

Miss Niaz - The Emails

By

Harry Jivenmukta

Introduction

I met Miss Saima Niaz in an office where I was waiting for an appointment. There were lots of other people waiting as well. When her name was called out it said: 'Miss Niaz please'. After that, as our relationship developed I always called her by that name and never used her first name. She tried to get me to change but it just felt better to me to call her by the name I had first heard her called.

Soon after the relationship started we had to go our separate ways, she back to Pakistan to study, and I went to work in New Delhi, in India. This story is all about our email exchanges during that time.



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Hi Harry

Hi Harry. How are you? Hope you're looking after yourself.

Well, here I am back in Lahore. It's a bit strange being here after all the planning for so long. Somehow it seemed a bit unreal until I finally got off the plane and was met by my father. The old house, and everyone who lives and works in it are just the same as always; it's as if I'd never been away. I've attached a picture.

Going to take a few days to acclimatise myself - it's really hot, more than 30 degrees in the shade, but it's nice to be somewhere that has sunshine.

Talk to you soon,

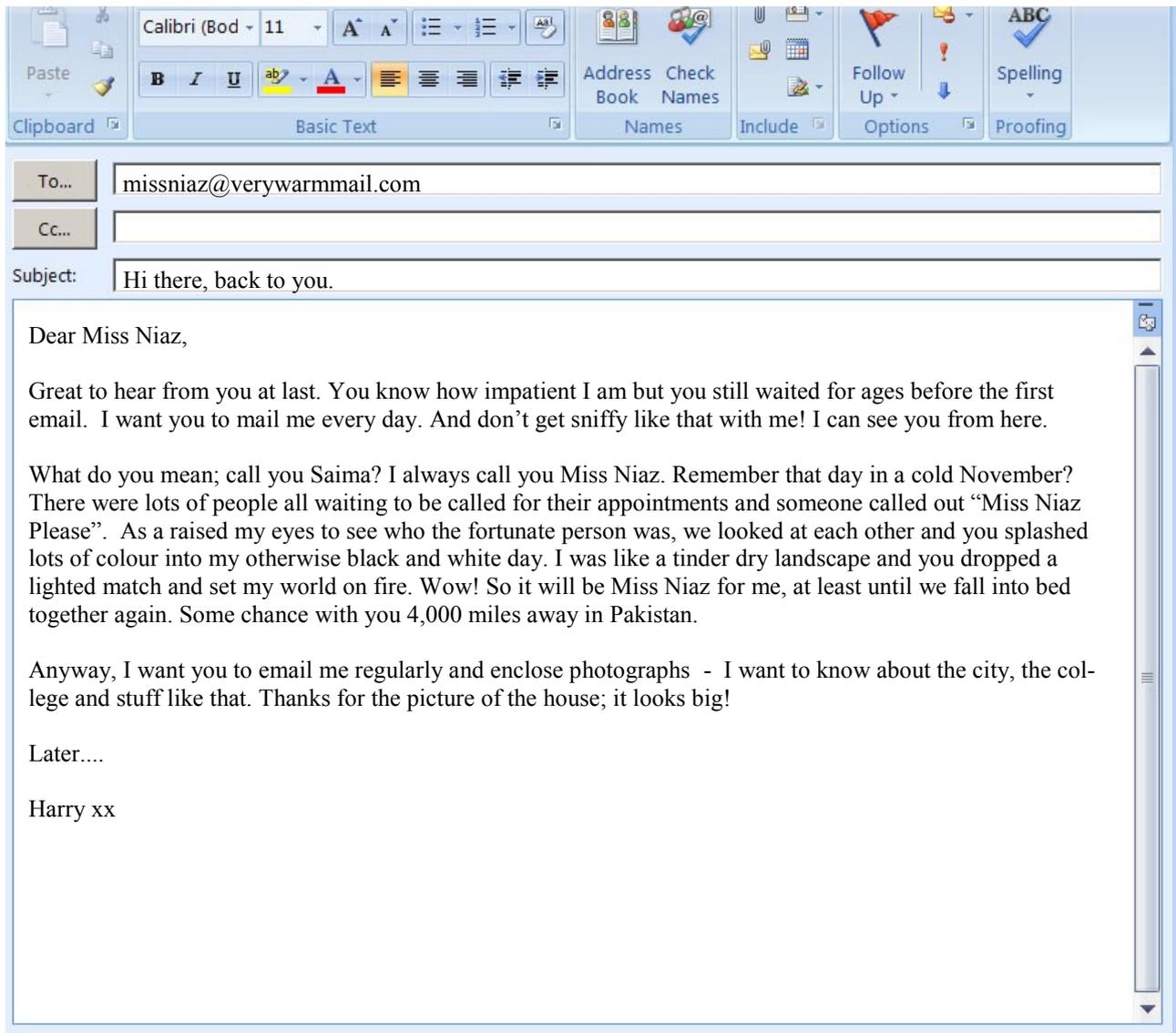
Saima x

PS I hope you will call me Saima now rather than Miss Niaz; it sounds so formal.

Attachments



harry says....



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Hi Harry

Dear Harry,

Hi Harry. It was good to hear from you and your reasons for still calling me Miss Niaz. I shall not complain any more about it and leave it up to you when you decide to call me Saima.

I know you are an impatient person and I will do all I can to keep you in the picture about what I'm doing. I don't know about mailing you every day though, because sometimes I go with the family, visiting relatives, and that might take a few days at a time. But when I have seen them all, things should settle down.

It was a good idea of yours for me to have a separate email account for you because lots of stuff comes from the college and members of my family want to read all about the course and things like that. I would be mortified if your emails appeared in amongst those, and especially when you are being quite rude. You will have to start being less like that anyway, because I don't always like your frankness. It's one thing to whisper them in bed but in mail? No!

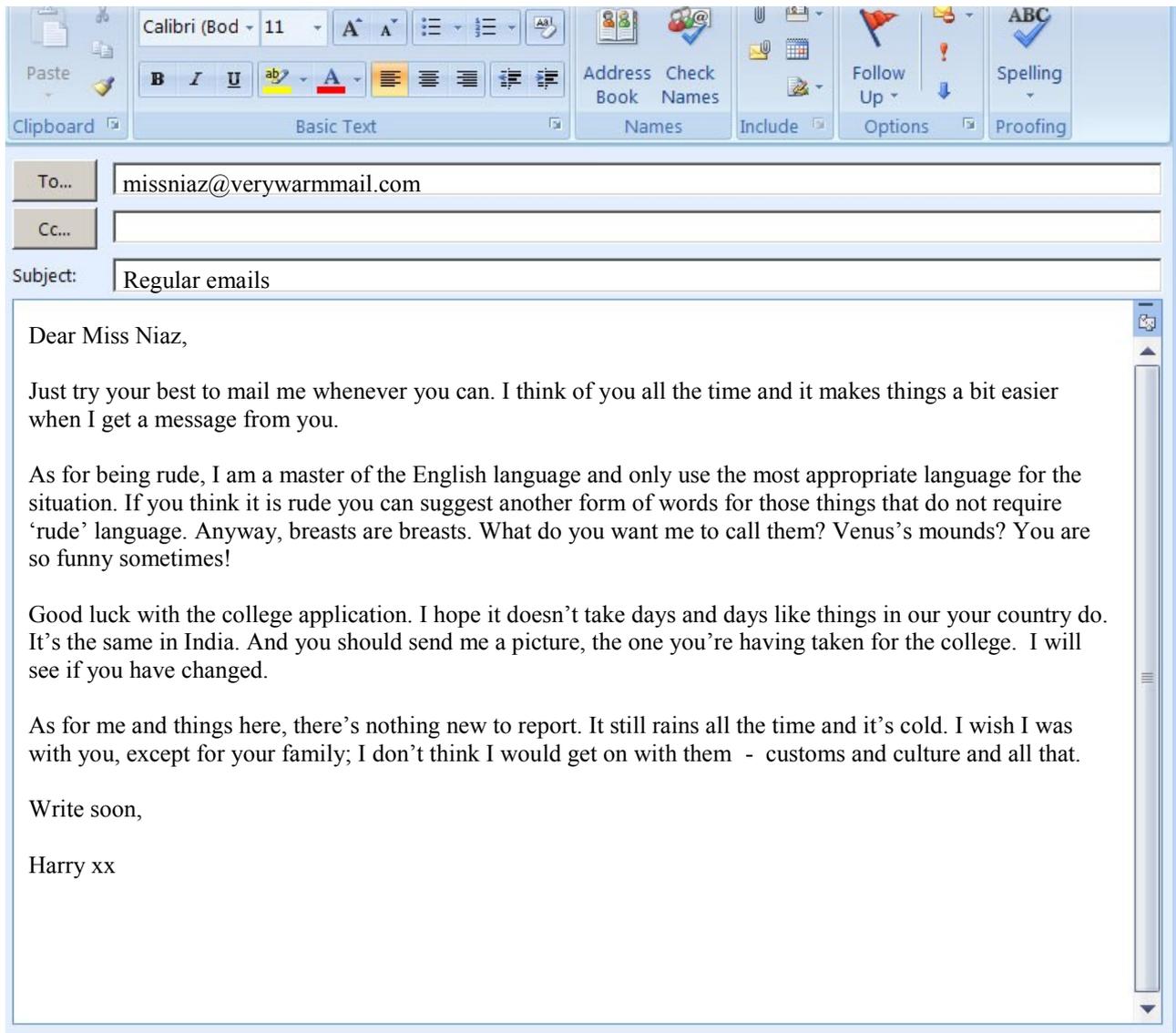
In other matters, I am going to register at the college soon, and will need to get photographs and other things, so I might be busy for a few days. Don't worry, I will think of you every day (really), and I'll mail you in a few days. You wanted some pictures of Lahore. See attachments.

Saima x

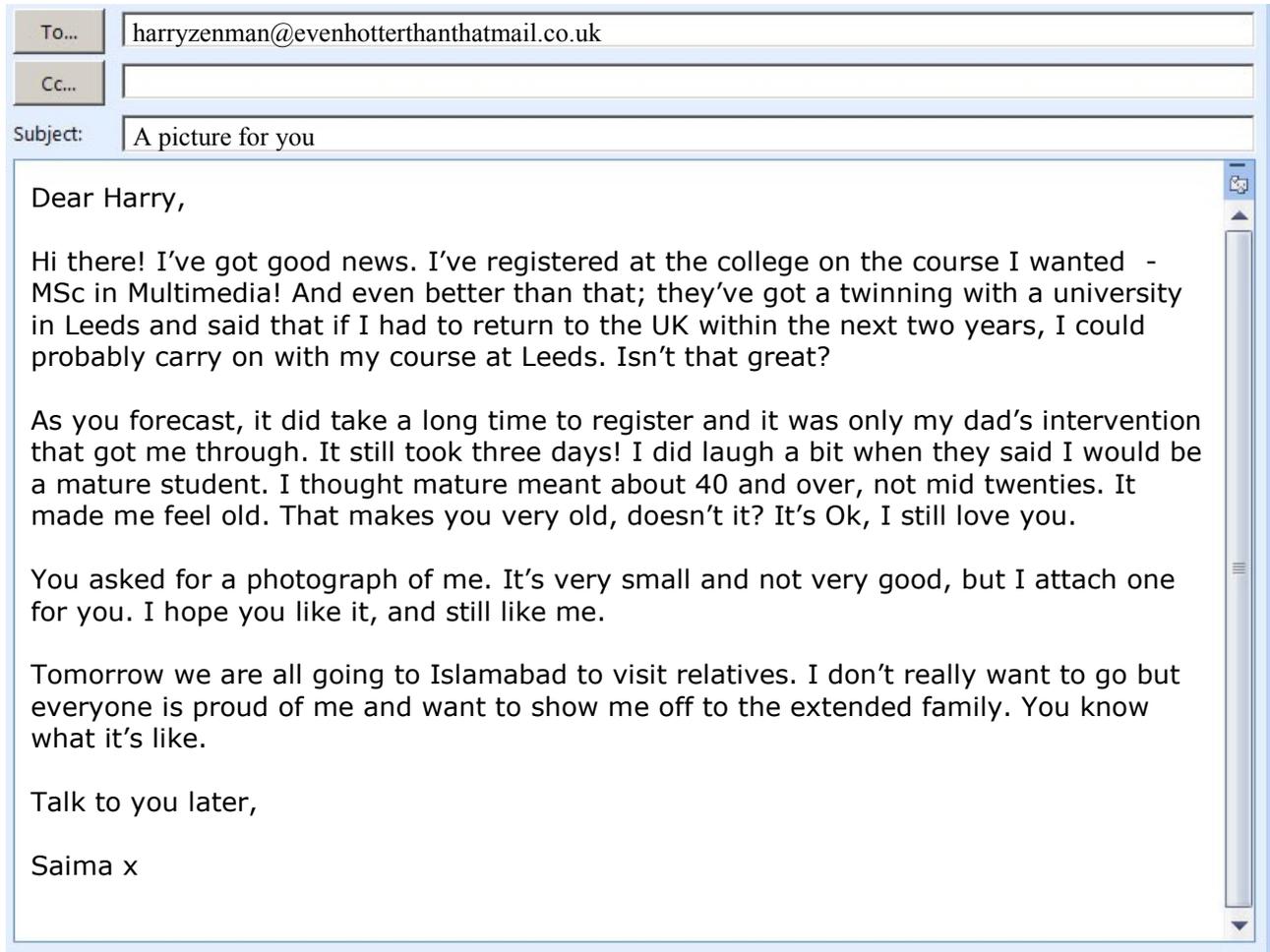
Attachments



harry says....



