1 Saying when things happened (Time markers) ➔ SF 13 (p. 67)

a) Read the tip, then put the time markers in the box into lists 1–3:

last Saturday · a week ago · first · suddenly · on my birthday · second · next · for an hour · then · in the morning · after that · finally · for a long time · about ten minutes · minutes later · a whole week · at Easter · for a while

1 **When?** *last Saturday, a week ago, suddenly, on my birthday, in the morning, minutes later, at Easter*

2 **In what order?** *first, second, next, then, after that, finally*

3 **For how long?** *for an hour, for a long time, about ten minutes, a whole week, for a while*

TIP: Time markers help to make a text clear. They tell the reader what happened **when** (e. g. *last Friday*), **in what order** events happen (e. g. *first*) and **for how long** (e. g. *for half an hour*). Time markers which say **when** and **in what order** often come at the beginning of a paragraph or sentence:
After school, I met my friends.
First, we went to the shops.
Time markers which say **for how long** often come at the end of the sentence.
We stayed in the café for about half an hour.

b) Rewrite the text in your exercise book. Add a different time marker to each sentence to make the text better.

I went to town with two friends. We looked round a new shopping centre. We went into a computer shop. We looked at all the new games. We decided to go to a café for a sandwich. I found that my mobile was missing.

2 Writing better sentences (Linking words) ➔ SF 10 (p. 66)

Use the linking word in brackets to make one sentence. Change the tense of the verbs if you have to.

1 Ashling showed the guests their cottage. She gave them food and drinks. (as soon as)

As soon as Ashling had shown the guests their cottage, she gave them food and drinks.

2 Lewis went to his room. He posted a message to Chloe. (after)

After Lewis had gone to his room, he posted a message to Chloe.

3 Lewis was writing to Chloe. Ashling saw a blue light in the cottage. (while)

While Lewis was writing to Chloe, Ashling saw a blue light in the cottage.

TIP: Linking words are important in written English. They **improve** the style of your texts – and your test results!
It's better to join two short sentences together with a linking word.
Linking words are e. g.: *after, as soon as, because, before, so, when, while.*

3 Starting a new paragraph (Topic sentences) ➔ SF 12 (p. 67)

Read the sentences and tick (✓) the four which you think make good topic sentences.

1 On my last birthday, we went to Dublin. ☑
2 We had a pizza in a restaurant on Grafton Street. ☐
3 Now I know what the Jeanie Johnston is. ☐
4 In the afternoon, we walked down to the harbour. ☑
5 There we saw the Jeanie Johnston. ☐
6 After lunch it started to rain so we went to the Little Museum of Dublin. ☑
7 On the drive back home we were all tired. ☑
8 We saw old photos and things that showed Dublin's history from 1900. ☐