

PRE-INTERMEDIATE UNIT 8

adding emphasis

speakout WRITING TIP

When you write a description of a product or place, or give your opinion about something, it is a good idea to include adverbs of degree (*fairly, really, extremely*, etc.) to add emphasis. These words make your description more precise. They are followed by adjectives.

*It is **extremely** hot in Seville in the summer.*

*It is **really** difficult for young people to get a job after university.*

*I think tennis is **fairly** easy to play.*

- 1** Read the product description in the advertisement below. What is the person selling?

Excellent Stereo System for sale

- ☐ I'm selling my stereo system.
- ☐ It's in extremely good condition because I haven't used it much.
- ☐ It has very high sound quality because the speakers are really excellent.
- ☐ It's really easy to use.
- ☐ The price is £500. You may think that's fairly expensive, but the price was £1,000.

- 2** Complete the table with adjectives from the advertisement. Which is the strongest and which is the weakest?

Condition	1 _____ good
Sound quality	2 _____ high
Speakers	3 _____ excellent
Price	4 _____ expensive

- 3** Unjumble the sentences about the products for sale.

- 1 bad / The weather / today. / is / extremely
- 2 playing the piano. / good at / I'm fairly
- 3 your English / to do / It's / important / really / homework.
- 4 in August. / is / quiet / extremely / My town
- 5 It's / in another country. / to study / really expensive
- 6 extremely / Nurses are / in most countries. / under-paid

- 4** Choose the options so that the sentences are true for you.

- 1 I am *fairly/very/extremely* good at English.
- 2 My mobile phone was *fairly/very/really expensive/cheap*.
- 3 My home town is *fairly/very/really small/big*.
- 4 I think that football is a *fairly/really/extremely interesting/boring* sport.
- 5 Clothes today are *very/really/extremely expensive/cheap*.
- 6 It's *fairly/really/extremely easy/difficult* to learn another language.
- 7 It's *fairly/really/extremely* important to have a job with a high salary.
- 8 I'm *very/really/extremely* interested in health and fitness.

- 5** Choose one of the products from the list below and write an advertisement. Write 80–100 words.

- mp3 player
- laptop computer
- leather jacket
- mobile phone
- DVD player



Plan your writing

- Think about the product you are going to write about.
 - What's it called? What are its features?
 - What is the price and why is it a good deal?

Check your writing

- Have you used language to add emphasis?
- Have you mentioned the price and why it is a good deal?
- Have you checked your grammar and spelling?
- Did you find any mistakes?