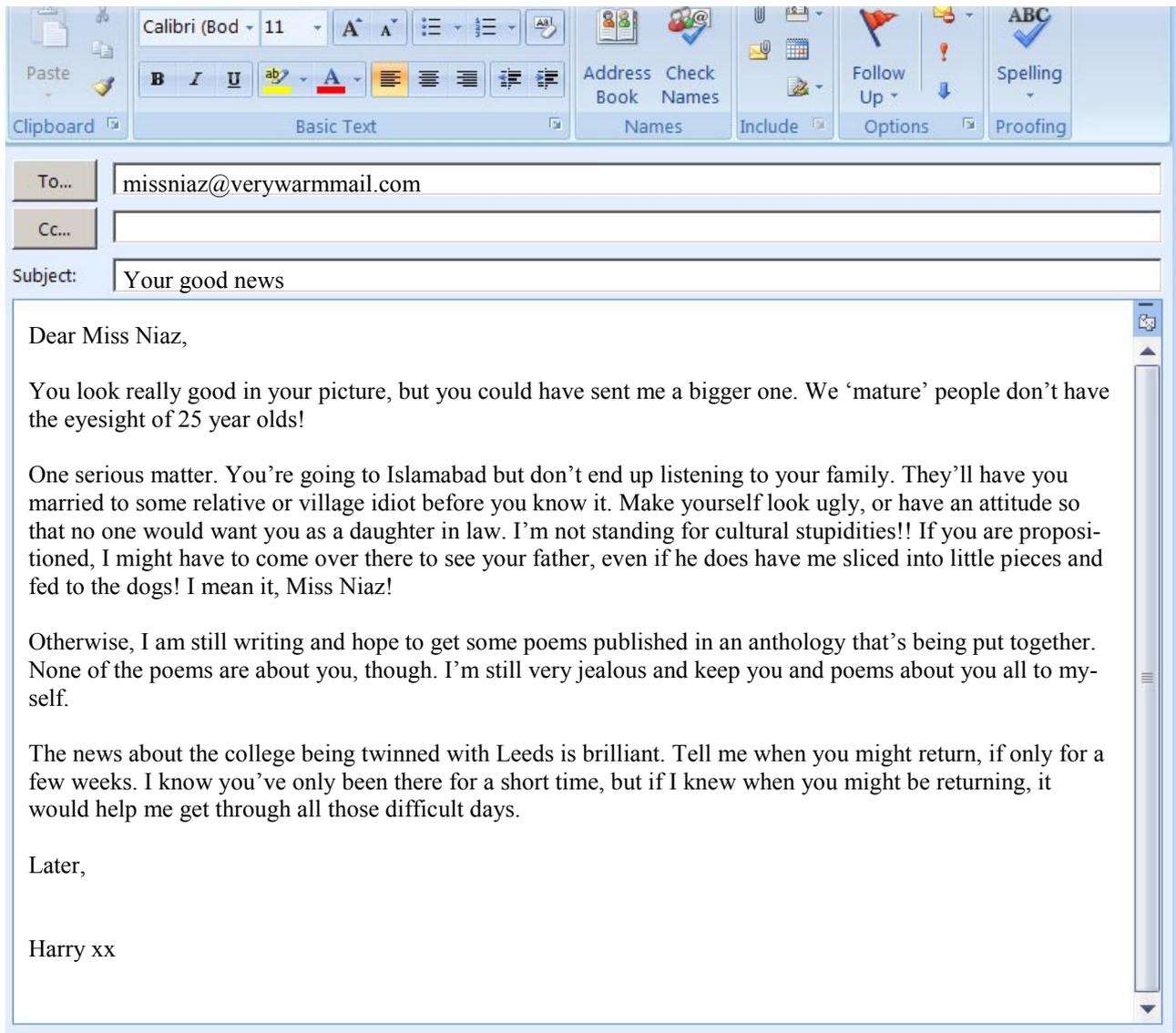
from saima



Attachments



harry says....



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Islamabad

Dear Harry,

Hi there, at last. I'm so sorry for not mailing you earlier but this is really the first time I've had access to a computer. We went to Islamabad and stayed for two days. It is really beautiful there, and you would have loved the views of the mountains.

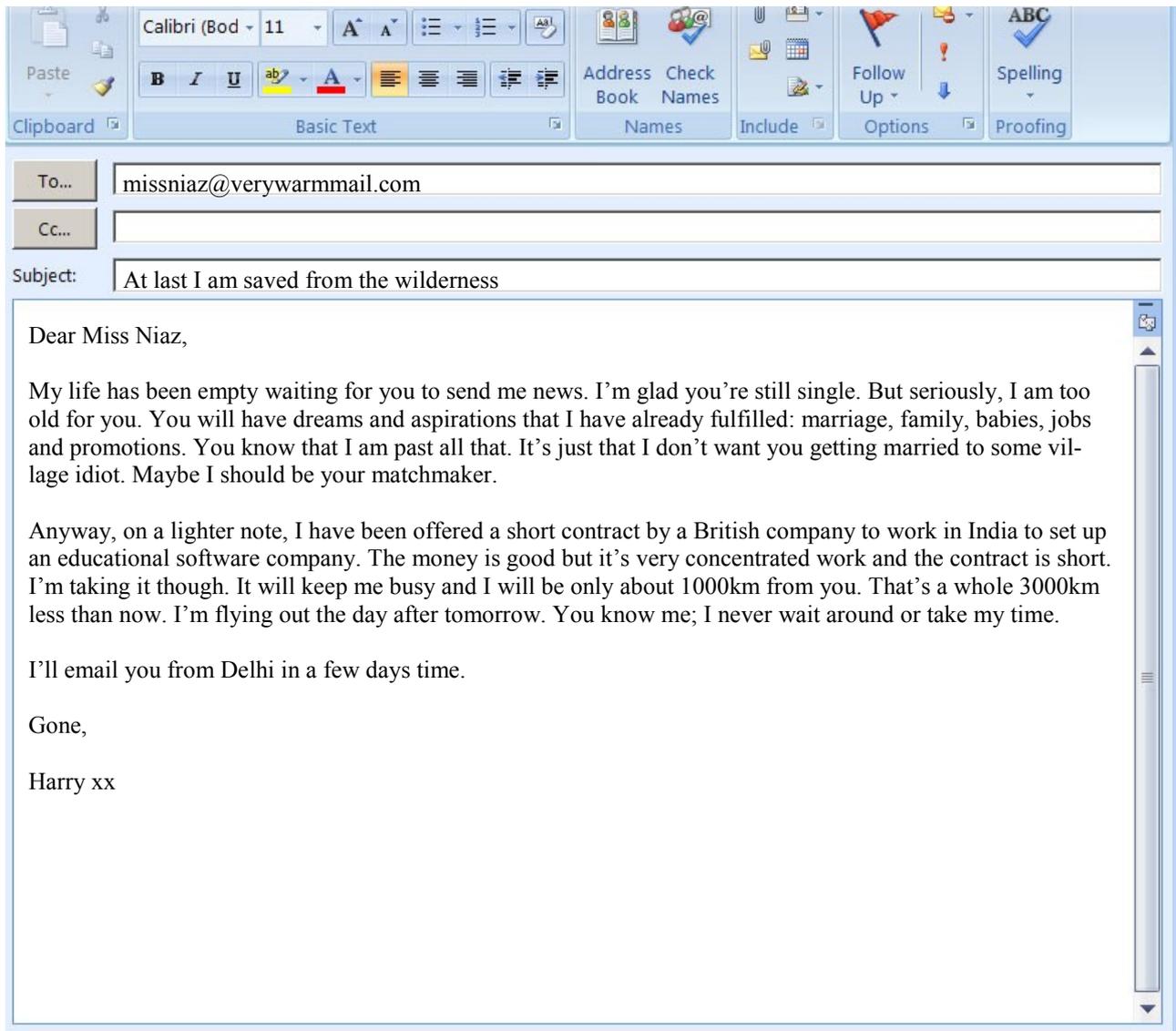
You were right about the matchmaking, and I had to fight them off. Luckily for me, and you, I am still single, not even engaged! Most of the visiting is over now and so I can settle down to my studies which start next week. I've got some pre-reading to do but don't feel like it just yet.

Tell me what's new with you. What are you up to?

Tired now. Will send you another mail tomorrow.

Saima x

harry says....



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Your news

Dear Harry,

Hi there! You don't mess about do you? It's brave of you to take that job in New Delhi at such short notice. Will you keep your flat in the UK or what.? And how can you just set off at a few days notice? I suppose it is exciting though. You must keep me up to date with everything that happens.

As for me, I'm ready for my course as well, picture attached. It's very exciting isn't it that we're both starting new things.

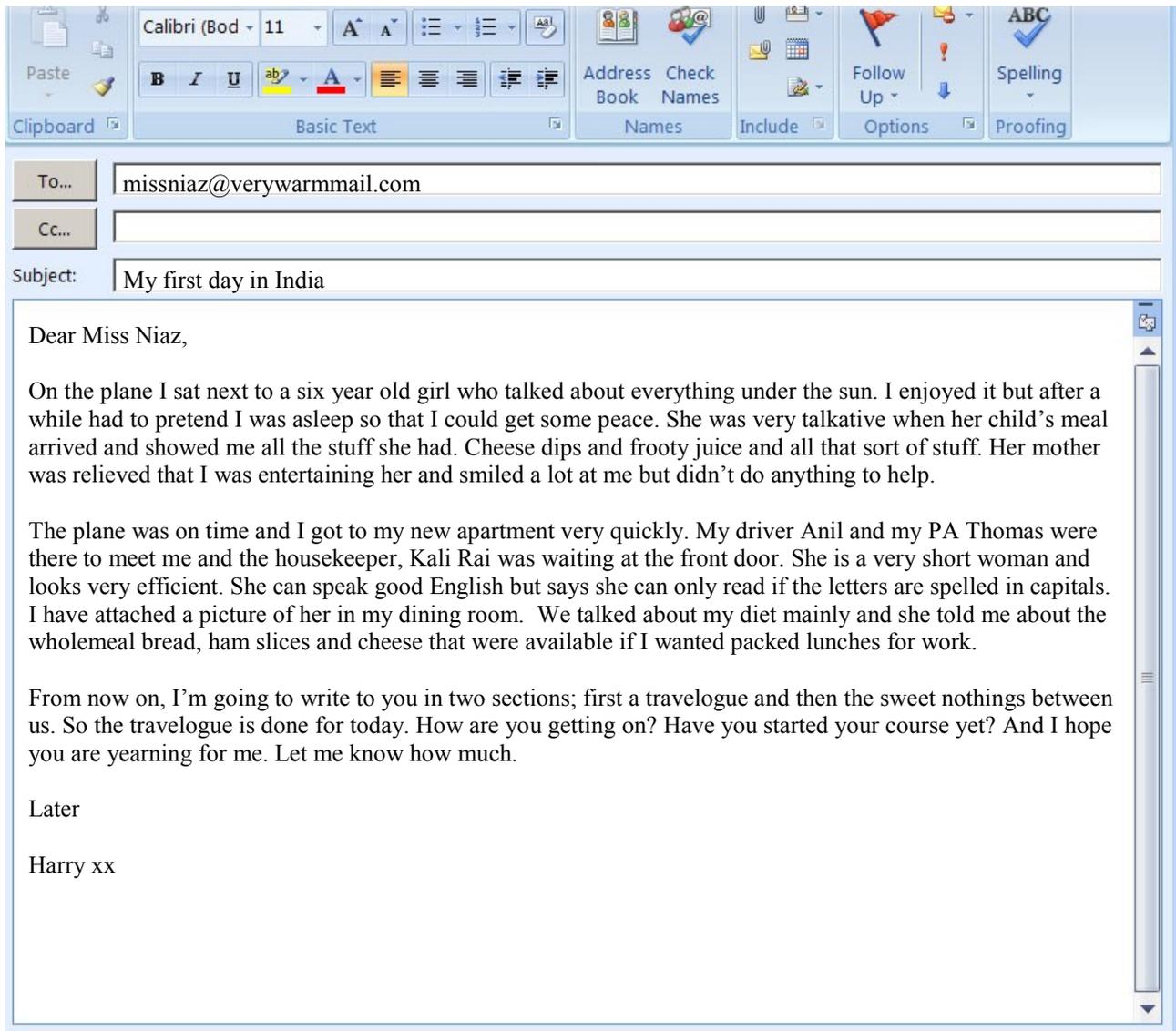
I haven't got much to say now. Really, the ball's in your court. You are the one with the exciting life.

Saima x

Attachment



harry says....



The screenshot shows an email client window with the following details:

- Toolbar:** Includes options for Paste, Clipboard, Basic Text (Bold, Italic, Underline, Bulleted List, Numbered List, Indent, Outdent), Names (Address Book, Check Names), Include, Options (Follow Up, Spelling), and Proofing (ABC).
- To:** missniaz@verywarmmail.com
- Cc:** (Empty)
- Subject:** My first day in India
- Body:**

Dear Miss Niaz,

On the plane I sat next to a six year old girl who talked about everything under the sun. I enjoyed it but after a while had to pretend I was asleep so that I could get some peace. She was very talkative when her child's meal arrived and showed me all the stuff she had. Cheese dips and frooty juice and all that sort of stuff. Her mother was relieved that I was entertaining her and smiled a lot at me but didn't do anything to help.

The plane was on time and I got to my new apartment very quickly. My driver Anil and my PA Thomas were there to meet me and the housekeeper, Kali Rai was waiting at the front door. She is a very short woman and looks very efficient. She can speak good English but says she can only read if the letters are spelled in capitals. I have attached a picture of her in my dining room. We talked about my diet mainly and she told me about the wholemeal bread, ham slices and cheese that were available if I wanted packed lunches for work.

From now on, I'm going to write to you in two sections; first a travelogue and then the sweet nothings between us. So the travelogue is done for today. How are you getting on? Have you started your course yet? And I hope you are yearning for me. Let me know how much.

Later

Harry xx

Attachments



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Hi Harry

Hi Harry,

It was good to hear from you. I love the bit about having to entertain the little girl on the flight, and it looks like your housekeeper will keep you well fed. I will look forward to your 'travelogues' and the sweet nothings you promise me.

As for me, I've just started the course and at the moment we are being assessed. The work is easy at this stage. I attach pictures of the college copied from the prospectus.

This morning I had to leave home early in order to make it for my 8am class. It was hard but once I'm up I love that time of the day where I can just relax on the bus across the city. It's great watching people preparing for the day in the shops and going to work.

I made it through my first two classes flawlessly, because I've done most of the stuff before, and finished my test in my third class with ease. I love how confident I feel taking a test when I can easily hop from question to question because I know the answer right off the top of my head. It makes everything go so much nicer.

Love,
Saima x

Attachments



harry says....

Clipboard | Calibri (Bod) 11 | Basic Text | Names | Include | Options | Proofing

To... missniaz@verywarmmail.com

Cc...

Subject: First real day in India

Dear Miss Niaz,

Travelogue:

I have had some problems. Firstly, I did about 10 deals in the first hour but had no money to pay. In India if you don't have the dosh you have to be quiet. I haven't even got much personal money. But it should get better once I can get to a cash machine. Thomas took me to a 5 star hotel for a meal and the head waiter let us eat a fantastic Chinese and Indian buffet free!! But I'll remember and repay him sometime. The food was brilliant but I was so tired and it's so hot. After the rain, the heat is like a sauna.

The other main problem I have had is that the apartment doesn't have a back up power supply, so when the electricity goes you're in big trouble. I have already ordered a battery generator. Also, there is some more furniture to buy. There is no coffee table and the wardrobes are pretty rubbish. My PA Thomas and my technical genius Arvin are very helpful, (pictures attached).

