

BFF

Dear Lexie –

Wassup? We got to **Venice**¹ early this morning. I think I have jetlag or something. It's morning, and I feel like going to bed--except that this place is so strange I couldn't sleep even if it was nighttime, so that's why I'm e-mailing you. The hotel has internet access, and we can't get into our room yet so I figured I'd tell you about this place. You wouldn't believe it. It's like a floating city and I'm afraid it will sink or something. My mom's calling me. Gotta go. – Maura

Hey, Maura –

I'm so jealous. Venice sounds awesome. Sorry I couldn't write right back. Your letter came in at like 3 a.m. here so I didn't get it until now. I looked Venice up online. The buildings all look like castles or something. – Lex

Hi, Lex –

It's about 7 at night here so what time is it there? Probably you're at school right now. We went to this big plaza called San Marco today. There's like a billion pigeons. There was this guy who put bird seed on his jacket, and all these birds landed on him. When he walked, all the pigeons stayed on him. I took a million pictures. – Maura

Mo --

The pigeon guy seems crazy. There's no way I'd let a bunch of pigeons roost on me. Yuck! I can't wait to see the pictures. Can you e-mail one to me? I'll take it in tomorrow and show Benny. He likes pigeons. He's weird. – Lex

Hi, Lex –

I have a dorky film camera so I can't e-mail pix. Sometimes I think my family is living in the 20th century. I mean, we are the only family without a microwave. Today we went to museums. Every other building here is a museum. I think Venetians must be very artistic or something. – M

¹ **Venice**: a city in Northern Italy that is built on islands

Reading Passage

M—

Yeah. I read that Michelangelo lived there. Did you see him? Oh, never mind. He's dead. Well, did you see any art by him? We had a math test today. Decimals. And there's a new kid in class. Her name is Sydney. She's cool. She's from California. – Me

Lex –

Tell me more about the new kid. Remember we're BFF, so don't get a new best friend. I'll be back on Saturday. Don't get a new BF before then, okay?