



Name: _____	Year: _____
Date: _____	Teacher: Sara Videira

I. Reading and comprehension

Read the following text.

An exchange student at 17

I read about summer programmes in a brochure and I thought then that living somewhere else would be the coolest thing in the world. Pretty soon, Maria and I were applying to an exchange student programme and after some time I got an e-mail. I had a host family! Next thing I knew, I had a flight booked to Wisconsin.

Wisconsin was a different town. It was more of farmland and countryside. There was no traffic and they only had one major mall. I didn't even know what to think of the cold weather. There were days when the temperature would go below freezing. The thing I liked best about the cold and the snow was being able to ski.

The American public high school with lots of boys and girls was very different from my school – an all-girl private catholic school. I was scared during the first day of school. I didn't know anyone, I got lost since the school was huge, and people didn't think I knew how to speak in English. But pretty soon I started to get comfortable. It was funny how people always got surprised by how good I was at speaking in English. I made a lot of friends and met so many people.

Being away for ten months and living alone in a completely different world has taught me a lot of things. I have grown and the way I see life has changed in ways I would have never imagined. I now can say that I am independent, appreciate my family and friends even more. I am open to new ideas and I am more and more confident about myself.

Source: Adapted from <http://www.internationalstudent.com>

A. Read the 1st and 2nd paragraphs again and find synonyms for the following words.

1. flyer _____
2. city _____
3. shopping centre _____
4. climate _____

B. Find evidence in the text for the statements.

1. In Wisconsin Elaine's school was for boys and girls.

2. In the beginning Elaine felt very uncomfortable at school.

3. Her experience abroad changed her more than she had expected.

C. Answer the questions about the text.

1. How did Elaine feel about going abroad for some time?

2. What did she think of the weather?

3. Why did she feel scared during the first day at school?

4. In what ways did she change after 10 months abroad?

II. Grammar

A. Complete the gaps with the Present Perfect or the Past Simple of the verbs in brackets.

1. Many teens _____ (not / decide) what to study in college yet.

2. Last year, my brother _____ (go) to Barcelona in an exchange students' programme.

3. Peter _____ (just / see) the pictures from my trip.

4. How long _____ (Elaine / stay) in Wisconsin?

5. In December, the weather _____ (be) extremely cold.

6. Mr Phill _____ (write) a book two years ago.

7. _____ (speak / Claire) to her teacher about the exam?

B. Find the mistakes and correct them.

1. Many teens hasn't decided what to do in their gap year yet.

2. Have he ever been to Europe?

3. She has served drinks never before.

C. Fill in the gaps with for or since.

1. We have been here _____ two hours.

2. I haven't seen Tom _____ Christmas 2010!

3. The idea of living in a global village has existed _____ a long time.

4. John has been my best friend _____ we were six.

D. Rewrite the sentences using the linking words in brackets.

1. I love my house. I would love to study abroad. (although)

2. They applied for an exchange students' programme. They want to have new experiences. (so)

3. It was very cold. She enjoyed playing with the snow. (in spite of)

4. He spent his holidays in Australia. He wanted to improve his English. (in order to)

