**READING**

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

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

Going back to work full time, we decided to host an au pair girl to help us take care of our three-year-old and the household. After lots of paperwork, emails and several Skype meetings, we finally decided to invite Anita, a girl from Spain. We wanted to learn more about Spanish culture and customs and we also wanted to learn the language. She was very mature and calm. We liked her from the very start.

In the beginning our Spanish au pair did not speak English very well, but she learned really quickly. By the end of her time with us she could speak English fluently. She lived with us for nine months. She prepared Spanish dishes for us and taught us some Spanish.

Anita took care of our son and helped with minor household chores. She was really hard-working; she did the housework without being asked. She soon became part of our family. We had fun together and we would have interesting conversations over dinner about our different cultures. At the weekends, we let her decide how she wanted to use her time. 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’m taking care of three little boys aged five to ten, for a single mum. My host mother is amazing and a lot of fun, and I liked her children the moment we met. They’re very nice and I love hearing them learn new English phrases – they’re like little sponges, 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 afternoon snacks for them, play with them, help the oldest one with his homework and do some light housework such as cleaning up downstairs, sweeping the front drive, doing the boys’ laundry and, of course, keeping the floors clean. The floors get dirty all the time because the family don’t wear slippers. They only take their shoes off when they go upstairs to their bedrooms.

I don’t have to work on Sundays and every third week I have a long weekend. I travel around Europe together with some other au pair friends. It’s so easy to get from one country to another. I’ve only been in Austria for three months and I’ve already visited Germany, Italy, Switzerland and Slovenia. I’m planning a trip with my friends 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.

**Are** **the following sentences true (T) or false (F) or the information is not given in the text (NG)?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | T | F | NG |
| 1. Au pair Anita from Spain was a teenager. |  |  |  |
| 1. Host mum Jenny is married. |  |  |  |
| 1. The family learned some Spanish words from Anita. |  |  |  |
| 1. Anita had to work seven days a week. |  |  |  |
| 1. Most weekends Anita went to the cinema with her friends. |  |  |  |
| 1. Kate has never been to Austria before. |  |  |  |
| 1. The three little boys are difficult to handle. |  |  |  |
| 1. Kate makes lunch for the boys every day. |  |  |  |
| 1. Kate has already been to Munich. |  |  |  |
| 1. Kate is enjoying her time in Austria. |  |  |  |