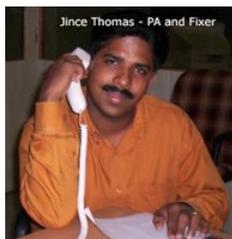
I think I'm going to like the apartment though. It's big. At the rush hour time there is a lot of traffic outside. In the cooler months I can imagine sitting out on the balconies watching the world go by.

So, how's is life in your world? How's the course? Let me know.

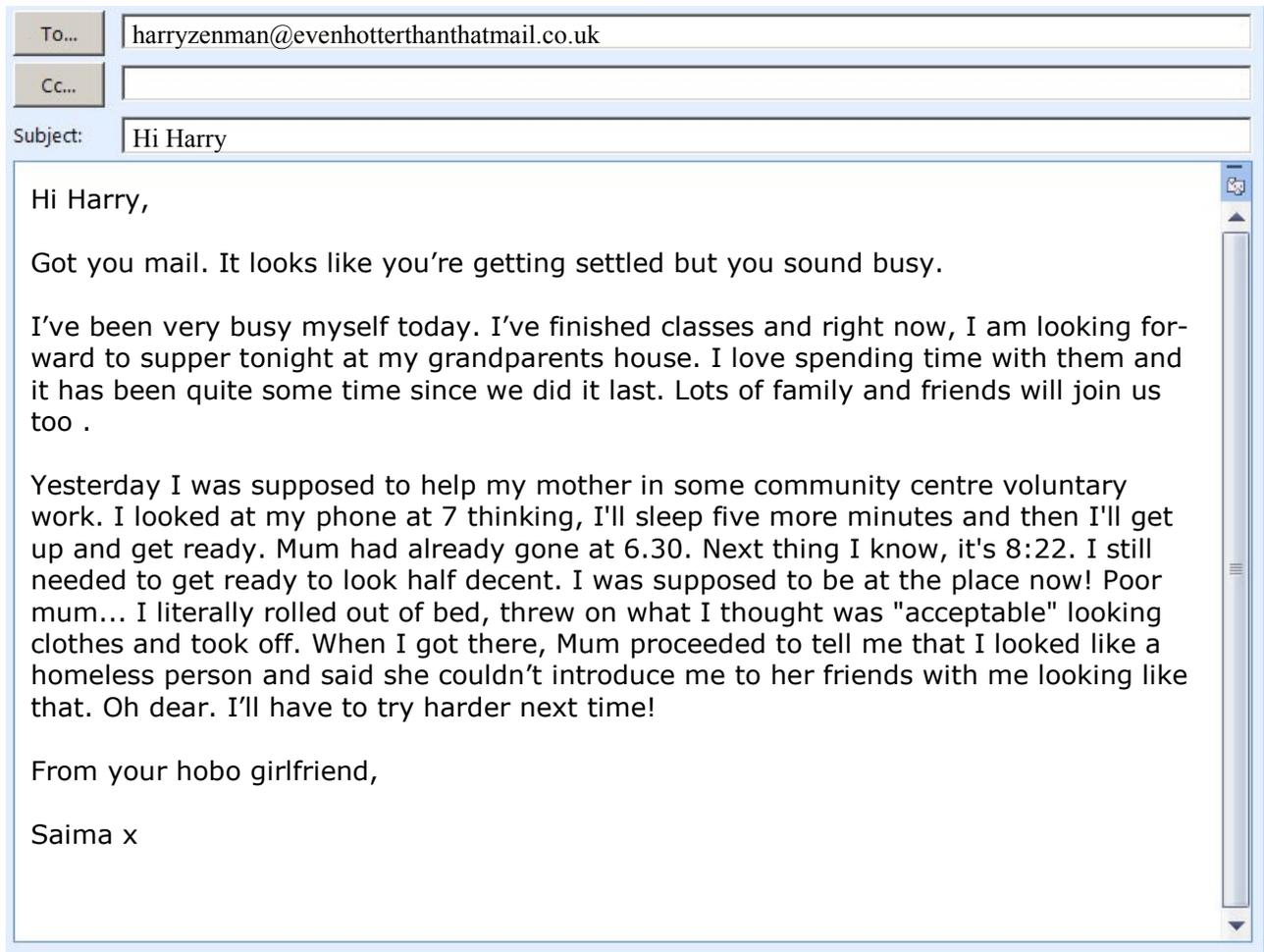
Harry xx

PS tired and hot.

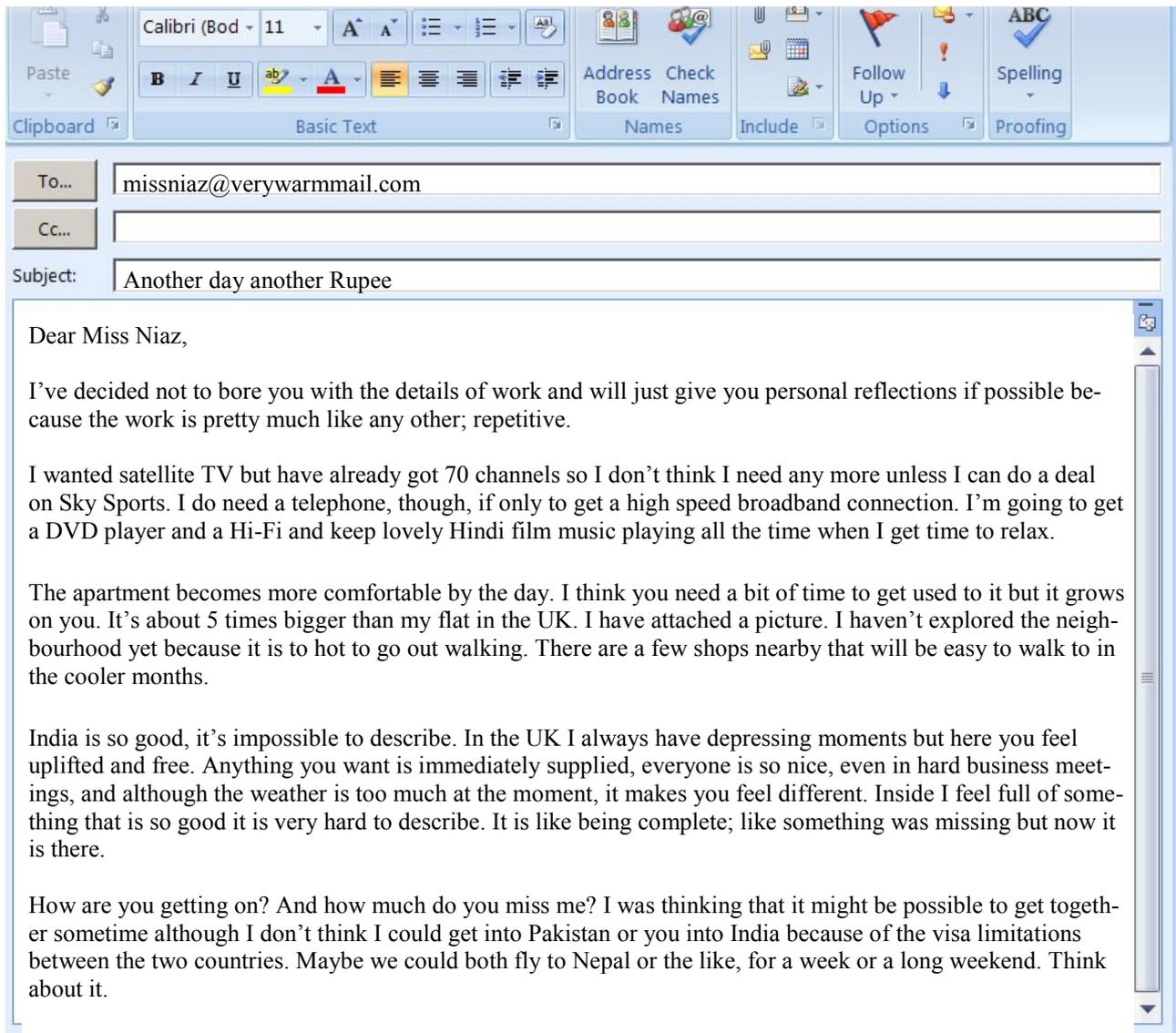
Attachments



from saima



harry says....



The screenshot shows an email client window with a ribbon-style menu at the top. The ribbon includes sections for Clipboard, Basic Text, Names, Include, Options, and Proofing. The email header shows the recipient as missniaz@verywarmmail.com, the subject as 'Another day another Rupee', and the sender as Harry. The body of the email contains several paragraphs of text.

To... missniaz@verywarmmail.com

Cc...

Subject: Another day another Rupee

Dear Miss Niaz,

I've decided not to bore you with the details of work and will just give you personal reflections if possible because the work is pretty much like any other; repetitive.

I wanted satellite TV but have already got 70 channels so I don't think I need any more unless I can do a deal on Sky Sports. I do need a telephone, though, if only to get a high speed broadband connection. I'm going to get a DVD player and a Hi-Fi and keep lovely Hindi film music playing all the time when I get time to relax.

The apartment becomes more comfortable by the day. I think you need a bit of time to get used to it but it grows on you. It's about 5 times bigger than my flat in the UK. I have attached a picture. I haven't explored the neighbourhood yet because it is too hot to go out walking. There are a few shops nearby that will be easy to walk to in the cooler months.

India is so good, it's impossible to describe. In the UK I always have depressing moments but here you feel uplifted and free. Anything you want is immediately supplied, everyone is so nice, even in hard business meetings, and although the weather is too much at the moment, it makes you feel different. Inside I feel full of something that is so good it is very hard to describe. It is like being complete; like something was missing but now it is there.

How are you getting on? And how much do you miss me? I was thinking that it might be possible to get together sometime although I don't think I could get into Pakistan or you into India because of the visa limitations between the two countries. Maybe we could both fly to Nepal or the like, for a week or a long weekend. Think about it.

Harry xx

Attachments



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Birthday

Hi Harry,

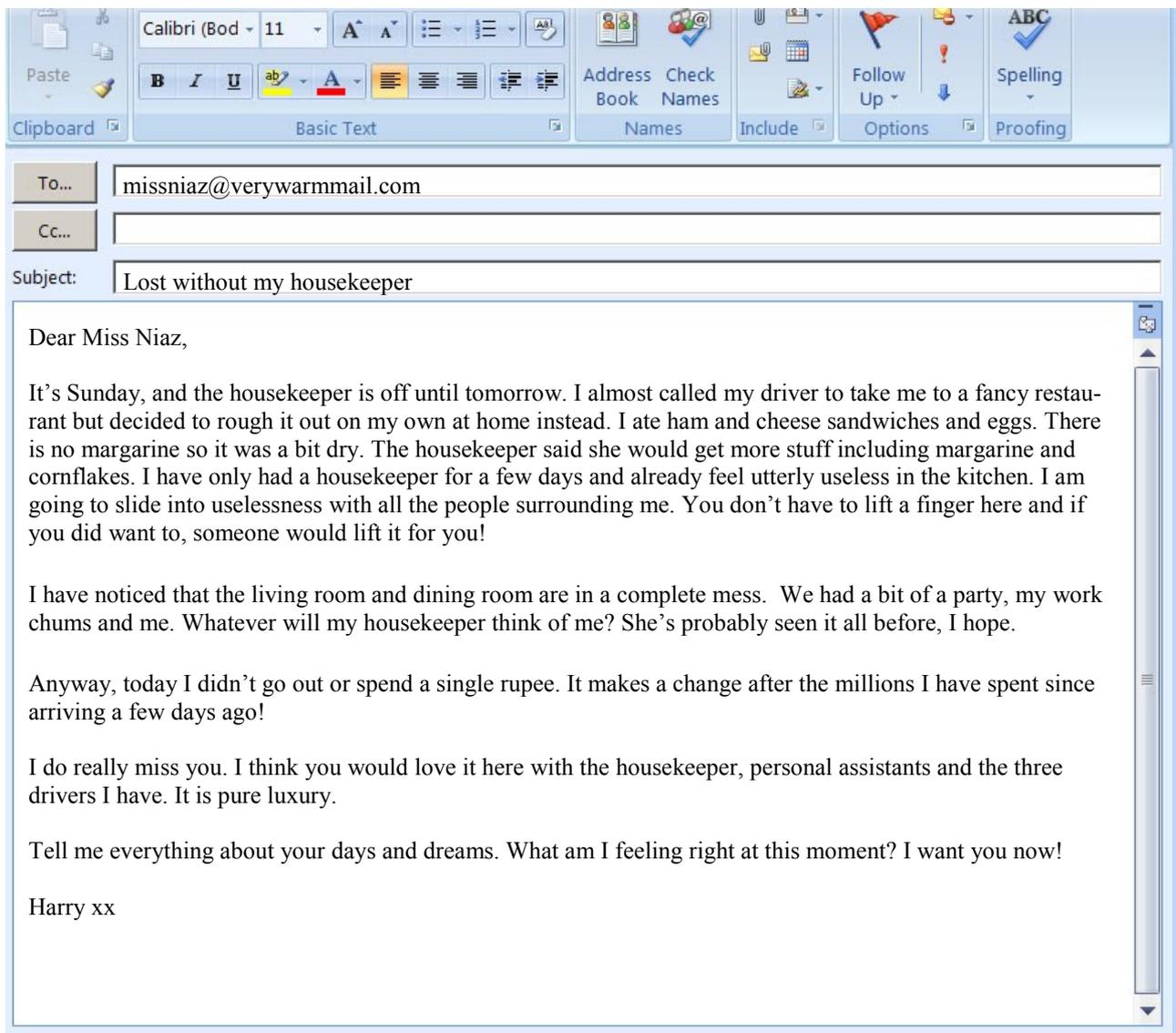
My birthday was on Tuesday. Thanks for the e-card. It was 'really cool', (new phrases I am learning from my college mates). I went home after my class and spent the day with the family, and we went out for supper that night. It was so nice to be able to just kind of relax and spend some quality time together. As time moves on, my mum keeps thinking and talking more about what it would be like if I were to get married some day. Each time she brings it up, I simply look at her and say that it would be a better idea to wait a couple of years and see where life was taking me with the MSc and all that.

I don't know what would happen if I mentioned you to her. Well, she might be just a bit freaked out, but my dad would start sharpening knives!

