

2 Language Excellence

Presentation: Fiction

1 Read the extract and answer the questions.

- 1 What job does the author have? _____
- 2 What does the author think about the sea? _____
- 3 What do you think the author's life was like in Bristol? _____
- 4 How would you describe the author's character? _____

I took a deep breath. There was nothing I could do now, I was on the plane and there was no going back. Indonesia here I come. Was I crazy to have accepted the offer? Should I have stayed in Bristol with my sensible office job and my simple one bedroom flat? What about Jed? Was I right to leave him?

'Are you going on holiday?' asked my neighbour in seat 37B.

'No, I'm going to work in Bali. I'm a scuba diving instructor.'

'Wow! That sounds fantastic. Daily dives in the Indian Ocean, right?'

'I think so. What about you?'

'I'm going to travel around Asia for a month. I want to try scuba diving though. I love the sea.'

'Me too. It's like a different world under the water.'

I sat back and gazed out of the window, picturing turquoise blue water and shoals of colourful fish swimming amongst the corals.

I had had an average life in Bristol and it was OK. Now, though, adventure beckoned and I had a feeling life was going to get much more exciting.

'I certainly hope so,' I whispered to myself with a smile.

Fiction

Fiction texts include lots of details to paint a clear picture of the scenario and colloquial speech to help you relate to the characters.

Remember that you can infer things about people's personality from their thoughts and actions.

Now, though, adventure beckoned and I had a feeling life was going to get much more exciting.

'I certainly hope so,' I whispered to myself with a smile.

Remember!

In stories people speak as they would in real life, so you should use informal speech.

A: *I love the sea.*

B: *Me too.*

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Practice: Fiction

Short answers

Questions / statements	Short answers (informal)	Full answers (formal)
Does Jane like me?	I hope so.	I hope she likes you.
Is the book in the shops yet?	I don't think so.	I don't think it's in the shops yet.
I'm going to go to the shop.	Me too.	I'm going to go to the shop too.
I don't like this author.	Me neither.	I don't like this author either.

Typical errors

Is Tom at school? I think yes. ✗
 Is Tom at school? I think so. ✓
 Do you think it'll be sunny tomorrow? I hope. ✗
 Do you think it'll be sunny tomorrow? I hope so. ✓

1 Circle the correct words.

- A Did they see us?
 B I don't think so. / I think no.
 1 A Is Jack coming to the party?
 B I hope. / I hope so.
 2 A I haven't read this book.
 B Me too. / Me neither.
 3 A Does your dad read science fiction?
 B I think so. / I hope not.
 4 A I think these comics are great.
 B Me too. / Me so.
 5 A Have you read this series?
 B I don't think so. / Me neither.

2 Complete the sentences with the phrases in the box.

I don't think so. I hope so.
 I think so. Me neither. ~~Me too.~~

I think Agatha Christie is a great author.
Me too.

- 1 A Was Tina reading her book?
 B No, _____
 2 A I didn't expect the hero to die.
 B _____
 3 A Will the author be in the shop?
 B _____ I want him to sign my book.
 4 A Is that film on at the cinema?
 B _____

3 Rewrite the second sentence using a suitable phrase.

- A Did you see the boys?
 B I might have. Was John wearing a blue coat?
 B I think so. Was John wearing a blue coat?
 1 A I didn't like the *Maze Runner* series.
 B I didn't like it either.

 2 A I like reading romantic novels best.
 B They're my favourite as well.

 3 A Is the public library open today?
 B It had better be. I need to return a book.
 _____ I need to return a book.
 4 A Are you going to buy any postcards?
 B I might do, if I see some nice ones.
 _____, if I see some nice ones.

Final Writing Task

Fiction

Write the start of a short story. It can be set anywhere and you can include any type of character you like.

- Include some details of description and some dialogue including one or two of the phrases: *I hope / think so. Me too. Me neither.*