

## **BRANO 1**

A great summer vacation

I just returned from the greatest summer vacation! It was so fantastic, I never wanted it to end. I spent eight days in Paris, France. My best friends, Henry and Steve, went with me. We had a beautiful hotel room in the Latin Quarter, and it wasn't even expensive. We had a balcony with a wonderful view.

## **BRANO 2**

We visited many famous tourist places. My favorite was the Louvre, a well-known museum. I was always interested in art, so that was a special treat for me. The museum is so huge, you could spend weeks there. Henry got tired walking around the museum and said "Enough! I need to take a break and rest."

## **BRANO 3**

We took lots of breaks and sat in cafes along the river Seine. The French food we ate was delicious. The wines were tasty, too. Steve's favorite part of the vacation was the hotel breakfast. He said he would be happy if he could eat croissants like those forever. We had so much fun that we're already talking about our next vacation!

## **BRANO 4**

Going to a restaurant

Sandra and Paul are at a steak restaurant. A waiter greets them.

"Do you know what you would like to drink?" the waiter asks.

"Water and orange juice," Sandra says.

"Thank you. Here are your menus," the waiter says.

## **BRANO 3**

At school

Lucas goes to school every day of the week. He has many subjects to go to each school day: English, art, science, mathematics, gym, and history. His mother packs a big backpack full of books and lunch for Lucas.

His first class is English, and he likes that teacher very much. His English teacher says that he is a good pupil, which Lucas knows means that she thinks he is a good student.

## **BRANO 4**

Chicago

Keith recently came back from a trip to Chicago, Illinois. This midwestern metropolis is found along the shore of Lake Michigan. During his visit, Keith spent a lot of time exploring the city to visit important landmarks and monuments.

Keith loves baseball, and he made sure to take a visit to Wrigley Field. Not only did he take a tour of this spectacular stadium, but he also got to watch a Chicago Cubs game. In the stadium, Keith and the other fans cheered for the Cubs. Keith was happy that the Cubs won with a score of 5-4.

## **BRANO 5**

Chicago has many historic places to visit. Keith found the Chicago Water Tower impressive as it is one of the few remaining landmarks to have survived the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. Keith also took a walk through Jackson Park, a great outdoor space that hosted the World's Fair of 1892. The park is great for a leisurely stroll, and it still features some of the original architecture and replicas of monuments that were featured in the World's Fair.

## **BRANO 6**

During the last part of his visit, Keith managed to climb the stairs inside of the Willis Tower, a 110-story skyscraper. Despite the challenge of climbing the many flights of stairs, Keith felt that reaching the top was worth the effort. From the rooftop, Keith received a gorgeous view of the city's skyline with Lake Michigan in the background.

## **BRANO 7**

Los Angeles

Stephanie recently took a weekend trip to Los Angeles, California. Los Angeles is a coastal city situated along the Pacific Ocean. Many celebrities earned their claim to fame here. Although the town offers many attractions centered around Hollywood culture, there is a lot to see and visit in Los Angeles.

## **BRANO 8**

London

London is a famous and historic city. It is the capital of England in the United Kingdom. The city is quite popular for international tourism because London is home to one of the oldest-standing monarchies in the western hemisphere. Rita and Joanne recently traveled to London. They were very excited for their trip because this was their first journey overseas from the United States.

## **BRANO 9**

Miami

Christina visited Miami during her winter vacation. She is from Boston, where it is cold during the winter months. Miami, however, has a very warm climate. There are many sunny days in Miami, and people can go to the beach all year long. Christina spent a good portion of her trip on the beach to relax and sunbathe. However, she also explored Miami and its surroundings.

## **BRANO 10**

The pet store

George is at the pet store, looking at what kind of pet he might want to get for his birthday. George asked if he could have a horse, but his parents said no because horses are too big.

First, he sees dogs and cats. Baby dogs are called puppies. Baby cats are called kittens. George likes them because they are easy to take care of and can play a lot, but they will get bigger. George wants a small pet.

## **BRANO 11**

LETTER TO A FRIEND

Hi Fred!

It's been a while since we have been in touch. How has your semester been?

I wanted to send you an email update to let you know how things have been going during my semester abroad here in Málaga, Spain. I've already been here for six weeks, and I feel like I am finally adapting to the culture. I'm also speaking the language more fluently.

I arrived during the first week of September. The weather has been very nice.

## **BRANO 12**

The Aperitif

Sometimes, after work, Davide goes to a bar with his friends for an aperitif. The bar is five minutes' walk from the office. Amanda runs there, hoping to find her boyfriend. The bar is big and stylish and there are lots of people. Everybody is chatting and looking very relaxed. Amanda looks around: outside, some older people are sitting at the tables having a coffee or a tea and reading the newspaper.

## **BRANO 13**

Looking For Davide

"No problem" thinks Amanda, "Luckily I have the keys!" She opens her bag and searches for the keys. But the keys are not there. Where are they?! Then she remembers, she left them on the table at home in Bologna! Amanda can't get in and she doesn't want to waste time waiting. So she goes to find Davide at work.

## **BRANO 14**

Amanda And Davide

Amanda is 25 years old. She is studying medicine in Bologna and has lots of friends because she is nice and kind. She is going out with a young man called Davide. He is 30 years old and works in Ferrara. Davide is an engineer. Davide loves going out in the evenings, going to the cinema and meeting friends. Amanda and Davide have been engaged for three years.

## **BRANO 15**

Where Are You?

Amanda approaches Davide's friends, Matteo and Carlo. "Hi! How are you both? How nice to see you!" "Hi Amanda! What a surprise to see you here in Ferrara! We're fine, and you?" "I'm fine too, thank you. I'm here to surprise Davide. Do you know where he is?" "Sorry, we don't know. We haven't seen Davide for two days. Why don't you have a glass of wine with us?" But Amanda doesn't want to drink wine with Carlo and Matteo.

## **BRANO 16**

Surprise!

The train arrives in Bologna on time. Amanda goes straight home but, as she climbs the stairs, she spots some strange things: coloured balloons, red heartshaped cards, red roses. "How strange" she thinks, "Perhaps there's a birthday party... I don't understand." When Amanda reaches her apartment, she opens the door and... surprise! Davide is inside.