



WRITING WORKSHOP 12

“ The story of.....” (Biography)

A biography is the story of a person's life. It includes details of the person's background, childhood, adolescence, education, adult life, career, family life and sometimes death. A biography generally follows a specific chronological order:

General Background + childhood/ adolescence + education + family life + career + conclusion

In order to show the chronological sequence, we often give the actual dates of events and use time expressions such as **before, after, at the same time, while, for, since, later, during this period.**

Linking words are also useful to show the relationship between events or factors that have influenced a person's life. Connectors such as *although, despite, as well as, besides, not only, . . . but also, therefore, because, as a result, etc.*, can be used to improve the quality of the biography you write.

Function practised: Writing a biography

Key structures:

- **Mixed past tenses :** Past simple. Past Continuous. Past Perfect. Used to
- **To be/ To get + adj.**
- **Time connectors:** when, as soon as, while, at once, suddenly, after, before
- **Cause expressions:** as , because , because of, due to
- **Purpose expression:** to+ infinitive; in order to; so that..
- **Other expressions:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He was born on in..... - Since he was a child he showed interest in - At a very early age, - At the age of, he/she..... - He had an easy/ hard life as..... - He was used to + Ving - It was like him to..... - He/ She was very fond of..... - As for his/her professional career, he/she.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He had the reputation for + Ving. - One of the things that impressed me most about him/her is.. - He/she devoted most of his/her life to..... - He/She belonged to a small/big family. - The most relevant fact in his/ her life was probably that ... - One of his/her biggest achievements is/was ... - He/She died at the age of/ He/She is still alive
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