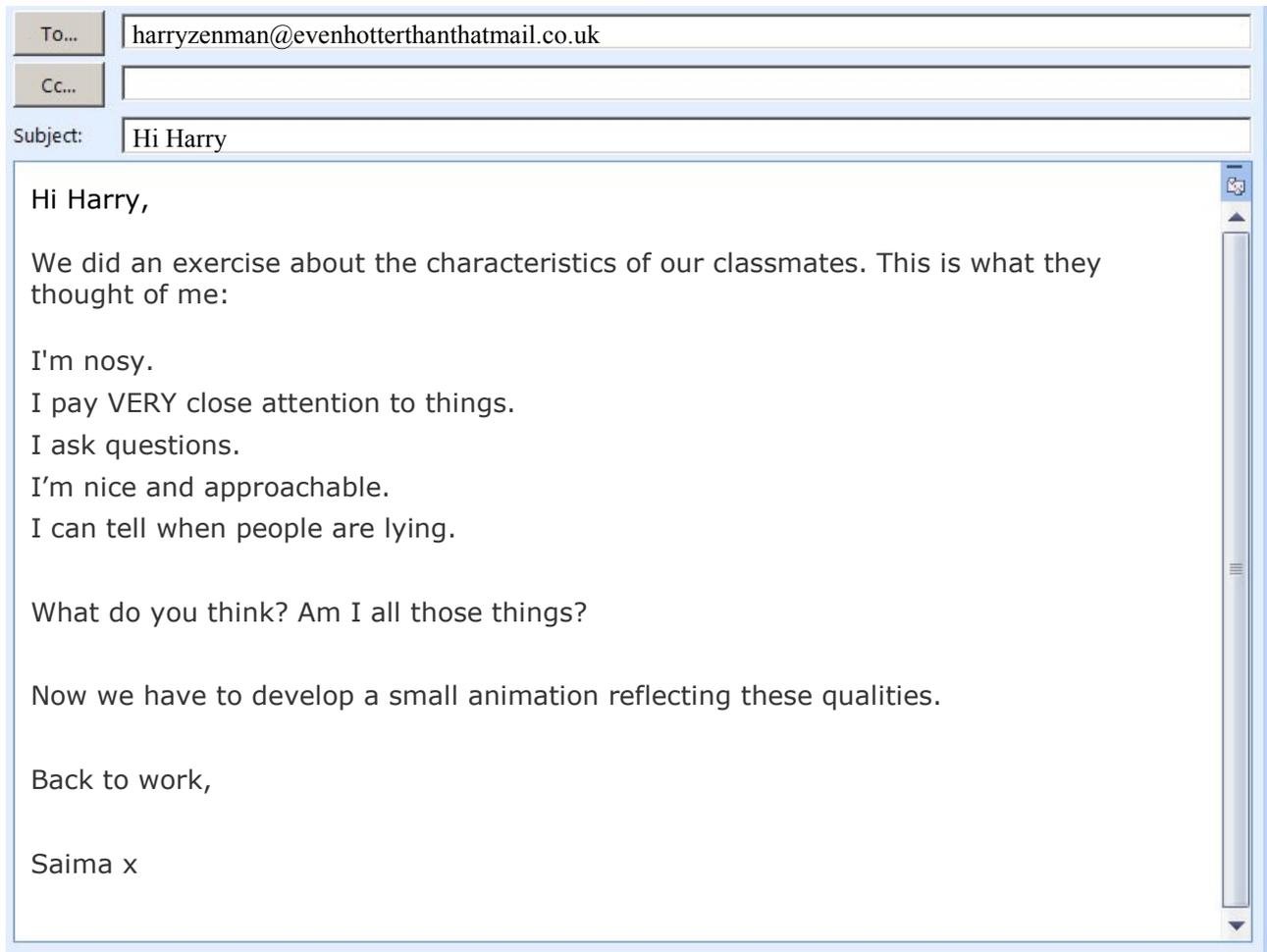
I prefer you in one piece,

Saima x

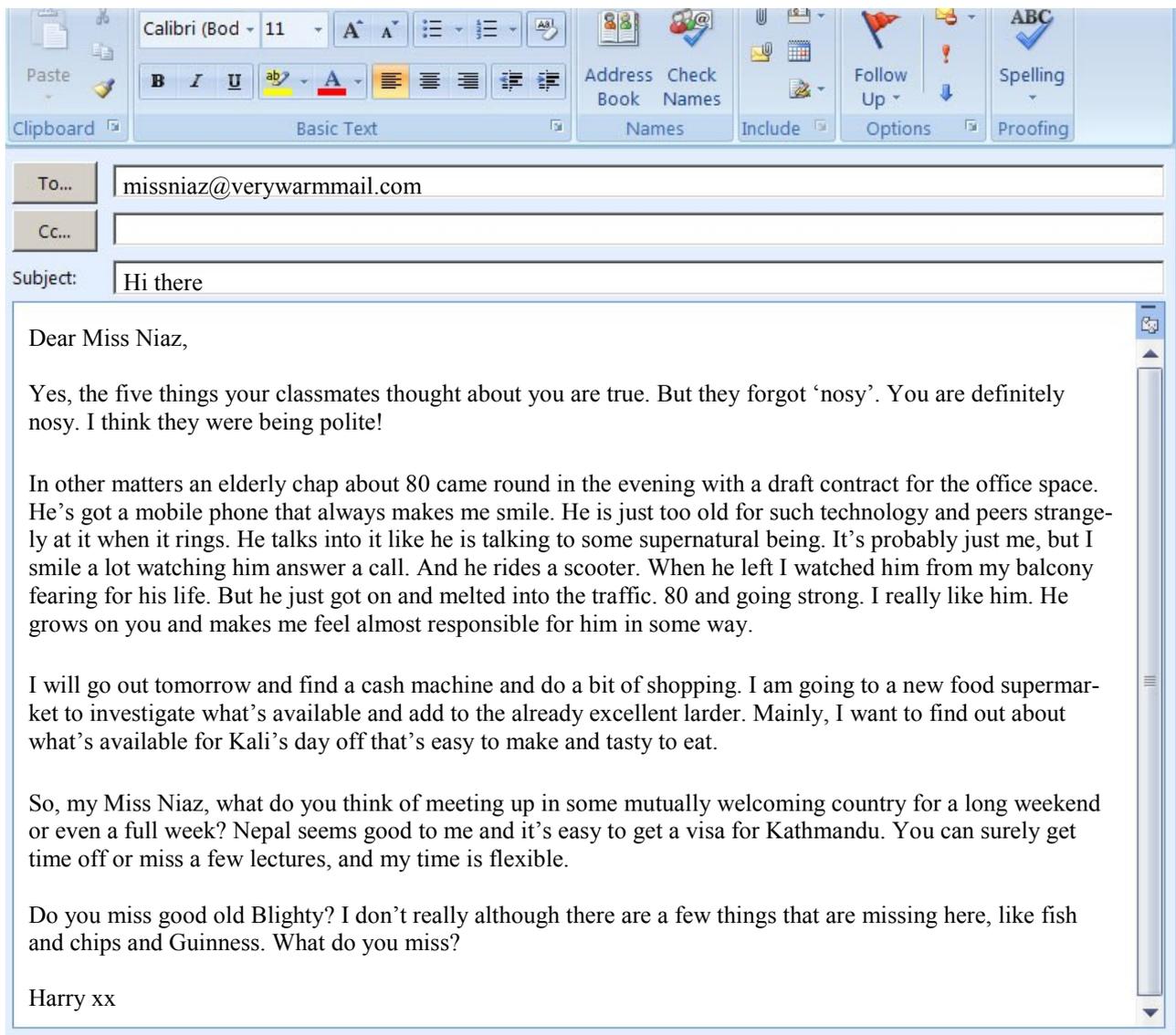
harry says....



from saima



harry says....



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. The top part features a ribbon with various toolbars including 'Clipboard', 'Basic Text', 'Names', 'Include', 'Options', and 'Proofing'. Below the ribbon, the 'To...' field contains 'missniaz@verywarmmail.com', the 'Cc...' field is empty, and the 'Subject:' field contains 'Hi there'. The main body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

Yes, the five things your classmates thought about you are true. But they forgot 'nosy'. You are definitely nosy. I think they were being polite!

In other matters an elderly chap about 80 came round in the evening with a draft contract for the office space. He's got a mobile phone that always makes me smile. He is just too old for such technology and peers strangely at it when it rings. He talks into it like he is talking to some supernatural being. It's probably just me, but I smile a lot watching him answer a call. And he rides a scooter. When he left I watched him from my balcony fearing for his life. But he just got on and melted into the traffic. 80 and going strong. I really like him. He grows on you and makes me feel almost responsible for him in some way.

I will go out tomorrow and find a cash machine and do a bit of shopping. I am going to a new food supermarket to investigate what's available and add to the already excellent larder. Mainly, I want to find out about what's available for Kali's day off that's easy to make and tasty to eat.

So, my Miss Niaz, what do you think of meeting up in some mutually welcoming country for a long weekend or even a full week? Nepal seems good to me and it's easy to get a visa for Kathmandu. You can surely get time off or miss a few lectures, and my time is flexible.

Do you miss good old Blighty? I don't really although there are a few things that are missing here, like fish and chips and Guinness. What do you miss?

Harry xx

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Hi Harry

Hi Harry,

I had a dream last night. You proposed to me. You opened the small box and it was at that point and time that I knew that this was for real. It was a beautiful engagement ring. The dream that I have dreamed for years of my life was actually coming true. I was going to be able to marry a man that meant everything to me. The man that makes me smile, giggle, laugh, cry, and is happy, smart, kind, sweet, etc. The list seriously goes on and on.

Then I woke up and thought about all the barriers there are to us being together: the age difference, our religions, the distance from Pakistan to England. Then I got depressed. I know you keep telling me that in the end I will have to follow the tradition and find someone my own age.

That's all for now. I am getting upset.

Saima x

harry says....

Clipboard

Calibri (Bod) 11

Paste

Basic Text

Address Book Names

Check Names

Include

Follow Up

Options

Spelling

Proofing

To... missniaz@verywarmmail.com

Cc...

Subject: DVDs and stuff

Dear Miss Niaz,

My housekeeper wants me to give her daughter a job. I have asked her to supply a CV and if she is half as good as her mother I will appoint her. Apparently she is skilled in secretarial work. Time will tell on that one.

The hectic pace of life here is magnified by the massive heat. Except on the first day there has been no rain. The temperature is in the mid 30s but it is stifling and very draining. I phoned Anil and asked him to pick me up to go shopping for a DVD player and Hi-Fi but he said it was too late and the shops would shut before we got there. So that will have to wait till the day after tomorrow.

My housekeeper has just left, having cooked me two vegetable dishes; a cauliflower dish, and paneer , and chapattis, all of which I am sure will be delicious.

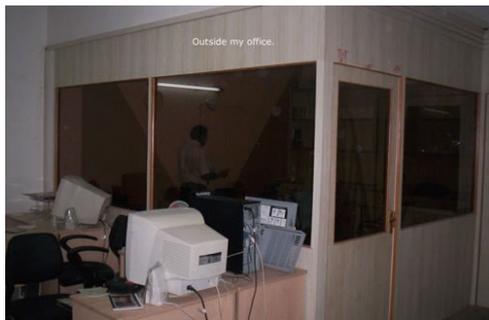
Later

Harry xx

PS I realise I haven't sent you any pictures of my office. See attachments.

PPS I liked your dream. I would like to dream about you every night. Happy endings!?

Attachments



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Running away

Hi Harry,

The only thing stopping everyone from talking about my marriage is the fact that my sister is older than me and it is her turn first. She is now engaged and the wedding is happening in a rush. So now, I find myself helping to plan a wedding! Things are going very.....quickly. I have my own list of things to do. I feel like there are so many things that I need to take care of and get checked off the list sooner rather than later!

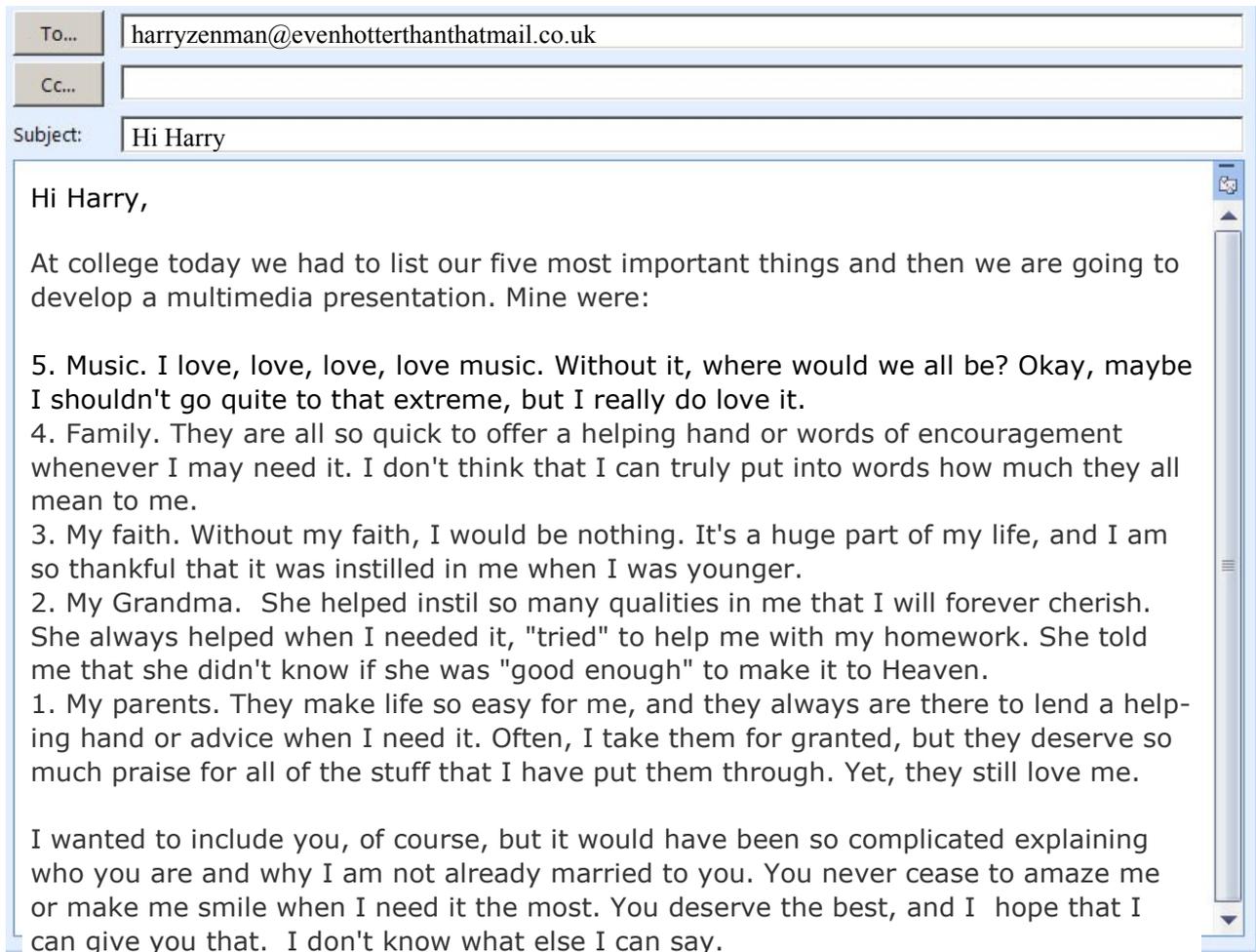
It is a very exciting time for our family but the clock starts ticking for me as soon as my sister's wedding ceremony is over. Can I run away to England and live with you? Age doesn't really matter if you are in love, does it? I will give up everything for us. Tell me yes!

