

Exercise 4

- 13** Read the article about the differences between using cameras and using phones to take photographs.

Write a summary giving advice on using a phone to take photographs.

**Your summary should be about 100 words long (and no more than 120 words long).
You should use your own words as far as possible.**

You will receive up to 8 marks for the content of your summary and up to 8 marks for the style and accuracy of your language.

Is it better to take photos with a camera or a phone?

There are several advantages to using a phone rather than a camera to take photos, and the most obvious is convenience. Unless you're a professional photographer, it's unlikely you'll carry a camera with you every day, whereas your phone is always with you. Remember to wipe the lens on it frequently though – a dirty lens will affect your photos.

Phones connect easily to the internet, meaning you can share photographs with other people within seconds. Sharing photos from a camera is trickier, though not impossible. However, cameras have their advantages too. The main one is picture quality, particularly in terms of well-focused pictures. There are things you can do to improve the images you take with your phone, though. For example, you can tap the screen to indicate where you want to focus. You can also use apps to alter the appearance of the photos you take with your phone.

Phones are fine for photographing subjects in good light, but if you use the flash, you'll often get a picture which looks too white or unclear. It's best to just use natural light, or take a camera if you know you're going to be taking pictures in poor light.

Cameras contain a device called a stabiliser, which reduces the chance of a blurred or shaky image when shooting fast-moving action or using the zoom lens. The stabilisers on phones reduce picture quality, however. Using both hands to keep the phone steady will help if you have no choice but to photograph fast action with one. Even the way you take a picture with a camera helps to give a better image. On a phone, you touch a circle on the screen, which often causes you to move the phone just as you shoot. Luckily, you can also take a picture by using the volume button on the side of the phone – similar to what you do with a camera – which helps you keep the phone still.

Professional photographers often use the settings on their camera to deliberately blur the background, making it look out of focus so the main subject stands out. If you're using your phone, the best you can do is to keep the background as simple as possible, as blurring it might not be possible.

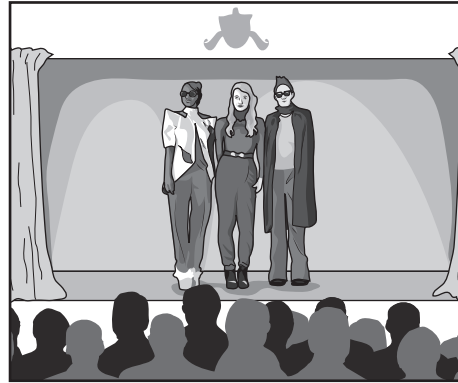
A key advantage of a good camera is having a zoom lens to capture a distant subject. Although some phones have a zoom feature, using one can result in a poor image. With a phone, it's preferable to simply get closer to whatever you want to photograph.

Modern cameras can take hundreds of photos on only one battery charge, whereas phones tend to run out of power quickly. On days when you want to use your phone to take pictures, avoid shooting too many videos.

So is a camera better than a phone? If you're a more serious photographer who wants to experiment and develop your photography skills, then probably yes. If, on the other hand, you simply want to take pictures and share them, then stick with your phone.

If a splendid photo using a phone's camera is your aim, then follow these tips. First, wipe the lens regularly and use natural illumination when taking pictures. For enhancing the image, tap the screen where you want to focus and use computer programs to add effects and change the appearance of the photos. When shooting fast-moving actions, press the volume button to take the photo and grasp the phone with both of your hands to keep the phone stable. Also, keep the background plain and get nearer to the object instead of zooming. Finally, don't take a lot of videos on days when you want to capture photos as the phone may run out of charge.

Exercise 5



- 14** You and some other students recently organised a fashion show at your school to raise money for a charity.

Write an email to your friend about the fashion show.

In your email, you should:

- say what kind of charity you raised money for
- explain what you did to help to organise the show
- describe what happened at the show.

The pictures above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

Your email should be between 150 and 200 words long.

You will receive up to 8 marks for the content of your email, and up to 8 marks for the language used.

Dear John,

I'm sorry I haven't written to you for the last few days. I was busy as a bee organizing the fashion show I told you about last week.

As you probably know, the World Environment Day was a few days ago — the same day as the fashion show. Well, this wasn't luck! We did that deliberately because the charity we were raising money for (called Greener) aims to save the environment. They launch tons of educational campaigns to raise awareness of environmental issues among people and plant 100 trees a day! That's fascinating, isn't it?

Anyways, I was in charge of designing the posters and distributing them on every street corner. I couldn't believe I finally used the graphic design skills I learned in the summer to make something useful! Also, on the event day, I had to stand at the auditorium's door, welcome guests and guide them to their seats.

Fortunately, all those efforts put in paid off. The show was unbelievably successful; we raised more money than intended and the audience was impressed and enjoyed the show! Of course, the most popular and cool students in our school were the ones who performed in the show, showing off the latest fashionable outfits just like real models!

Let me know what your thoughts are. Got to go now.

Your friend,

[your name]

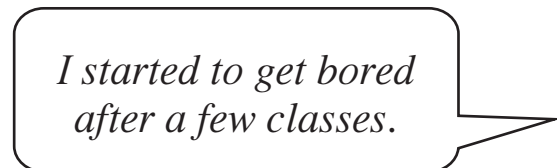
Exercise 6

- 15** In your school holidays, you attended a course to learn singing, dancing and acting. Your teacher has asked you to write a review of the course for the school magazine.

Here are two comments from other young people who attended the course:

A speech bubble with a tail pointing to the left, containing the text: "It was brilliant! We all learned new things."

It was brilliant! We all learned new things.

A speech bubble with a tail pointing to the right, containing the text: "I started to get bored after a few classes."

I started to get bored after a few classes.

Write a review for the school magazine, giving your opinions.

The comments above may give you some ideas, and you can also use some ideas of your own.

Your review should be between 150 and 200 words long.

You will receive up to 8 marks for the content of your review, and up to 8 marks for the language used.

Discover Your Talent — A Course Review

Are you looking for a course that'll act as your entrance to the world of singing, dancing, and acting and help you unleash your untapped potential? If so, then look no further; the Discover Your Talent Course has it all. I enrolled in it during the last school holidays, and it was truly life-changing.

The course is given by professional instructors who are not only experts in their fields but also friendly and approachable. From my experience, they were patient enough to answer all the attendees' questions and provided individual attention to each one; consequently, each student could learn at their own pace and gain confidence in their abilities.

In addition, the course covers a wide range of topics, including different genres of music, various dance forms, and acting techniques. What I loved most about this course was the opportunity to perform on stage, which gave me a hands-on experience. Towards the end of the course, you'll have the invaluable opportunity to showcase the skills you learnt in front of friends and family. Personally, performing on stage and seeing how far I had come in just a few weeks was just beyond amazing.

I highly recommend this course to anyone looking to dive into the world of singing, dancing, and acting but doesn't know where to start. It's definitely worth every penny.