Lingoda

COMMUNICATION

Reviewing a cultural event

LEVEL
Intermediate (B1)

NUMBER
EN_B1_3023X

LANGUAGE
English

Learning outcomes

- I can describe a cultural event using a range of vocabulary and phrases.

- I can write a short review on social media about an event I have attended.

Warm-up

Have you ever been to one of these events before?
Which event would you **most like to attend** and why?

a classical music concert

an art exhibition

a comedy show

a film festival

Reviewing an event on social media

1. **Read the reviews** on the right.
2. **Complete the activity** in the red box.

Which review is talking about:

- A charity variety concert?
- A comedy night?
- An art exhibition?

A bit disappointing ★★☆☆☆

Personally, I found the exhibition pretentious and uninspiring. It seems that anyone can glue a few bits of rubbish together and call it art these days! Maybe I just didn't 'get it,' but it was a waste of €10 in my opinion.

Great cause, great show ★★★☆☆

I was blown away by the quality of the acts, despite a few technical hiccups. Hats off to the organisers for putting together such a fantastic line-up - something for everyone. And all for a great cause!

A real gem of a place ★★★★★

Best place in town for improv comedy. I've been to this venue three times now, and it never disappoints! The performers can be a bit hit or miss, of course, but the lively crowd and cheap drinks make up for it!

Match the phrases to the definition

Match phrases **(1-5)** to a definition or explanation **(a-e)**.

1 *Hats off to the organisers.*

a to understand something, for example a concept

2 *Maybe I just didn't get it.*

b impressed by...

3 *It went well overall, despite a few hiccups!*

c sometimes good, sometimes bad

4 *I was blown away by the performance.*

d problems

5 *It can be a bit hit or miss, in my opinion.*

e Congratulations to...

Describing an event

Read the phrases below and **complete** the blue box.

There's **something for everyone**.

I've been here three times now, and it **never disappoints**.

Which phrase means...

...*Most people will enjoy it*?

...*It's always enjoyable*?

Categorise

Categorise the words and phrases from the text.

1
I was simply blown away by it...

2
I didn't get it...

3
There were a few hiccups..

4
Hats off to the event organisers!

5
Very pretentious, in my opinion...

6
Never disappoints!

7
Her performance was quite uninspiring...

8
It was a bit hit or miss...

Positive

Negative

Reflect on the text

Do you read (or write) reviews often?

Are you more likely to believe a positive or negative review?

Vocabulary

venue	line-up	act

A **venue** is a place that hosts events.

The **line-up** at an event means the people who are going to participate or perform there.

An **act** is another word for a performance, usually within a larger show.

Discuss

Choose one of the questions below to ask a classmate.
You can complete this activity **in breakout rooms or in the main class**.

Are there any good **venues** in your home city?

Have you ever been to an event with a great **line-up**?

Can you think of a memorable **act** that you've seen? What type of performance was it?

Have you ever felt, after attending an event or watching a performance, that you didn't **get it**?

Write a review

Write a short review, using the vocabulary from the lesson to help you.
(You can write about an event you discussed in the previous activity or choose another one.)

Fantastic venue, but...

I was blown away by the photography...

Event ideas

- a concert
- a comedy show
- an art exhibition
- musical theatre
- a play

- a festival

Vocabulary

- venue
- line-up
- act
- hats off (to)
- to (not) get it
- hiccups

- to be blow away (by)
- hit or miss
- something for everyone
- pretentious
- (un)inspiring

Let's reflect!

- Can you describe a cultural event using a range of vocabulary and phrases?

- Can you write a short review on social media about an event I have attended?

Your teacher will now make one suggestion for improvement for each student.

End of the lesson

Idiom

to steal the show

Meaning: to be the best

Example: All of the performances were great, but the last singer really stole the show.

Additional practice

Multiple choice

Choose the correct word to fill the gap.

1 The play wasn't very good. I was quite disappointed _____ it, actually.

    a. from   **b.** by

2 Her new comedy show is great! There is something _____ everyone to enjoy.

    a. for   **b.** from

3 I didn't understand the exhibition. I don't think I got _____.

    a. it   **b.** by

Brainstorm

Make a list of different cultural events for each category. Why did you go? Would you go again? Explain your choices.

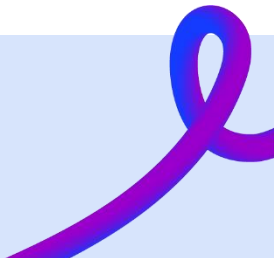| 1	2	3
Something you were disappointed by	Something for everyone	Something you didn't get

Free practice

Write a social media review for one of the cultural events below. Was your experience **positive** or **negative**?

- Art exhibition
- History museum
- Film festival
- Lecture
- Choose your own event

- Include a score out of 5 stars
- Where are you writing your review?

1

2

3

4

5

Rank the cultural events

Put these cultural events in order **(1= your favourite, 5 = your least favourite)**. Explain your answers. Why do you like some events more than others?

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

a Rock concert

b Art Exhibition

c Comedy night

d Play

e Film festival

Discuss

Are cities more cultural than rural areas?

Do you live in a city or the country? Have you been to cultural events outside the city?

Answer Key

P.5: 1. (e) 2. (a) 3. (d) 4. (b) 5. (c)

P.6:
Something for everyone – Most people will enjoy it
Never disappoints – always enjoyable

P.7: Positive: 1, 4, 6, Negative: 2, 3, 5, 7, 8

P.15: 1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (a)

Summary

Cultural events
- Cultural events include art exhibitions, concerts, comedy shows...
- It is very common to write reviews of your experiences at these events on social media
- Reading these reviews can be useful for recommendations

Useful vocabulary
- venue, line up, act
- to be blown away (by something)
- pretentious, uninspiring

Useful phrases
- Positive: Hats off to..., (There's) something for everyone, (It) never disappoints
- Negative: hiccups, hit or miss

Vocabulary

concert

venue

line-up

film festival

comedy show

hiccups

act

to get

to be blown away by…

hit or miss

pretentious

uninspiring

(There's) something for everyone

(It) never disappoints

Hats off to..

Notes