**READING**

**Read the text and complete the exercise.**

**“Wonderful memories of our au pair” – from Jenny, a host mum from England**

When I went back to work full time, we decided to invite an au pair girl to help us take care of our three-year-old son. After lots of paperwork, emails and several Skype meetings, we chose Anita, a girl from Spain. We wanted to learn more about Spanish culture and we wanted to learn the language too. Anita was very nice. We liked her from the very start.

In the beginning she didn’t speak English very well, but she learned really quickly and became very good at it. She lived with us for nine months. She prepared Spanish dishes for us and taught us some Spanish words.

Anita took care of our son and helped with the housework. She was really hard-working. She became part of our family. We had fun together and we had interesting conversations about our different cultures. At the weekends, she didn’t have to work. She spent most of her free time travelling around England with other au pairs. We’re still in contact with Anita and one day she’ll visit us again.

**“My first time overseas” – from Kate, an au pair from Canada**

I’ve been in Salzburg, Austria for three months now. I take care of three little boys aged five to ten. My host mother is amazing and a lot of fun and I like her children. They’re very nice and I love hearing them learn new English phrases, they learn so quickly. They’ll soon speak English better than their mum.

My main tasks are to look after the boys when they come home from school. I prepare snacks for them, play with them, help the oldest one with his homework and do some cleaning, sweeping and washing.

I don’t have to work on Sundays. At the weekends I travel around Europe with some other au pair friends. It’s so easy to get from one country to another. I’ve already been to Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Slovenia. I’m going to Paris next month!

Living with the host family isn’t always easy, but if the next six months are similar to the first three, I know I’ll never regret making the bravest and most exciting decision in my life.

**Answer the questions.**

1. How old was Anita?

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1. What was Anita’s host mum’s name?

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1. What nationality was Anita?

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1. Who did Anita have to look after?

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1. How long did Anita stay with the host family?

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1. What’s Kate’s mother tongue?

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1. What household chores does Kate do?

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1. What does Kate do at the weekends?

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1. Where is she going next month?

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1. Does she like being an au pair?

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