

Read the following letter.

DEAR SARA

How are you? What have you been doing? I hope everything is OK!

*Life has been so crazy for me and, lately, I feel like I **am living on a suitcase**, always coming and going, never having time for anything (this job really exhausts me, not letting me **cut across** those formalities which prevent me from coming home more). So, I thought I'd **drop you a line** to let you know what's going on with me.*

*As you know, I've changed my job. It's exciting and demanding and I love it. But, I rarely have the time to just **put my feet up** and **cut off** from everything and everyone. I constantly meet new people, new places, new situations, so it never gets boring. And I even get paid for it. It's great.*

*However, on a personal level, I don't have a personal life anymore. I have **cut down on** my social interactions, to put it nicely! In other words, I never get to meet any of my friends. I have been **cut out** from all the invitation lists from all the parties and gatherings. This makes me **feel a bit under the weather**, especially in the moments when I could really **do with** a friendly smile or advice. Sometimes I would like just to **do up** my coat and leave everything behind. But then I remember why I took this job and hope that my real friends will stand by me and not **do away with** our friendship.*

*That's all for now! I'll write again soon! I promise! I have to **get a move on** and catch my flight! I always get to the airport **in the nick of time**!*

Lots of love,

Your friend Donna

I. Match the idioms and the phrasal verbs with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Put my feet up | a. take the shorter way |
| 2. Do up | b. at the last moment |
| 3. Drop you a line | c. want |
| 4. Cut across | d. hurry up |
| 5. Feel a bit under the weather | e. fasten, tie |
| 6. Cut out | f. travel so much it won't be worth unpacking |
| 7. In the nick of a time | g. omit |
| 8. Do with | h. unwell, sad |
| 9. Live out of a suitcase | i. finish, abolish, get rid of |
| 10. Cut off | j. write a letter |
| 11. Get a move on | k. disconnect, isolate |
| 12. Cut down on | l. relax |
| 13. Do away with | m. reduce |

II. Rephrase the following sentences using the idioms or phrasal verbs given in brackets.

- It will be quicker if we take a shorter way through the park. (cut across)
.....
- I would really want something to eat. (do with)
.....
- You will have to hurry up if you don't want to miss your bus. (get a move on)
.....
- If the bill is not paid within 3 days, your phone will be disconnected. (cut off)
.....
- You should write a letter to your grandmother thanking her for her present. (drop a line)
.....
- Fasten your shoe laces before you trip over. (do up)
.....
- He arrived at the last moment at his own wedding. (get in the nick of a time)
.....
- I am trying to reduce caffeine. (cut down on)
.....
- She has been sad since her son left to college. (feel a bit under the weather)
.....
- They omitted me from the conversation. (cut out)
.....
- I am going to turn my phone off and relax this weekend. (put my feet up)
.....
- Those ridiculous rules and regulations should have been abolished years ago. (do away with).....
- Being a flight attendant means travelling so much it's not worth unpacking. (live out of a suitcase).....