

Grammar into Reading: Summary with a purpose

Context: Intermediate students have read a passage about an Ice Hotel (Read This 3: Amazing Stories from the Content Areas, Cambridge University Press).

LESSON

1. Identify an audience:

Elicit ideas from the class about what kind of traveler would like to stay in an ice hotel to get to an adventurous traveler.

2. Give a reason for the summary:

Ask students to think about an adventurous traveler they know. Tell them they will write an email to that person recommending the ice hotel. In the email, they need to summarize the activities that the traveler would like.

3. Teach a micro-lesson on grammar related to the writing task.

In this case, students focus on turning verbs from the text into gerunds to write sentences they can use in their summaries.

- Have students work in groups of three to write example sentences about the activities they can do at the ice hotel using gerunds.
- Elicit examples to the board or screen to review and answer questions.

Summary for a friend stems

VERB + ing Ice swimming			might be exciting for you. would be an adventure.
			seems like fun.
You	might would	like enjoy	VERB + ing sleeping on animal skins.

- Have students write the summary individually. Consider giving them the first sentence and having them take it from there.

Write a summary about the ice hotel for an adventurous friend. Your summary must...

- tell the interesting things that your adventurous friend can do there.
- leave out details that might not be important to your friend.
- be 5 to 7 sentences.
- you can start with the following sentence.

Hi _____ , I read about a place that I think you would like...