I know I am probably just dreaming.

Love you

Saima x

from saima

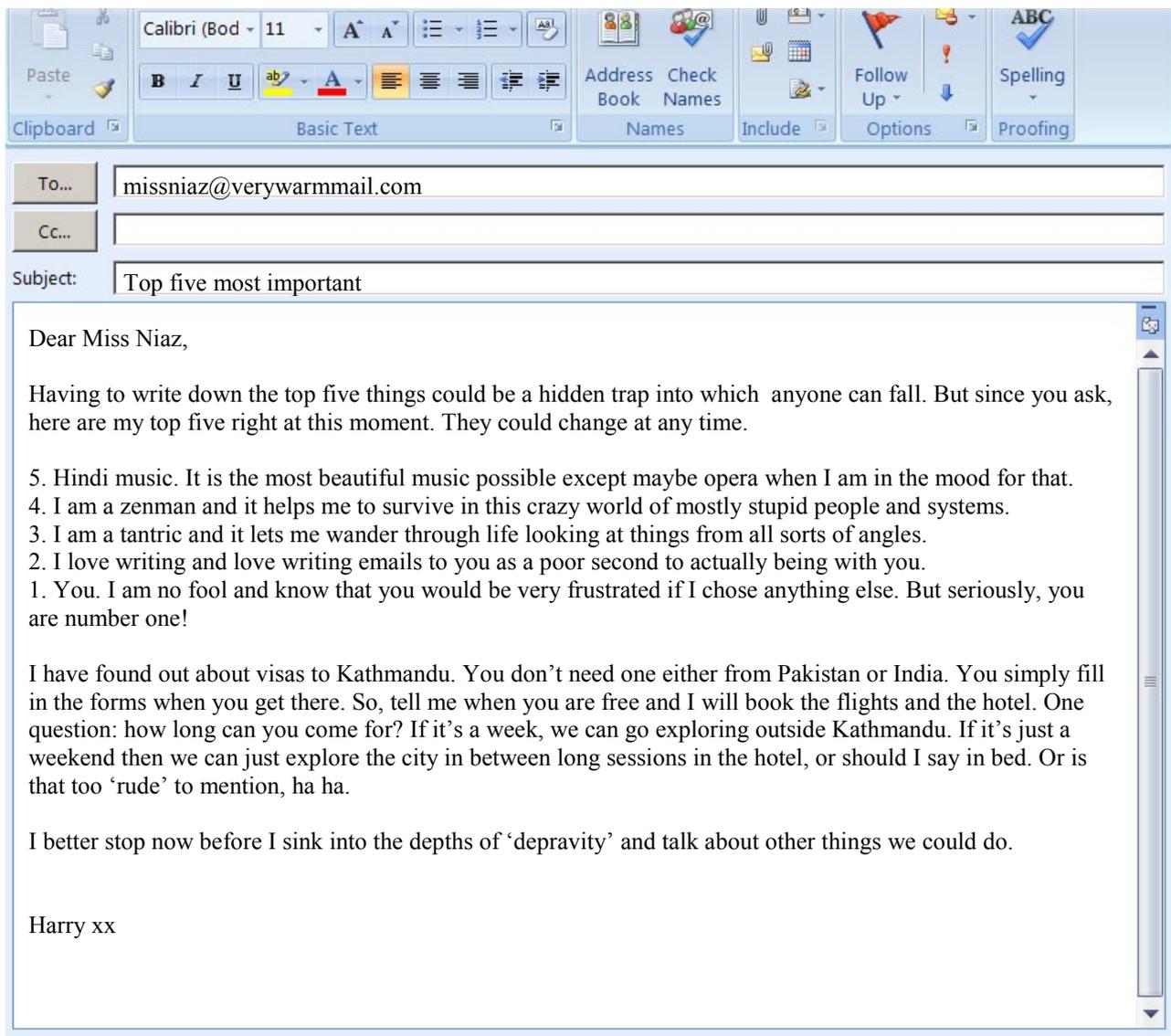


So what do you think? Are my preferences a good choice? What would you say are your 5 most important things? And, don't forget me!

Love you

Saima x

harry says....



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. The top part features a ribbon with various toolbars including 'Clipboard', 'Basic Text', 'Names', 'Include', 'Options', and 'Proofing'. Below the ribbon are fields for 'To...', 'Cc...', and 'Subject:'. The main body of the email contains the following text:

To... missniaz@verywarmmail.com

Cc...

Subject: Top five most important

Dear Miss Niaz,

Having to write down the top five things could be a hidden trap into which anyone can fall. But since you ask, here are my top five right at this moment. They could change at any time.

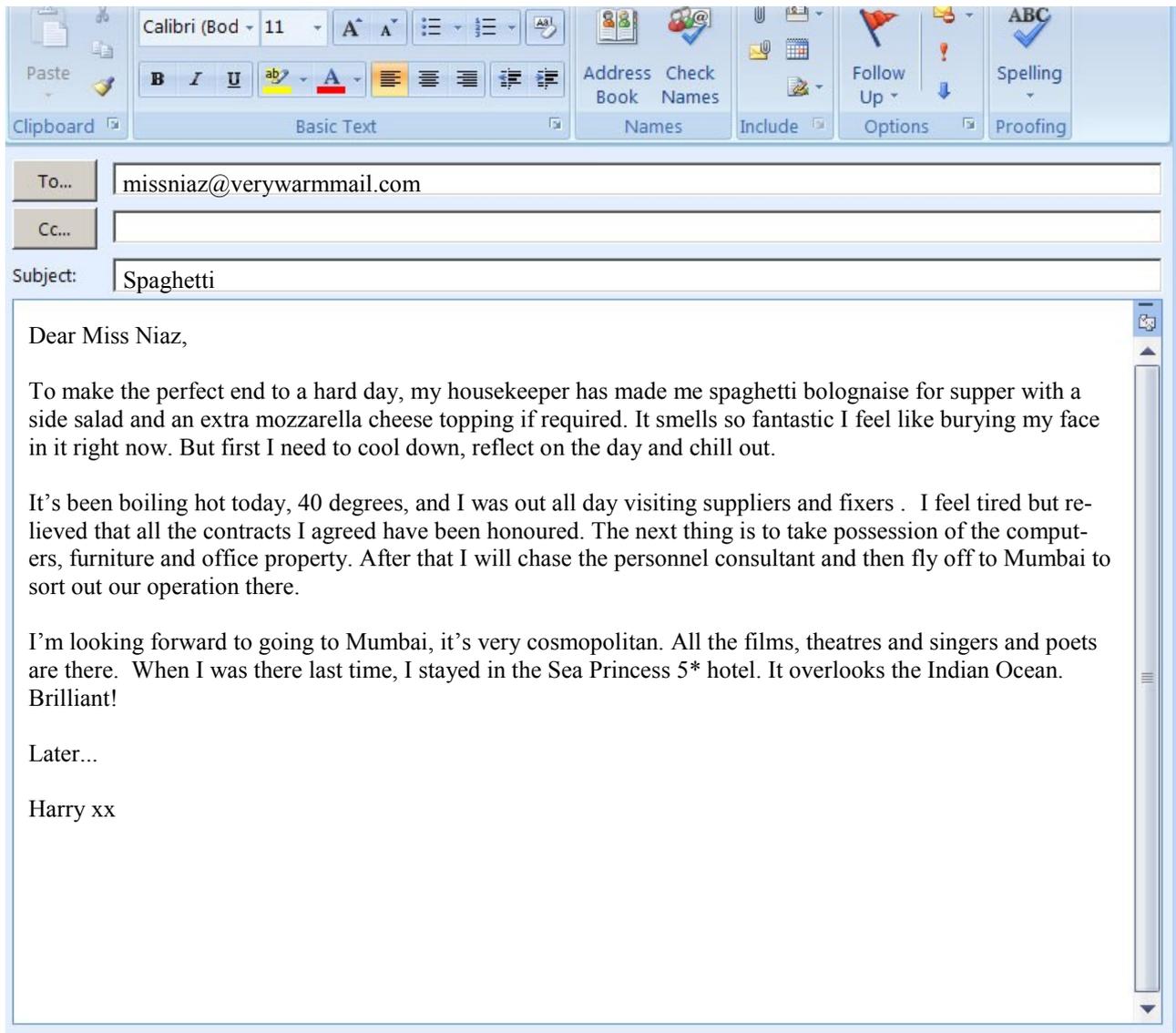
5. Hindi music. It is the most beautiful music possible except maybe opera when I am in the mood for that.
4. I am a zenman and it helps me to survive in this crazy world of mostly stupid people and systems.
3. I am a tantric and it lets me wander through life looking at things from all sorts of angles.
2. I love writing and love writing emails to you as a poor second to actually being with you.
1. You. I am no fool and know that you would be very frustrated if I chose anything else. But seriously, you are number one!

I have found out about visas to Kathmandu. You don't need one either from Pakistan or India. You simply fill in the forms when you get there. So, tell me when you are free and I will book the flights and the hotel. One question: how long can you come for? If it's a week, we can go exploring outside Kathmandu. If it's just a weekend then we can just explore the city in between long sessions in the hotel, or should I say in bed. Or is that too 'rude' to mention, ha ha.

I better stop now before I sink into the depths of 'depravity' and talk about other things we could do.

Harry xx

harry says....



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. The top part features a ribbon with various toolbars: Clipboard, Basic Text (with font settings for Calibri, size 11, and bold/italic/underline options), Names (with Address Book and Check Names), Include, Options (with Follow Up and a flag icon), and Proofing (with Spelling and ABC icons). Below the ribbon are the email header fields: To... (missniaz@verywarmmail.com), Cc... (empty), and Subject: (Spaghetti). The main body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

To make the perfect end to a hard day, my housekeeper has made me spaghetti bolognaise for supper with a side salad and an extra mozzarella cheese topping if required. It smells so fantastic I feel like burying my face in it right now. But first I need to cool down, reflect on the day and chill out.

It's been boiling hot today, 40 degrees, and I was out all day visiting suppliers and fixers . I feel tired but relieved that all the contracts I agreed have been honoured. The next thing is to take possession of the computers, furniture and office property. After that I will chase the personnel consultant and then fly off to Mumbai to sort out our operation there.

I'm looking forward to going to Mumbai, it's very cosmopolitan. All the films, theatres and singers and poets are there. When I was there last time, I stayed in the Sea Princess 5* hotel. It overlooks the Indian Ocean. Brilliant!

Later...

Harry xx

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Kathmandu

Hi Harry.

How are you?

It's really good news that I don't need to get a visa for Nepal. I'm not free for another four weeks; that's when I have holidays. . The holidays are for two weeks. My mum has also got some plans for that time but I can put her off and tell her I only have one week in Pakistan. It's so exciting, isn't it. Well, it might not be for you because you are so well travelled. But for me it is. I will let you know the exact dates soon.

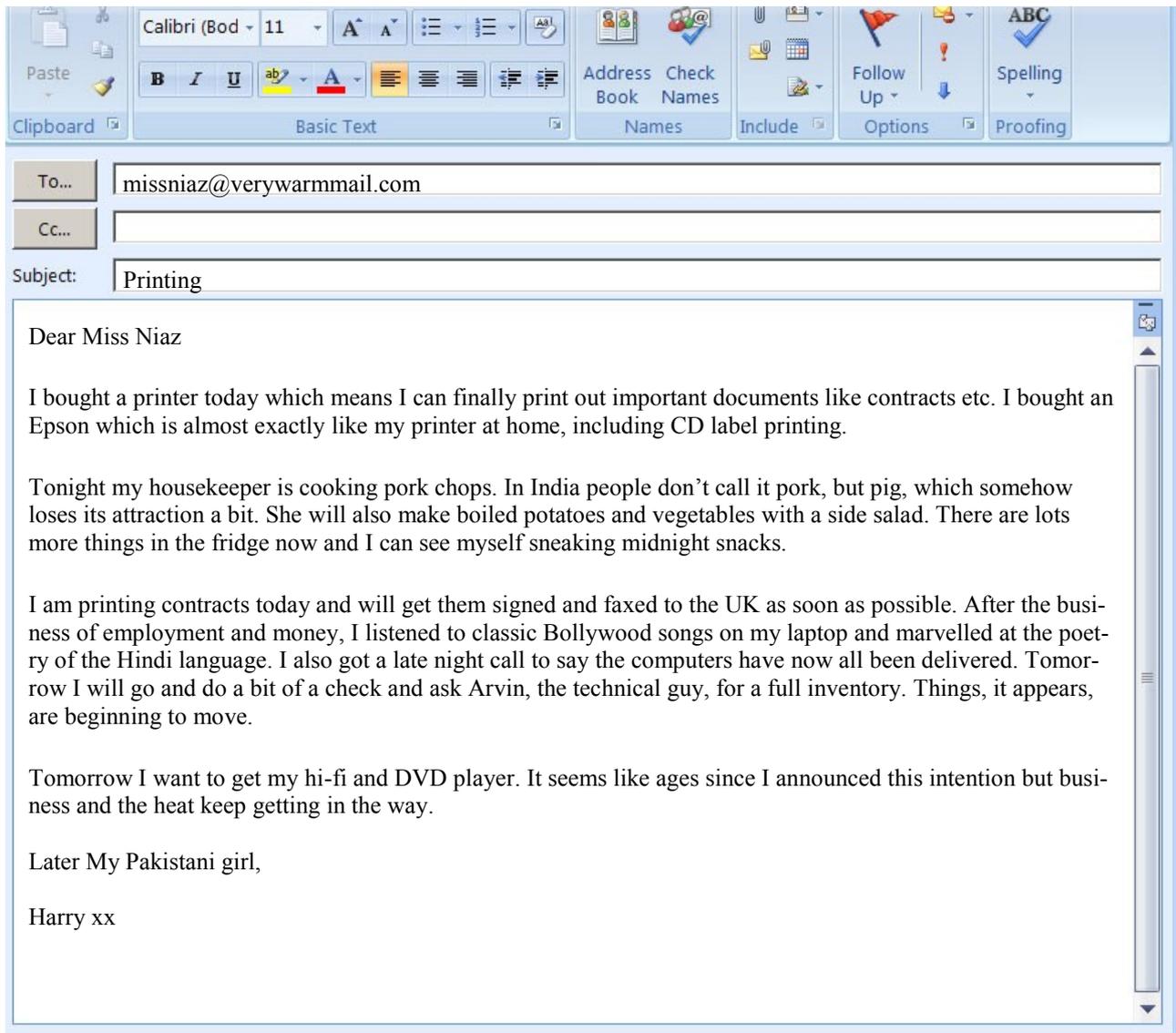
It's a Cosy evening here; it's 9 pm and I am in my balcony enjoying some really great evening breeze. For some reason, the trees look extra green & amazing. I have been a bit stressed in the past few days, courtesy of last minute revision and too many assignments amongst other things. Today actually was one of those days when everything seemed to be going too fast. I have been rushing around and not getting very much done. Anyway, tomorrow is another day and hopefully more productive.

