

St. Catherine's English Department (Head of Department: Mrs M. Turner)

This is an English Department revision practice exercise for the Edexcel GCSE English Paper 4H "inform, explain, describe" task which is assessed for writing. This means that accuracy is the most important thing to aim for. Parents/a friend can test you on the spellings/grammar first and then you can swap over and test your friend/parents before you try writing the article within the 40 minute period allowed. You can see how many errors you make in your finished article later.

"Write a magazine article describing a family occasion. Explain to your readers what makes a successful occasion and what should be avoided. Use your own or your friends' experiences to illustrate your article."

### Spelling mistakes

Plan planning	invitations	catastrophe/catastrophic
Remember remembering	desert/dessert	cousin
Received	ourselves	except
Commotion	socialising	favourite
Grateful	party/parties	successful/successfully
Feud	joyously	definitely
Champagne	weather	unfortunately
Karaoke	embarrassing	obviously

### Grammar

Correct use of capitals: An eighteenth birthday is a special day  
My grandparents sat with Uncle James  
The buffet was laid  
The party was a disaster  
My birthday party started in Twickenham  
Great Uncle James sat with my aunty.

Writing in sentences : *Also, how to make an occasion successful and above all what to avoid if you don't want embarrassment or disaster*  
that make sense **Also, here is some advice on how to make an occasion successful and, above all, what to avoid if you don't want embarrassment or disaster.**

*First of all, how to make a successful family occasion*  
**First of all, you must ensure that your family occasion is successful.**

*Later after we sat at the table the bride*  
**Later, after we sat at the table, the bride entered.**

Correct use of commas: In my opinion, serving the children first is like checking something off a list. It just makes life easier for everyone, parents included.

Well, you can imagine what havoc resulted.

And, finally, my third and most important tip is that you should only organise what you can manage.

Ensuring a successful family occasion is stressful at first but, if it all goes according to plan, is well worth the time and effort.