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Dear People in Room with a View of Rooftops,

My last two days with you have been fully happy. I really enjoyed the story-telling session, though I could see that some of you were tired.... Sheelagh tells me you had a good time presenting projects on Tuesday pm from 2.00 to 3.30... this could explain some of you being on such good form.

I also enjoyed yesterday morning in Faversham with eight people from this group discussing death the English way with E... and then our walk thru town to the tennis courts of the "Poshies" school. I was stuck by C... 's clear ability as a journalist... she took the bull by the horns and talked fearlessly with everybody within reach. Did you hear anybody talk anything other than clear, standard English? This shows what an unrepresentative school it is, though a State school, fully within the state system.

I mention my enjoyment because unless I enjoy my work I do not do it well. I live by two things: enjoying and doing. (there is sometimes also a very small amount of thinking) !

Today we do our second session on grammar exercises and I want do a few more fairly personal ones. I feel that students with strong inter-personal intelligences learn best when they are speaking about themselves and others. So we will carry on from the work done on Monday... do you remember the verbs that often occur in the passive etc....

In the afternoon I will work on cognitive grammar exercises that cater to the needs of a very different type of learner, who is shy of more personal things.

The afternoon exercises appeal to the logical-mathematical and linguistic intelligences of your students. We may also get round to some activities that include movement.

The reading I have to give you today is the interview with Katie Plumb, who left her Canterbury State school last July together with another 27 out of a staff of 60 teachers. She was very brave to let me publish anything so raw.

Mario.

