

An example of a great recount

My Best Holiday

Last year, my family and I went on the most amazing holiday to Spain. We had never been to that part of Europe before, and my Dad wanted to go there because he said that he was fed up with sitting around in the damp and gloom!

When we first arrived at the villa, I couldn't believe the scorching temperatures. It felt as if I had been thrown in to the mouth of a volcano! The first thing that Dad did was to take a cool, refreshing shower. (He said that he needed to cool off after such a long journey.) There was a swimming pool so we spent a lot of time mucking about in the water or splashing water over Dad!

Late one afternoon, we went to visit some caves in the hills. Inside the caves were the most extraordinary stalagmites and stalactites. They were knobbly and looked like massive, misshapen spears. Some were like bars in a zoo. The guide tapped some and it was rather like playing a glockenspiel. In the caves it was quite cold and by the end of the tour I was wishing that I could have an extra layer of cosy clothing.

On the third day, we visited a stunning beach with golden sand. The waves were just right for surfing so we hired some body boards. Dad was worried (unnecessarily) that we would drown, so he spent the afternoon standing in the sea watching us. It was a breeze! The waves were strong enough to float in on but not too powerful.

One of the best things about the holiday was that Dad was SO useless at cooking that we had to go into the town every night to eat. There was a stall where you could buy crispy chips and slippery calamari. The calamari was squid cooked in batter – it tasted like rubbery fish. Once we had eaten, we played on the pinball machines.

When we got home Mum wanted to see all of our photos. I had a stunning picture of Dad's luminous, red face from too much sun! (He detests it and wishes that I would tear it up.) All in all, I think that it was a great holiday and I can't wait to go back.

Write your own recount using of all the impressive features that we have practised using in class: adverbial phrases with commas, wow words, paragraphs broken up meaningfully, little repetition of words/images, exclamation marks, expanded noun phrases, modal verbs, subjunctive form (expresses wishes, hopes, commands, demands or suggestions), parenthesis/brackets, simile. Your recount can be about something that has really happened to you or it can be completely fantastical!