I can't wait to see you again and will count down the days. Keep up with your diary of life in Delhi, I enjoy it.

Love

Saima x

harry says....



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. At the top, there is a ribbon with various toolbars including 'Clipboard', 'Basic Text', 'Names', 'Include', 'Options', and 'Proofing'. Below the ribbon, the email fields are visible: 'To...' with the address 'missniaz@verywarmmail.com', 'Cc...' which is empty, and 'Subject:' with the text 'Printing'. The main body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz

I bought a printer today which means I can finally print out important documents like contracts etc. I bought an Epson which is almost exactly like my printer at home, including CD label printing.

Tonight my housekeeper is cooking pork chops. In India people don't call it pork, but pig, which somehow loses its attraction a bit. She will also make boiled potatoes and vegetables with a side salad. There are lots more things in the fridge now and I can see myself sneaking midnight snacks.

I am printing contracts today and will get them signed and faxed to the UK as soon as possible. After the business of employment and money, I listened to classic Bollywood songs on my laptop and marvelled at the poetry of the Hindi language. I also got a late night call to say the computers have now all been delivered. Tomorrow I will go and do a bit of a check and ask Arvin, the technical guy, for a full inventory. Things, it appears, are beginning to move.

Tomorrow I want to get my hi-fi and DVD player. It seems like ages since I announced this intention but business and the heat keep getting in the way.

Later My Pakistani girl,

Harry xx

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Hi Harry

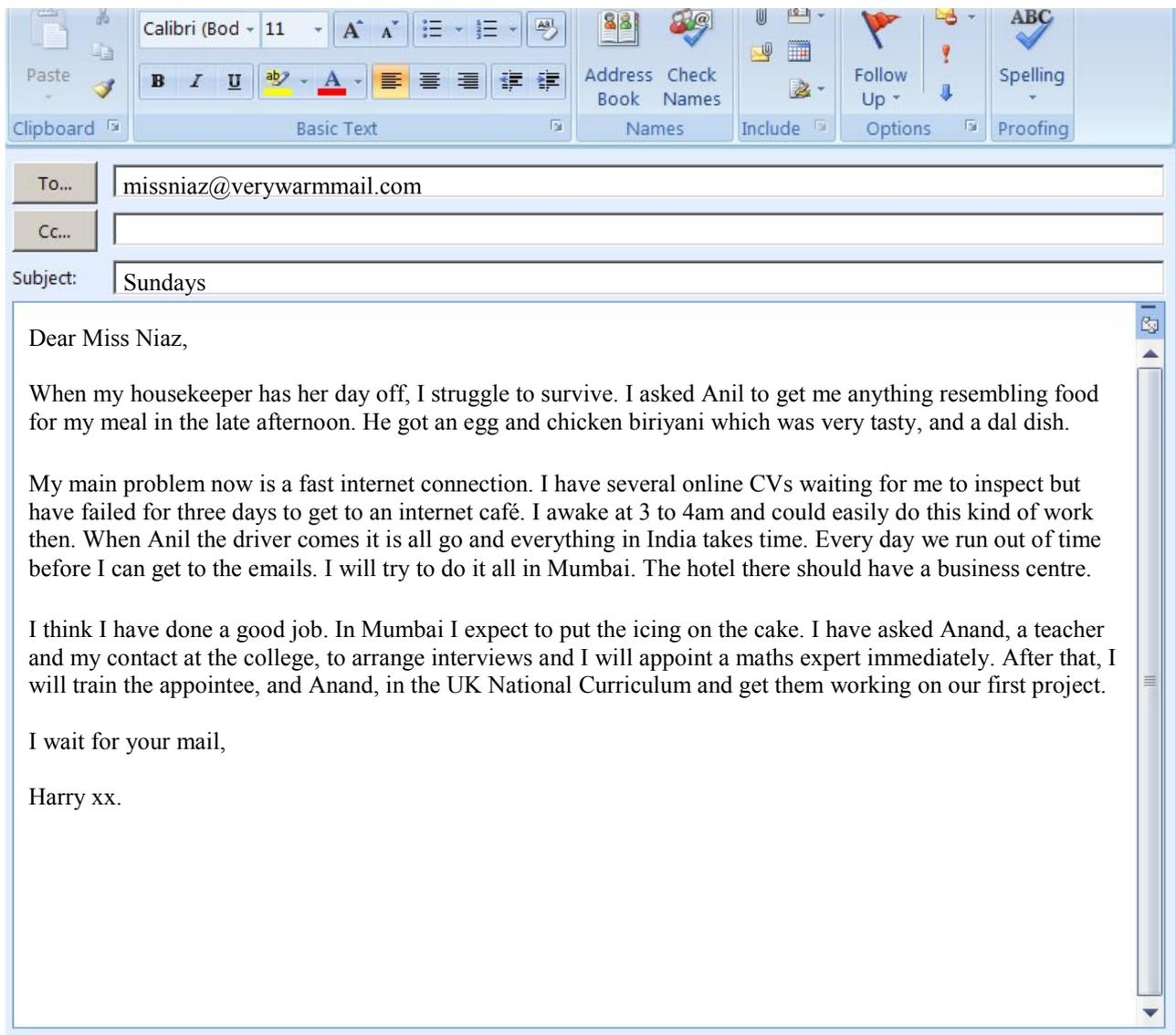
Hi Harry,

On Tuesday I was able to get home early, as my teacher was sick. I started out the afternoon running errands: groceries, picking up some fruit and vegetables from the market. Ladies know how it is! I love it, though. It makes me feel like I am actually being helpful and taking a burden off the shoulders of others. I then cooked up one of my father's favourite meals, aubergines, peppers and chickpeas, just in time for him to eat at dinner. Oh, and I burnt some of the supper, too. It was an accident but I think my mum will take it as a sign that I shouldn't be expected to cook too often!

Got to go now, busy, but will mail you later.

Love,
Saima x

harry says....



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. The top part features a ribbon with various toolbars including 'Clipboard', 'Basic Text', 'Names', 'Include', 'Options', and 'Proofing'. Below the ribbon, the email header shows the recipient as 'missniaz@verywarmmail.com' and the subject as 'Sundays'. The main body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

When my housekeeper has her day off, I struggle to survive. I asked Anil to get me anything resembling food for my meal in the late afternoon. He got an egg and chicken biriyani which was very tasty, and a dal dish.

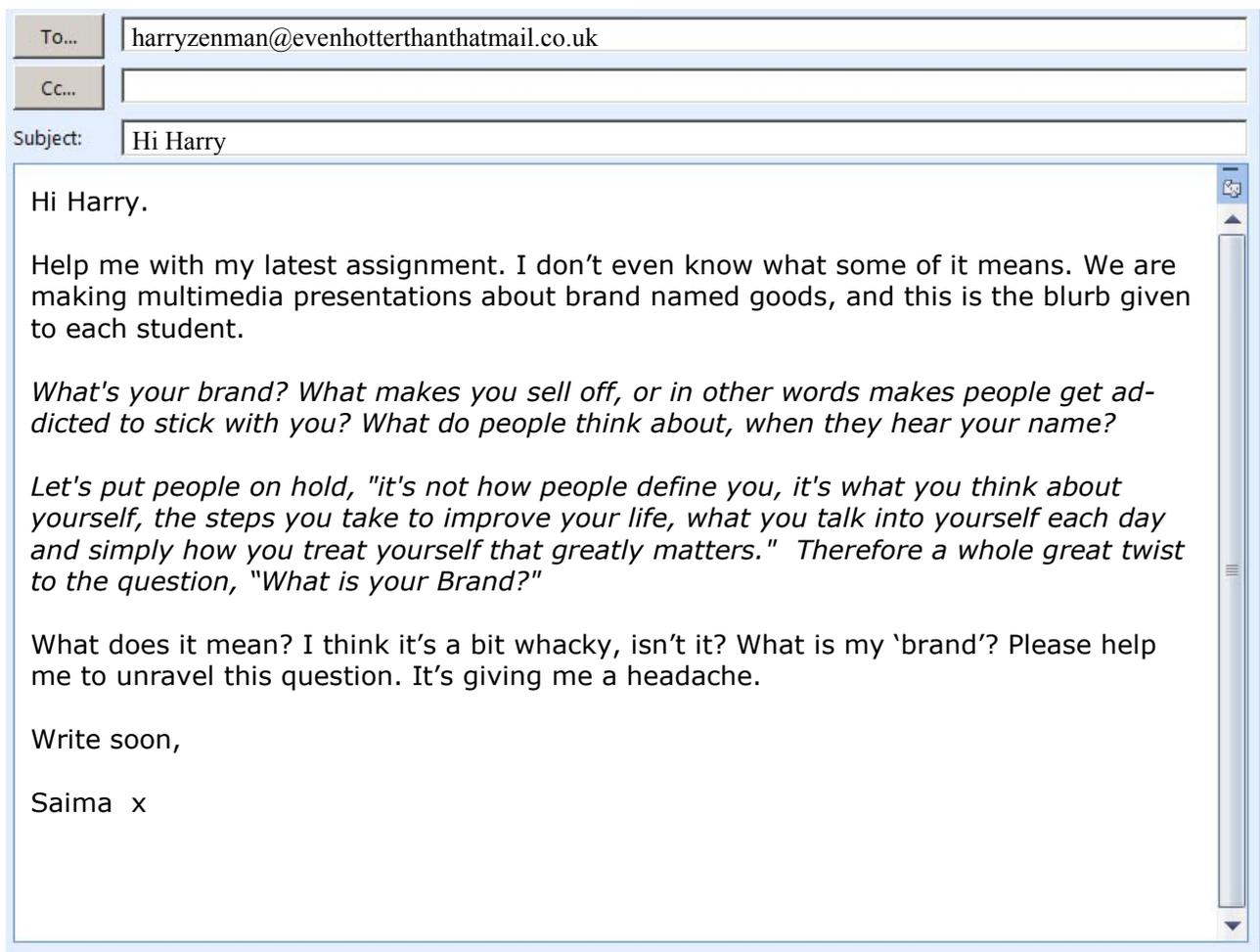
My main problem now is a fast internet connection. I have several online CVs waiting for me to inspect but have failed for three days to get to an internet café. I awake at 3 to 4am and could easily do this kind of work then. When Anil the driver comes it is all go and everything in India takes time. Every day we run out of time before I can get to the emails. I will try to do it all in Mumbai. The hotel there should have a business centre.

I think I have done a good job. In Mumbai I expect to put the icing on the cake. I have asked Anand, a teacher and my contact at the college, to arrange interviews and I will appoint a maths expert immediately. After that, I will train the appointee, and Anand, in the UK National Curriculum and get them working on our first project.

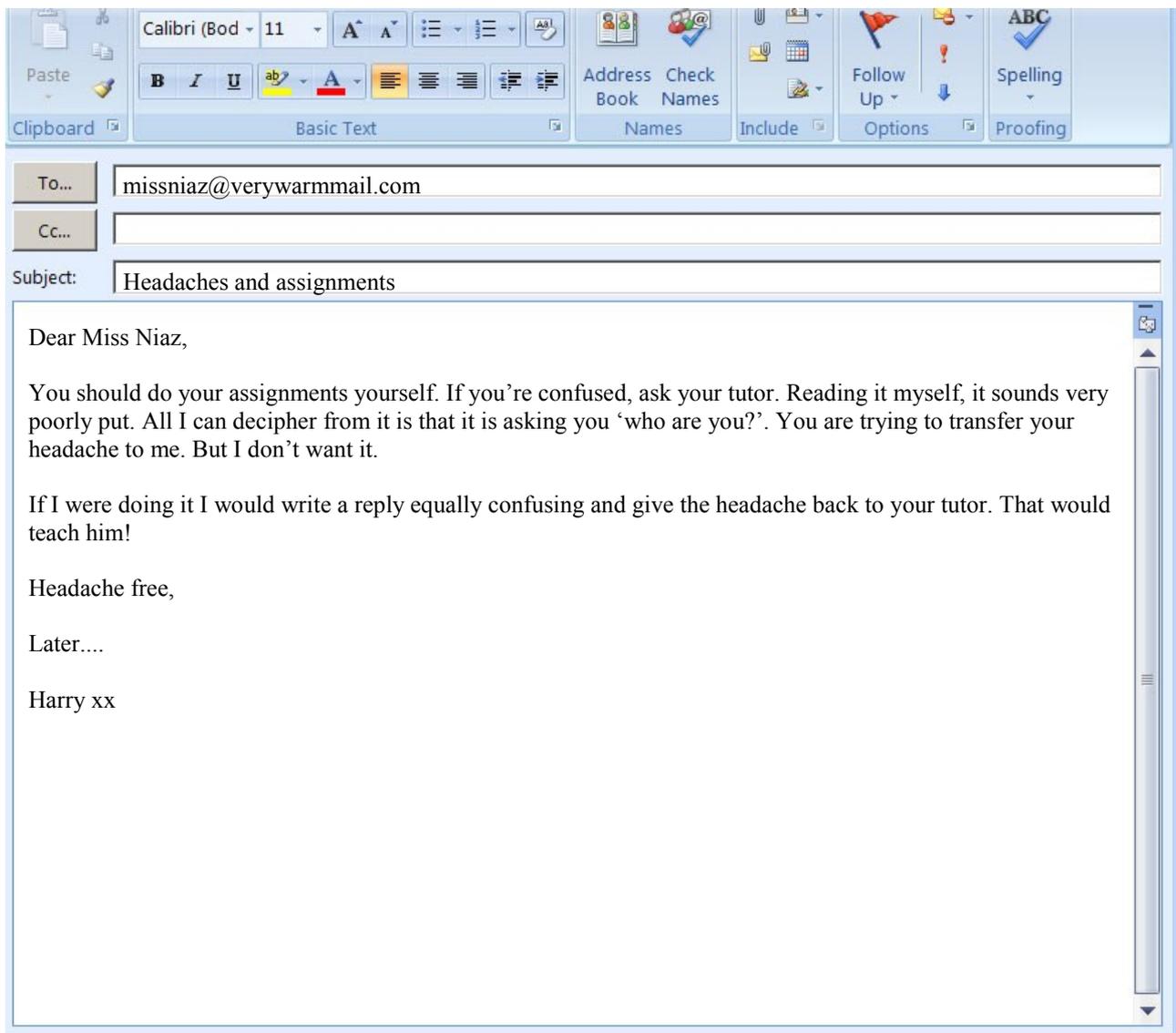
I wait for your mail,

Harry xx.

from saima



harry says....



harry says....

