though. And don't worry about adding pictures!

Pairs then guess what the missing words might be (individually or in pairs) and add them to the story to complete it. Sometimes, more than one answer will be possible so allow any answer that fits each gap appropriately. Congratulate alternative answers! This can have a very positive impact on learning. It will encourage learners to offer different suggestions (not to be afraid to do so)!