

Postcard

Approach: Station

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Focus: Writing an informative postcard.

Resources: Postcard.

Questions/instructions:

- Imagine that you have had a really good holiday.
- Write a postcard to someone you really like.
- Tell them about your holiday.
- Write on the postcard.



Example A

Dear Litiana,
 This week I've had a really cool holiday.
 I've been missing you a lot.
 Yesterday I went to the pools.
 I went on the Tarzan rope, hydroslide, and the high and low diving board. I had fun.
 Bye.
 Love, Bailee

Example B

Dear Phillippa,
 I just went to Cape Reinga. It was really cool.
 I want to go back there.
 Have you been on holiday lately? I had lots of fun.
 I have to go now.
 See you.
 Maddy

Amount of information:	% responses	
	y4	y8
higher than Example A	5	20
same as Example A	8	20
between Example A & B	9	17
same as Example B	24	24
less than Example B	54	19

Focus on holiday activities:	% responses	
	y4	y8
all/most	56	55
about half	21	20
some	10	21
none	13	4

Legibility:	% responses	
	y4	y8
good	67	78
borderline	30	20
poor	3	2

	% responses	
	y4	y8
name in address area	24	49
city/town/centre in address area	29	65
other necessary address information (e.g. street address)	29	64
greeting, in any appropriate form	61	79
indicates who card is from	59	79

Total score:	% responses	
	y4	y8
12-14	6	30
9-11	18	32
6-8	40	24
3-5	32	13
0-2	4	1

Commentary:

Compared to year 4 students, year 8 students were much more likely to include formalities like name, address and sender on the postcard. They also included more information, somewhat more legibly.

YEAR 4 – HIGH:

To [First name] given
 Yesterday I arrived in Australia. It is very hot and I'm doing alot of swimming. Tomorrow we are going to Seaworld Auckland and I read in a booklet that there are baby polar bears. Write to you again soon.
 From [First name] given

To [First name]
 [Street address]
 Mt Albert
 Auckland
 NZ

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Dear uncle,
 I've just been to rotarua it's really hot and smelly. I stayed in a hotel. In the morning we go in the Pool next to us and it's cold so we go to see the hot Pools. People say you can go in them but they might be hot you could swim in the sea though. If you dig up sand it's water inside and hot to lots of love your Angel
 [First name] xxxxxx

Uncle [House No.]
 [Street name]
 [Suburb]
 NZ Auckland

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YEAR 4 – MID:

To Mum and Dad.
 I had a cool holiday at Taupo. I got to go to the lake and go for a swim. I hope to go now by.
 By [First name]

[Street address]
 [Suburb]
 NZ

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Dear mum? in the holiday I went to Kikorua and went swimming with the seals it was great fun.

[Street address]
 [Suburb]
 NZ

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YEAR 8 – HIGH:

Dear Mum, Dad and [First name]
 I'm having an awesome time, wish you could be here. We went to Rainbow's End yesterday. It was really fun. I especially loved the rollercoasters. We've been swimming alot in the spa and the pool. They're really warm, not in the one back and forth! The girls might go for a swim now, so I better go. I'll see you in a couple of weeks! LUV YA LOTS!
 [First name]

[Surname] FAMILY
 [Street address]
 [Town]
 Central Otago
 N.Z.

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Dear Mum & Dad,
 It's been great here in Queenstown. I went skiing, it's much better than Mt Kaiti and stuff. Yesterday I went bungy-jumping it was the most kicking thing I've ever done! I screamed my lungs out while I was going down so my throat is sore today. Tomorrow I'm going on a boat ride to go sight-seeing which will be a bit more relaxing I mean! In two days I'll go skiing again. Met some really nice people down here, food is great I recommend Queenstown for your next family trip. Lots of love, [First name] PS- with u were here.

Mum & Dad.
 [Street address]
 [Suburb]
 Christchurch
 NZ.

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YEAR 8 – MID:

Dear [First name]
 we are having a great holiday in New Zealand. Yesterday we fed the ducks some meat. we are having a great time. We will be back soon.
 by [First name]

[Street address]
 [Suburb]
 Australia

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To [First name]
 Wassup, man it's cool in Auckland it's so big Im coming home on Saturday 15th September but I dont want to leave Ive been getting a few pairs of clothes and stuff well write to me ASAP
 from [First name]

[Street address]
 Invercargill 9501
 from (Sender)
 [Street address]
 Auckland

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