Clipboard

Calibri (Bod) 11

Paste

Basic Text

Address Book Names

Check Names

Include

Follow Up

Options

Spelling

Proofing

To... missniaz@verywarmmail.com

Cc...

Subject: Going to Mumbai

Dear Miss Niaz,

Today started off by my being very lazy. I woke up at about 5am and my housekeeper came at 7. She made me my breakfast and then I lay down and fell asleep again for a few hours. I was due to go to Mumbai on a 12.50 flight and so had decided to rest until it was time to go. I had set tasks for all the staff the previous day and so could just lay back and enjoy the morning. Eventually, I got washed, dressed and packed and we set off to the airport.

The flight was fine. It takes about 90 minutes and by the time the lunch has been served and cleared up, there are only about 20 minutes left before landing. We landed in a monsoon downpour and I noticed with some satisfaction that no-one else on the plane had a raincoat either. The problem is that, although it was raining, the temperature was still 30 Celsius. There was a very strong breeze as well. We had to board a bus from the plane to the terminal and at the baggage retrieval my case was one of the first off the carousel which was pleasant.

I usually stay at the Sea Princess 5* hotel (pictures attached). It backs on to the Indian Ocean. It's 30 minutes past midnight and the distant roar of Mumbai traffic reaches me through the monsoon winds. The Indian Ocean is thrashing itself against the beach. I am going to try to get a few hours sleep, if it comes, and tomorrow is another day.

Dreaming of the Ocean,

Harry xx

Attachments



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Stressed

Hi Harry.

How are you?

I'm afraid I won't be too cheerful today. I've been quite stressed. There are so many assignments that need completing, it's put me in a bit of a spin. They grow on you, you know. The teachers keep giving out assignments with quite long deadlines. And then, the deadlines suddenly approach without notice and I have found myself snowed under.

I have been very lazy then. I thought I was doing very well but obviously I didn't put enough time in. That's probably why I have been enjoying college so much. Now I realise there is real work to do. I wish I had realised all this earlier.

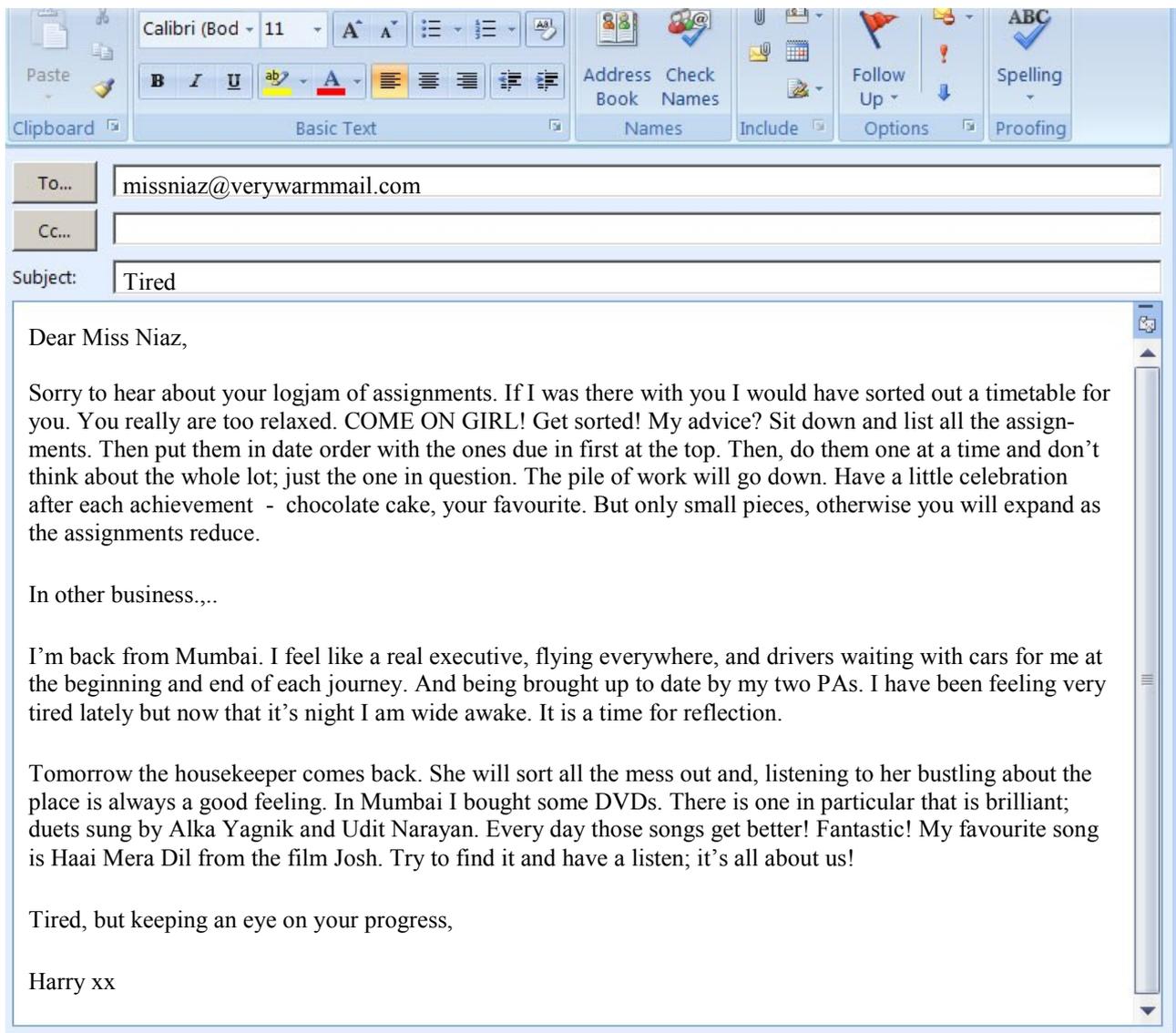
Instead of working I just cancelled yesterday and listened to music. Then I went shopping for wedding clothes with my mum and my sister. Anyway, I've got to go and get on with my work, if it comes.

Send me a cheerful mail with funny stories please, to cheer me up and spur me on.

Love

Saima x

harry says....



The screenshot shows an email client window. The top toolbar includes options for font (Calibri, size 11), bold, italic, underline, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, and link. There are also buttons for 'Address Book', 'Check Names', 'Follow Up', and 'Spelling'. The email header shows the recipient as 'missniaz@verywarmmail.com' and the subject as 'Tired'. The body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

Sorry to hear about your logjam of assignments. If I was there with you I would have sorted out a timetable for you. You really are too relaxed. COME ON GIRL! Get sorted! My advice? Sit down and list all the assignments. Then put them in date order with the ones due in first at the top. Then, do them one at a time and don't think about the whole lot; just the one in question. The pile of work will go down. Have a little celebration after each achievement - chocolate cake, your favourite. But only small pieces, otherwise you will expand as the assignments reduce.

In other business...

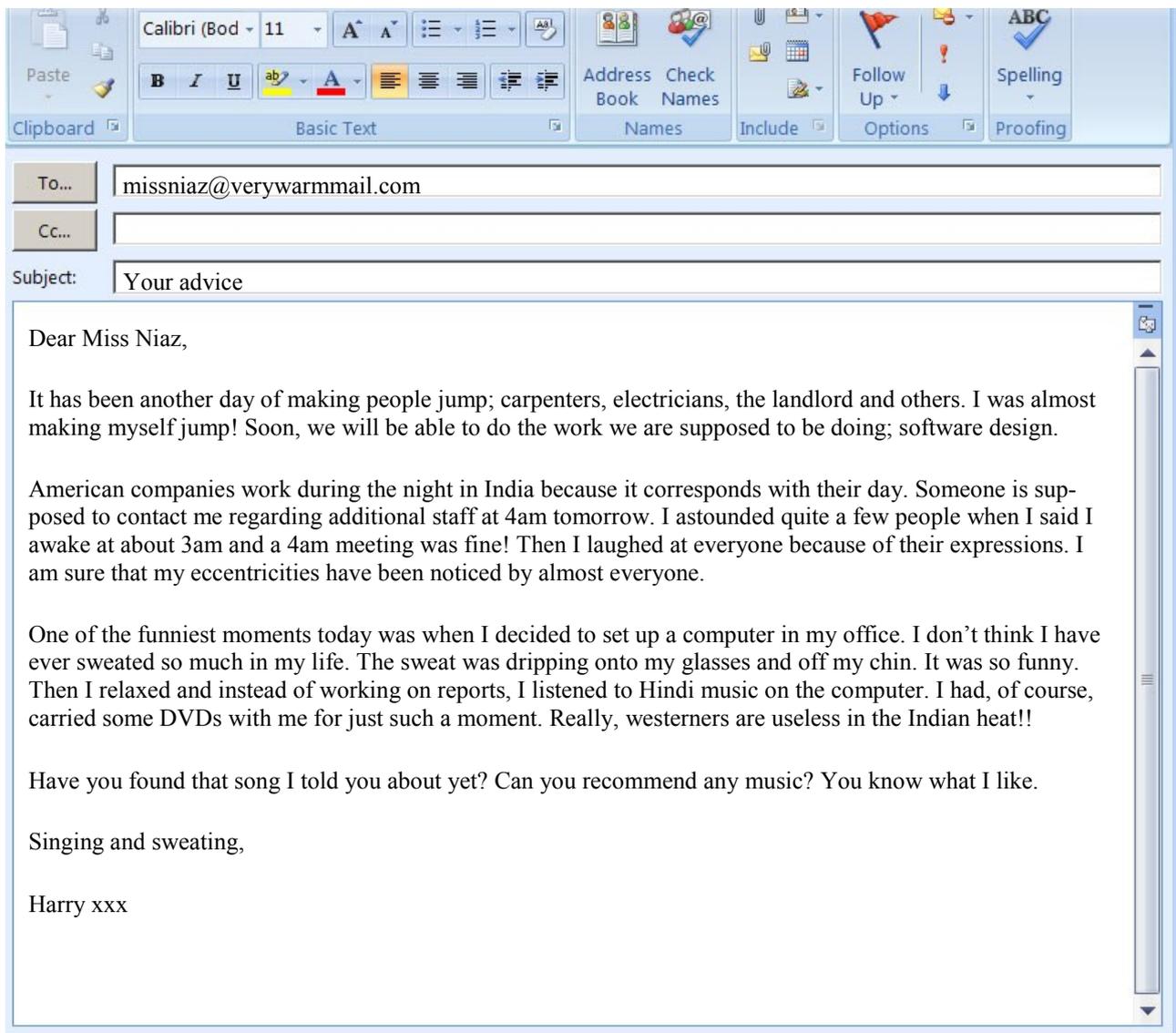
I'm back from Mumbai. I feel like a real executive, flying everywhere, and drivers waiting with cars for me at the beginning and end of each journey. And being brought up to date by my two PAs. I have been feeling very tired lately but now that it's night I am wide awake. It is a time for reflection.

Tomorrow the housekeeper comes back. She will sort all the mess out and, listening to her bustling about the place is always a good feeling. In Mumbai I bought some DVDs. There is one in particular that is brilliant; duets sung by Alka Yagnik and Udit Narayan. Every day those songs get better! Fantastic! My favourite song is Haai Mera Dil from the film Josh. Try to find it and have a listen; it's all about us!

Tired, but keeping an eye on your progress,

Harry xx

harry says....



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. The top part features a ribbon with various toolbars including 'Clipboard', 'Basic Text', 'Names', 'Include', 'Options', and 'Proofing'. Below the ribbon, the email header fields are visible: 'To...' with the address 'missniaz@verywarmmail.com', 'Cc...' which is empty, and 'Subject:' with the text 'Your advice'. The main body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

It has been another day of making people jump; carpenters, electricians, the landlord and others. I was almost making myself jump! Soon, we will be able to do the work we are supposed to be doing; software design.

American companies work during the night in India because it corresponds with their day. Someone is supposed to contact me regarding additional staff at 4am tomorrow. I astounded quite a few people when I said I awake at about 3am and a 4am meeting was fine! Then I laughed at everyone because of their expressions. I am sure that my eccentricities have been noticed by almost everyone.

One of the funniest moments today was when I decided to set up a computer in my office. I don't think I have ever sweated so much in my life. The sweat was dripping onto my glasses and off my chin. It was so funny. Then I relaxed and instead of working on reports, I listened to Hindi music on the computer. I had, of course, carried some DVDs with me for just such a moment. Really, westerners are useless in the Indian heat!!

Have you found that song I told you about yet? Can you recommend any music? You know what I like.

Singing and sweating,

Harry xxx

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Your advice

Hi Harry,

Hope you're well, my 'teacher'. I have taken your advice and sorted out the order of the assignments. It's going steady now and I'm not panicking any more about the workload.

I enjoyed your last mail about going to a 4am meeting. I've had loved to see their faces. I know what it's like; you woke me up enough times at 3 or 4am with some bright spark of an idea. I can sleep peacefully now, knowing I can wake up at a sensible time, like 7am. But I do miss you. I think I'd rather be woken at 3am and be with you, rather than waking later in an empty bed.

