

StartUp 5

Writing

Unit10 – Lesson5

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HAVE YOU EVER EXPERIENCED AN ACT OF KINDNESS FROM A STRANGER? HAVE YOU EVER PERFORMED AN ACT OF KINDNESS FOR A STRANGER?

Have Ss read the task and answer the questions. Then elicit their answers in class.

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Have Ss skim the text again and do the task. Then check the answers in class.

READ THE PERSONAL ESSAY ABOUT AN ACT OF KINDNESS.

WHY WAS ANDREW FEELING SAD?

A Stranger's Kindness

by Andrew Reynolds



Last year, I learned that a small kindness from a stranger can really make a difference in a person's life. This is what happened.

I was sitting in a small café, drinking coffee. Having just broken up with my girlfriend of two years, I was feeling pretty down. To make things worse, I had recently quit my job and moved to her town so we could live closer to each other. So I had no girlfriend and no job. To top it all off, it was my 30th birthday and I had no one to celebrate with.

So there I was, alone in a busy café watching groups of friends, happy couples, and laughing families enjoying their time together. At that moment, I felt like I had never been sadder. A server, having noticed me sitting alone, came over and asked me if everything was OK. I had no one else to talk to, so I told her my depressing story. She said she was sorry and went back to work.

After another 20 minutes or so, I went to the counter to pay. Instead of taking my money, she told me my lunch was free and started singing "Happy Birthday." Then everyone in the café joined in! All of a sudden, I wasn't so lonely.

I went back to the café the next day, and now I am a regular customer. Some of the other people from that day are regulars, too, and they're now my friends. It's amazing how a small act of kindness can make such a big difference in someone's life!

Teach the writing skill and have the Ss do the task in class.

2 FOCUS ON WRITING

Read the Writing Skill. Look at the sentences from the personal essay. Then reread the text and write numbers 1–6 to show the order in which things happened.

___ He went to the counter to pay.
___ The server noticed him sitting alone.
___ The server came over and asked if everything was OK.
___ He broke up with his girlfriend.
___ He was sitting in a small café, drinking coffee.
___ He quit his job and moved to a new town.

WRITING SKILL

Use past tenses to show sequence

When writing a personal essay, it is important to make sure the sequence of events is clear to the reader. Writers often use simple past, past continuous, and *having* + past participle to tell the order of events in the story.

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Have Ss scan the text again and do the task. Then check the answers in class.

C Read the personal essay again. Complete the chart with information about what happened.

Who?	Where?	When?
What was the situation?	What happened next?	How did it end?

3 PLAN YOUR WRITING

Think of a time when someone was kind to you or you were kind to someone.

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Teach the model to the Ss and ask them to personalize it in the public chat.

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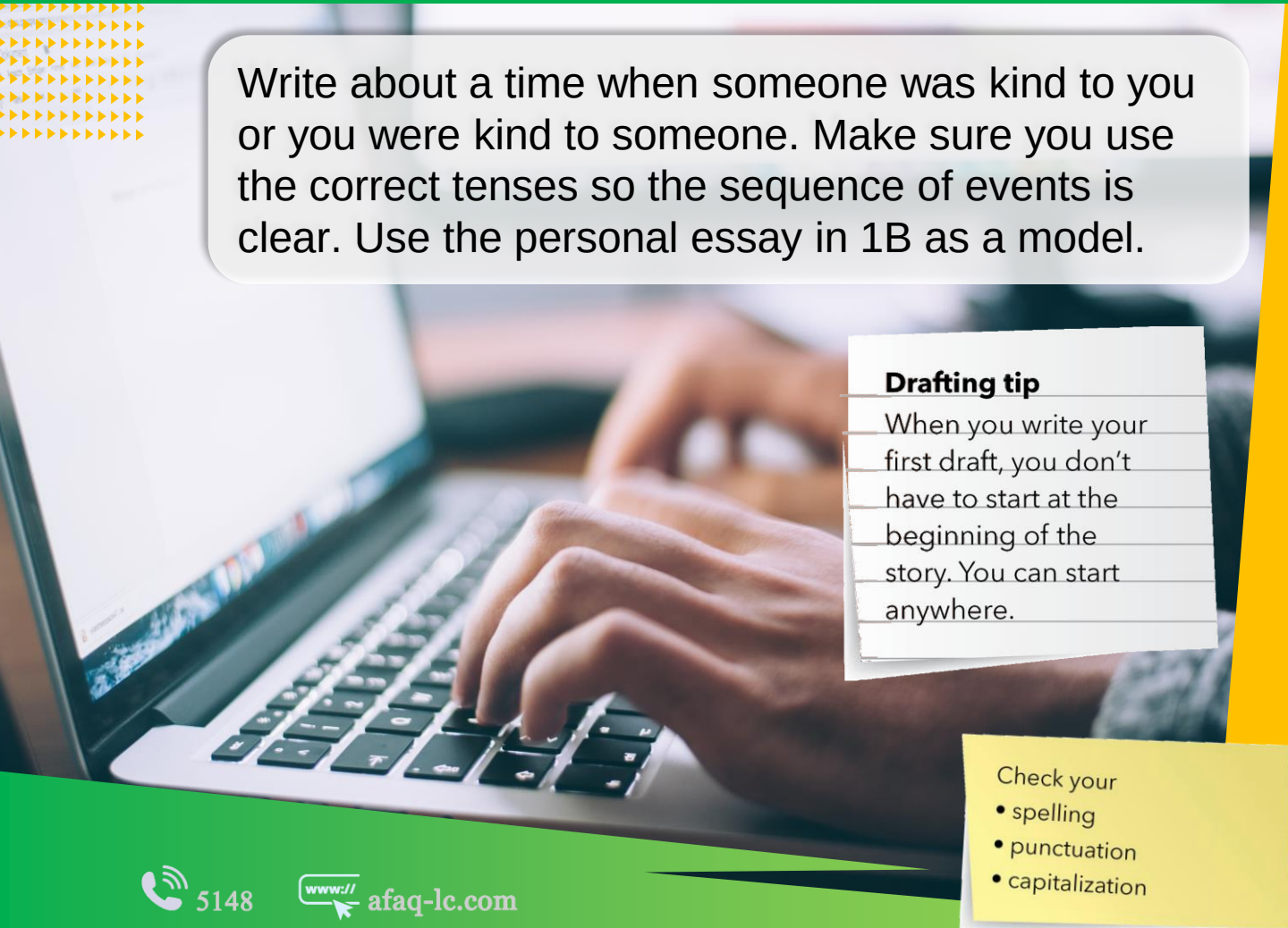
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TALK ABOUT YOUR IDEAS. SUGGEST WAYS YOUR PARTNER CAN IMPROVE OR ADD TO HIS OR HER IDEAS.
Create breakout rooms and have the Ss do the task.
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Read the directions aloud. Then have Ss complete the task as homework.

Write about a time when someone was kind to you or you were kind to someone. Make sure you use the correct tenses so the sequence of events is clear. Use the personal essay in 1B as a model.



Drafting tip

When you write your first draft, you don't have to start at the beginning of the story. You can start anywhere.

Check your
- spelling
- punctuation
- capitalization