Reading & Writing a Postcard: Adjectives & Present Simple/Continuous Practice (A2+)

1: Look at the postcard from Germany. What city is it? Write the name in the box.

2: Look at the adjectives. How do you say them in your language? Write the translation in column 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjectives</th>
<th>2: Translation</th>
<th>3: Used to Describe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>great</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>spectacular</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>delicious</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>brilliant</td>
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<tr>
<td>cloudy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>amazing</td>
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<tr>
<td>fantastic</td>
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</table>
3: Before you read the postcard. What do you think the adjectives describe e.g. food, weather etc. Write your answers in column 3.

4: Read the postcard. Were you correct?

Dear Mum and Dad,
We're having a great time in Cologne. I'm sitting outside a cafe, in front of the cathedral. It's spectacular. Anna is here too, she is reading the guidebook and I'm trying to decide which of the delicious pastries I'm going to eat next. The weather isn't brilliant today. It's quite cloudy at the moment but the city has some amazing architecture. ENGLAND and the food is fantastic. See you soon.

Lots of love, Kevin + Anna.

Hr + Mrs Whittaker
7 Park St,
Solihull, B79 7BT,

5: Answer the questions.

a. Are they enjoying their holiday?
b. Where are they?
c. What is Anna doing?
d. What is Kevin doing?
e. Is the weather good?
f. What does he like about Cologne?
6a: Check the meaning of the adjectives in a Dictionary. Write the translation of adjectives you don’t know.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>comfortable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>friendly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lovely</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beautiful</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>big</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>small</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>old</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>modern</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheap</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>expensive</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>hot</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>cold</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>horrible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6b: Complete the sentences with the adjectives.

a. It’s a very new hotel and the decoration is very _ _ _ _ _ _ _.
b. The people are very _ _ _ _ _ _ _.
c. I don’t like our bedroom because it is very _ _ _ _ _ and claustrophobic.
d. The hotel is very nice and the rooms are very _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _._
e. There is a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ view from the top of the mountain.
f. The weather is _ _ _ _ _ today. It’s _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ so we are wearing our raincoats and carrying umbrellas everywhere.
g. It’s _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ today so we are going to the beech to swim in the sea.
h. We are staying in the _ _ _ _ part of the town. The architecture is from the 16th Century.
i. The city is very _ _ _ _ so it’s necessary to use public transport to visit the different areas.
j. The beer tastes _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ but it is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . It costs about 6 Euros a pint.
k. We are having a very _ _ _ _ _ _ time! Barcelona is amazing.
l. We are buying a lot of clothes and souvenirs because everything is really _ _ _ _ _ _ here.
7a: Read the sentences from the postcard again.

1. We are having a great time in Cologne.
2. I’m sitting outside a café.
3. It is spectacular.
4. Anna is here too.
5. She is reading the guidebook.
6. I’m trying to decide which of the delicious pastries I’m going to eat next.
7. The weather isn’t brilliant.
8. It’s quite cloudy at the moment.
9. The city has some amazing architecture.
10. The food is fantastic.

7b: Write A, B, C or D next to the sentences in 7a.

A. something that is true in the present
B. something that is always true
C. something that is happening at the moment of speaking/writing
D. something which the speaker/writer thinks is temporary

8: Complete the sentences:

• Letters ___ and ___ are examples of the present simple.
• Letters ___ and ___ are examples of the present continuous.

9a: Think of a city you visited in the past. Write the name of the city and adjectives to describe the different things.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City: ________________________</th>
<th>Positive Adjectives</th>
<th>Negative Adjectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hotel/Bedroom</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture/Buildings</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Food/Drink</td>
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<tr>
<td>People</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other: ________________________</td>
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</table>

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9b: NOW IT’S YOUR TURN: Imagine you are in the city. Write a postcard to your friend or family. Describe the city and explain what you are doing. Use the example to help you.
ANSWERS

1: KÖLN or Cologne (English)

5:

a. Are they enjoying their holiday? **Yes, they are.**

b. Where are they? **They are sitting in a café (opposite the cathedral).**

c. What is Anna doing? **She is reading the guidebook.**

d. What is Kevin doing? **He is trying to decide which of the delicious pastries he’s going to eat next.**

e. Is the weather good? **No, it isn’t. Not at the moment.**

f. What does he like about Cologne? **He likes the architecture and the food.**

6b: (each space represents a letter)

a. modern

b. friendly

c. small

d. comfortable

e. beautiful

f. horrible/cold/wet

g. hot

h. old

i. big

j. lovely/expensive

k. good

l. cheap

7a: Read the sentences from the postcard again.

1. We are having a great time in Cologne. **D**

2. I’m sitting outside a café. **C**

3. It is spectacular. **B**

4. Anna is here too. **A**

5. She is reading the guidebook. **C**

6. I’m trying to decide which of the delicious pastries I’m going to eat next. **C**

7. The weather isn’t brilliant. **A**

8. It’s quite cloudy at the moment. **A**

9. The city has some amazing architecture. **B**

10. The food is fantastic. **B**

8:

- Letters **A** and **B** are examples of the **present simple.**
- Letters **C** and **D** are examples of the **present continuous.**