

5 A job abroad

Perhaps you plan to spend a year abroad either as a high school student, as an au pair or as part of your further studies. The EU have various study programmes that can help you financially, but if you want to be a high school student you will have to pay for it yourself. If you want to work abroad, check if you need a work permit. Some of the popular jobs are work in hotels or holiday camps, but perhaps you would prefer a

job as an au pair? Here is what it requires to be an au pair in the U.S.:

You can be an au pair if you:

- are between 18-26 years old and unmarried
- hold a valid driving licence
- have at least 200 hours childcare experience
- have completed your secondary education
- speak English to a good standard
- do not have a criminal record
- agree to the programme's code and conduct
- agree to a full year's commitment

The requirements are not so strict when it comes to working as an au pair in England, in that you do not need a driver's licence or to be away for a whole year. Imagine you want to apply for a job as an au pair in England or in the U.S.A. Fill in the relevant application form. ASSE is one of the organisations that offers this programme.

Your address
Your postal code
Your country

Date

Dear Mr and Mrs ...

Thank you for your letter. I'm delighted to hear that ...

In order for you to get to know me better I'd like to tell you ...

- family background
- sisters and brothers
- experience with children
- other types of work experience
- your interests
- your career plans
- other topics of interest to the family

Your expectations for the stay — remember to be positive. Finish the letter by writing that you are looking forward to starting the job and getting to know the family/children.

Yours sincerely,
Your signature:

A 37 B 91 C 35

Imagine you have been accepted as an au pair and you now need to write a personal, but still formal letter to 'your family'. Write your letter in your rough book using the lay-out on your left.

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