

Writing: Report about my stay in England

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An au - pair of a different kind

At the beginning of the year 2002 I started to look for an au - pair job. I spent lots of time searching on the internet. One day I found a homepage of a university, somewhere in Germany, where I could send all important information about myself. Few days later I received three e-mails from three different au - pair agencies . One of them was very interesting because it was an agency near the village where I live. Spontaneously I decided to phone this agency and made an appointment.

On the very next day I went to see Mrs. Seidel, the woman I'd spoken to on the phone. I must admit that I was a bit excited but all told we had an interesting conversation. She told me that she was going to look for a family in England. Mrs. Seidel was very honest towards me and said that it wasn't easy to find an au - pair job for the duration of three months.

I had to wait a long time and as time passed by I had given up the idea of staying abroad. But one day I received an e-mail from the agency. Mrs. Seidel had found a family in England who was interested in me. I can't describe how happy I was.

To cut a long story short , I received a second e-mail, from England. I couldn't believe what I read. The people introduced themselves and the weird thing was that they were looking for an au - pair for their nine- months- old English Springer Spaniel. First I thought it was a joke, but after two phone calls to England I booked the flight to Bournemouth, which is the nearest Airport to Salisbury. On the one hand I was glad that I'd found somebody I could work for, but on the other hand I had a weird feeling.

My plane landed on the 3rd of August. It was raining cats and dogs and I just thought: “Welcome in rainy England, Marta.” Nathalie and David, these are the names of the couple I lived with for two and a half months, were waiting at the airport. They collected me and we drove to Salisbury. Salisbury is a beautiful tiny city in the south of England. It’s famous for the Cathedral with the highest spire in Europe and for Stonehenge of course.



At the beginning it was very unusual for me to drive on the left side of the road and I don’t think I will ever get used to it. Alfie the dog was waiting more or less patiently at home. He is a very active and lively young dog. Alfie, also called Mr. Pops, is obsessed with water and squirrels, he always tried to catch them. We lived in the centre of Salisbury, where I had a gorgeous tiny Barbie bedroom.



During the first two weeks I felt a bit homesick, but as time passed by I felt much better. The typical day was walking the dog three times a day, feeding him, doing the housework and sometimes cooking. It wasn't a hard job and I also had enough time to work in a pub. It was good because living in England can be very expensive.

During my stay I met lots of people and made new friends. I liked the work because I love dogs and Alfie became my "best" friend.



The stay in England was one of the best decisions I've ever made. I had the chance to improve my English, make new friends and I also had many interesting experiences while living in England.