

THE FERRY CROSSING

Use sentences 1-11 to help you write a summary of the events that took place in not more than 100 words.

1. The passengers on the ferry had nowhere to sit and almost nowhere to stand.
2. Just before departure, a man limped down the quay, leaning on another.
3. The ferry tooted its horn, the bow gate was raised and the voyage began.
4. The ferry moved away from the quay with its bow gate still low enough for water to flow over it past the car deck and back to the engine room.
5. The chief engineer then abandoned his post and came to the bridge to dry out.
6. Then as the ferry approached its destination, disaster loomed.
7. The boat went past the quay because the chief engineer was still on the bridge beside the first officer.
8. Then the captain came to life. He seized the wheel and ordered 'full-astern' on the telegraph but there was no response since the engineer was still some way from the engine room.
9. The vessel at last began to reverse away from the beach and back towards the quay and as it sped alongside the quay again, a number of passengers started to jump off.
10. The chief engineer decided to ignore instructions from the bridge and to dock the boat himself.
11. Finally, the bow gate banged down onto the ramp and the passengers, including the grey-faced man with the bandaged head, went ashore.

To complete this task you need to:

1. Connect all the points into a sequence of events, using conjunctions and other linking words.
2. Where possible, use the following techniques for reducing the number of words:
 - Delete information that has been repeated
 - Delete unimportant parts of sentences
 - Replace phrases with one new word
 - Replace specific details with general statements.

Source: Secondary English Brunei Darussalam 4, p131-134.