



By Yulia Ivanova

I was **overjoyed** at the news that I had won the competition, however, when the initial feeling of **delight** had subsided, I became slightly **agitated**. After all, I wasn't going to England for a holiday, I was going to study at Newcastle College.... would I **cope**? Would I be able to manage the exams? What would the teachers be like? Would I be accepted into a community that is so different in comparison to Russian schools and universities?

Thankfully, all my tears disappeared after meeting the International Office staff. They help international students to not only **familiarise** themselves with the college, but also to get to know the city and surrounding areas better. After a short walk around Newcastle and a tour of the college organised by the International Office, I had to **sit a short exam** to **determine** my level of English and **hence** put me in a suitable group. Four areas are tested: speaking, letterwriting, listening **comprehension** and grammar. I did really well, and so I was placed in the 'advanced' group.



After brainstorming we had to correct unsuccessful essays. David gave his commentary on each of our versions, concentrating not only on the **short-comings**, but also on the positives, which are very often missed in Russian schools. Therefore, by the end of the lesson, I knew exactly what to write, how to structure my essay and what words to use to express my thoughts. And that's **half the battle**.

This **comprehensive** and systematic approach produces excellent results. Although I only spent two weeks at Newcastle College, my time there significantly expanded my vocabulary, boosted my grammar and improved my pronunciation. I also made lots of new friends from different countries of the world! I'd like to thank the organisers very much, especially INTERLOGOS 2000, whose friendly and professional team helped me the whole way, and also the sponsor, Newcastle College and Cool English Magazine!

INTERLOGOS 2000 is a top-ranked spectrum of education programs and international exchange programs. We take an individualized approach to every client.

Newcastle College is the largest Further and Higher Education College in the UK with a total of over 40000 students, 6000 full-time international students come from 40 different countries.

www.ncf-coil.ac.uk

English language courses ABROAD

Great Britain, Ireland, USA, Canada, Malta, Australia, New Zealand, Cyprus, South Africa, Switzerland



ИНТЕРЛОГОС 2000

www.intelogos.ru info@intelogos.ru
 Moscow, m. "Krasnye Vorota", Myasnitskaya Ul., 46/2, off. 311
 tel: +7 (495) 621-12-21, 627-11-05, 625-98-00

The first thing that I saw when entering the class the next day was ten widely-smiling faces. The friendly atmosphere and the positive attitudes of my classmates helped me **to fit in** and **get used to life** in the college. It didn't matter that all the students were from different countries (South Korea, China, Japan, Vietnam, Columbia, Morocco) we easily found a **common ground**, which helped **establish** a friendly atmosphere in lessons.

There were eight lessons a week, and we did something new and interesting in every lesson, but I will never forget my first **Academic Writing** lesson. I, like most people, hated writing essays. But David, our Academic Writing teacher, **performed a miracle**: he helped me to understand that writing essays isn't a difficult task if you know how to organise yourself and your work.

to be overjoyed exp to be very happy
delight n great happiness
to become agitated exp to be nervous
to cope vb to manage; to be able to do
to sit an exam phr vb to get to know
to familiarise oneself vb reflexive to do an exam
to determine vb to work out; to decide
hence adv therefore
comprehension n understanding
practically adv almost
to fit in phr vb to feel that you belong to a group and are accepted by them
to get used to phr vb to become familiar with
comprehensive adj complete and including everything that is necessary
common ground n shared interests, beliefs and opinions between two very different groups of people
to establish vb to create
academic writing n writing essays
to perform a miracle exp to do something amazing and unexpected
to steer in the right direction exp to make sure someone does something that will benefit them
shortcoming n negative points
to be half the battle exp something so that once you have completed this part, you have almost finished
to belong to a group to feel that you belong to a group and are accepted by them
to get used to phr vb to become familiar with
comprehensive adj complete and including everything that is necessary

GLOSSARY