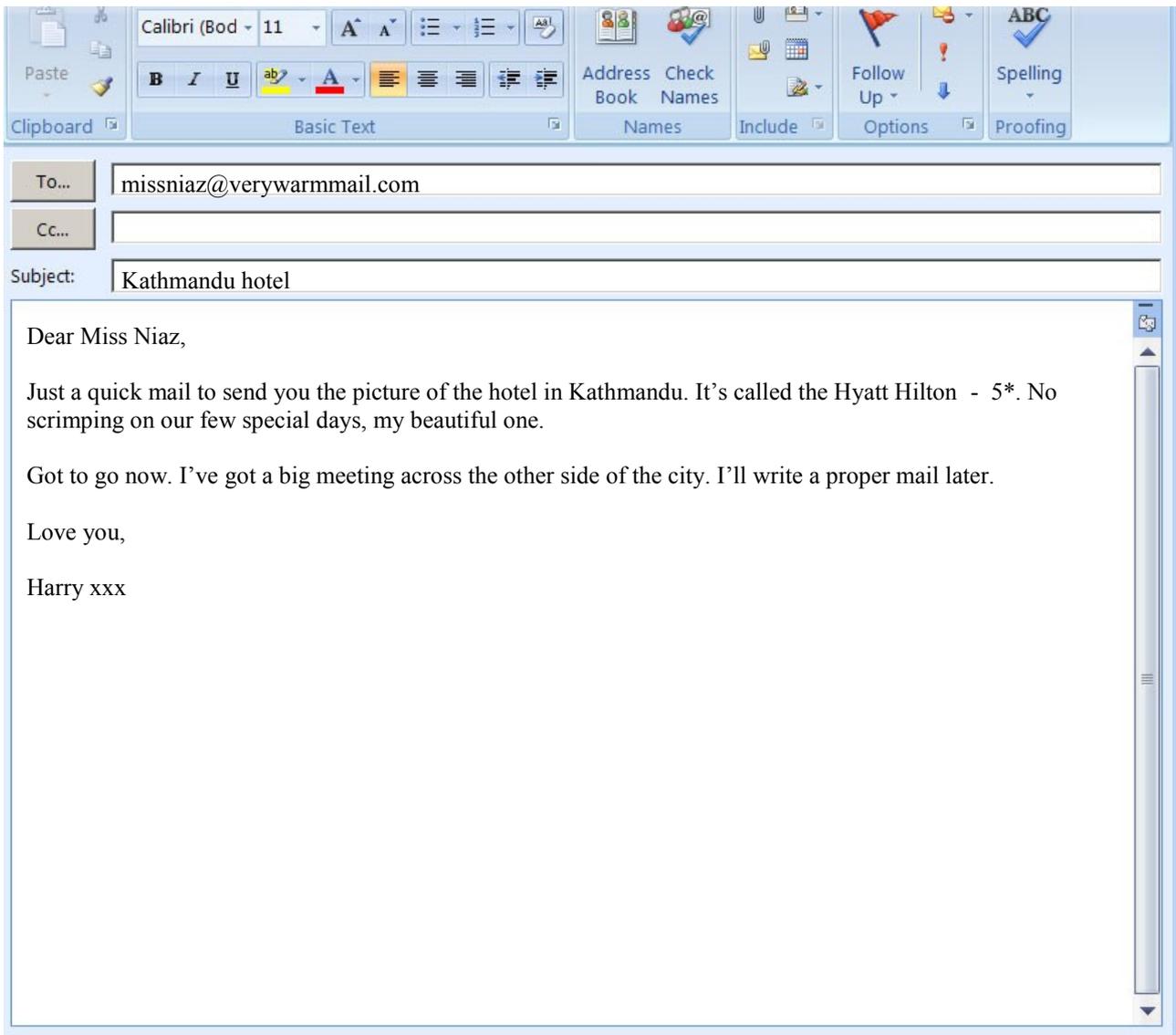
I can't wait for the break so we can fly to Kathmandu and be together for a whole week. Have you booked the hotel yet? Send me some links so I can see it and places to visit as well. I am quite excited by the whole thing. I've told my family that it's for college and it's a girls only trip. You know what they're like. I don't know yet how I'm going to get to the airport without all the family tagging along to see me off. If they do, they'll soon realise I'm lying.

Anyway, it's back to the college assignments now.

Love

Saima x

harry says....



The screenshot shows an email client window. The toolbar at the top includes options for Clipboard, Basic Text (with bold, italic, underline, and color options), Names (with Address Book and Check Names), Include, Options (with Follow Up and a warning icon), and Proofing (with ABC and Spelling). The email header shows:

To... missniaz@verywarmmail.com
Cc...
Subject: Kathmandu hotel

The body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

Just a quick mail to send you the picture of the hotel in Kathmandu. It's called the Hyatt Hilton - 5*. No scrimping on our few special days, my beautiful one.

Got to go now. I've got a big meeting across the other side of the city. I'll write a proper mail later.

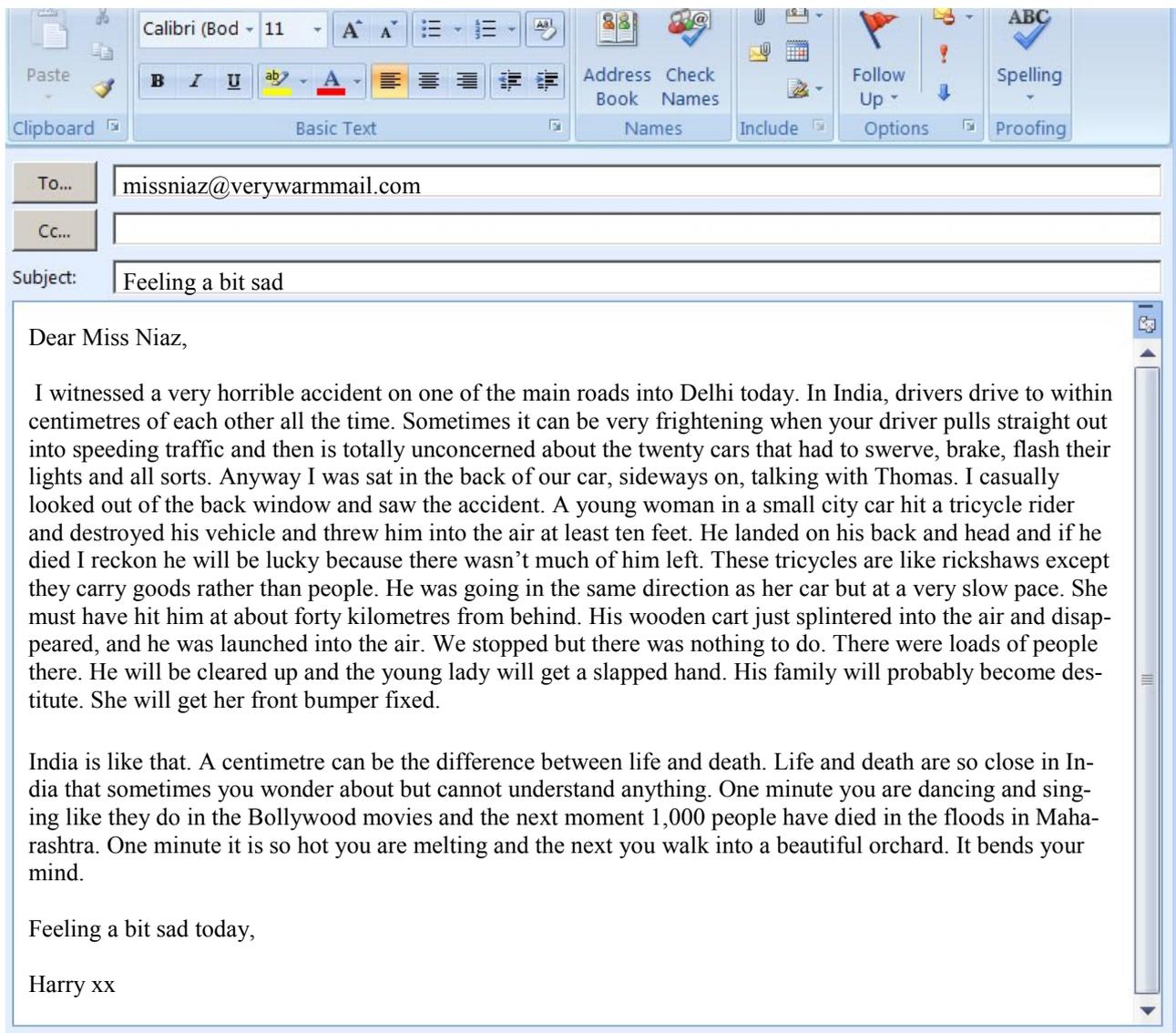
Love you,

Harry xxx

Attachments



harry says....



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. The top part features a ribbon with various toolbars including 'Clipboard', 'Basic Text', 'Names', 'Include', 'Options', and 'Proofing'. Below the ribbon, the email header shows the recipient as 'missniaz@verywarmmail.com', the subject as 'Feeling a bit sad', and the sender as 'Harry xx'. The main body of the email contains two paragraphs of text describing a traffic accident in India and a reflection on the fragility of life.

To... missniaz@verywarmmail.com

Cc...

Subject: Feeling a bit sad

Dear Miss Niaz,

I witnessed a very horrible accident on one of the main roads into Delhi today. In India, drivers drive to within centimetres of each other all the time. Sometimes it can be very frightening when your driver pulls straight out into speeding traffic and then is totally unconcerned about the twenty cars that had to swerve, brake, flash their lights and all sorts. Anyway I was sat in the back of our car, sideways on, talking with Thomas. I casually looked out of the back window and saw the accident. A young woman in a small city car hit a tricycle rider and destroyed his vehicle and threw him into the air at least ten feet. He landed on his back and head and if he died I reckon he will be lucky because there wasn't much of him left. These tricycles are like rickshaws except they carry goods rather than people. He was going in the same direction as her car but at a very slow pace. She must have hit him at about forty kilometres from behind. His wooden cart just splintered into the air and disappeared, and he was launched into the air. We stopped but there was nothing to do. There were loads of people there. He will be cleared up and the young lady will get a slapped hand. His family will probably become destitute. She will get her front bumper fixed.

India is like that. A centimetre can be the difference between life and death. Life and death are so close in India that sometimes you wonder about but cannot understand anything. One minute you are dancing and singing like they do in the Bollywood movies and the next moment 1,000 people have died in the floods in Maharashtra. One minute it is so hot you are melting and the next you walk into a beautiful orchard. It bends your mind.

Feeling a bit sad today,

Harry xx

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Sad and happy both

Hi Harry,

Your story about the accident made me very sad. That's one thing about living in the UK; the care and attention is very good. I hope the wife and kids are looked after, but probably they wont be.

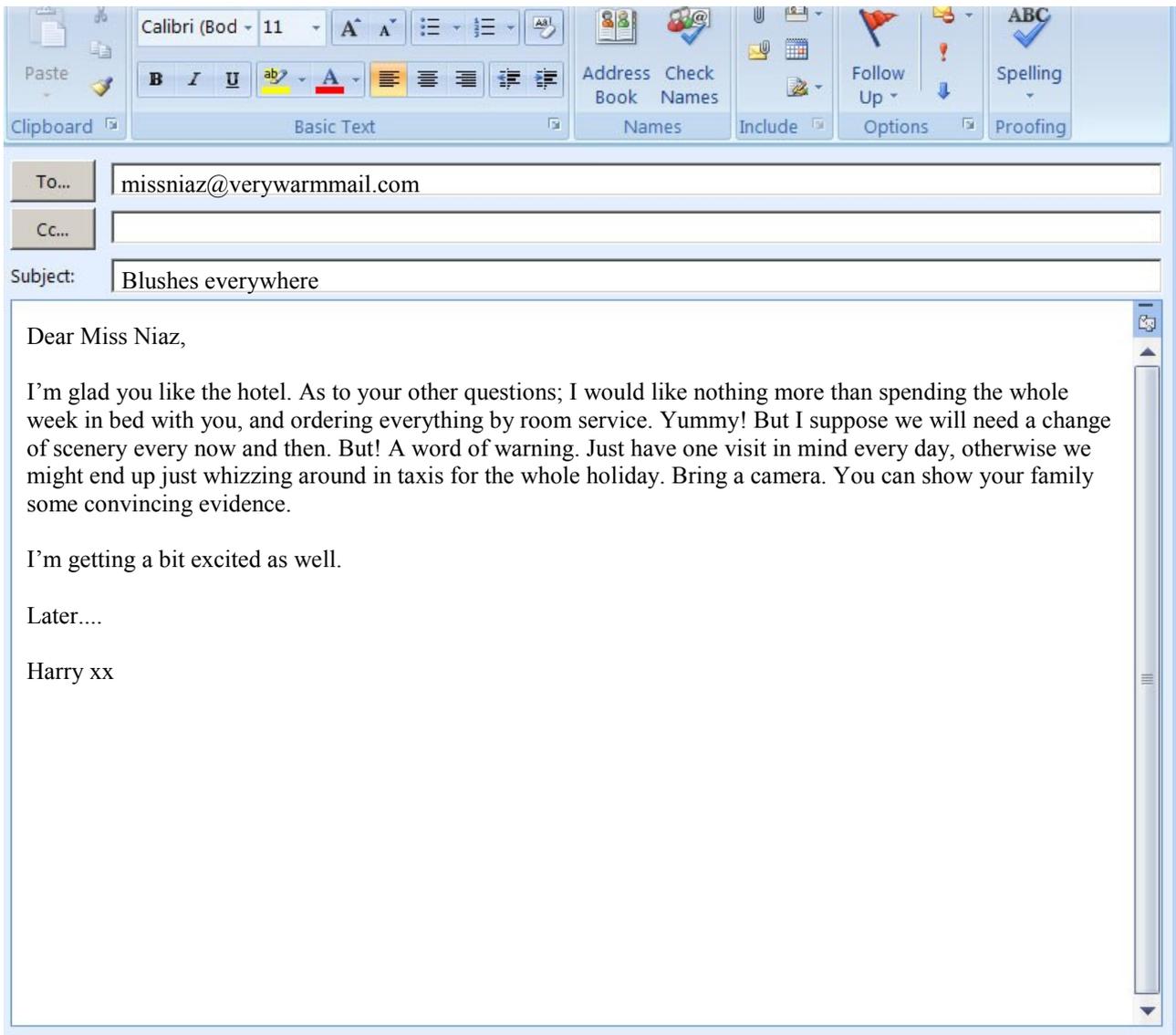
Thanks for the picture of the hotel. Why did you book such an expensive one? A three star one would have been fine. But you are always the one for grand gestures, I suppose. Anyway, I am very excited now and looked up the hotel on the Internet. It looks so good inside as well. One question. Will we be going sight seeing as well, or do you intend to stay in the hotel room for the whole week? Blush.... I think we should see some sights in Kathmandu, at least. Shall I do some research and come up with a few alternatives?

Let me know,

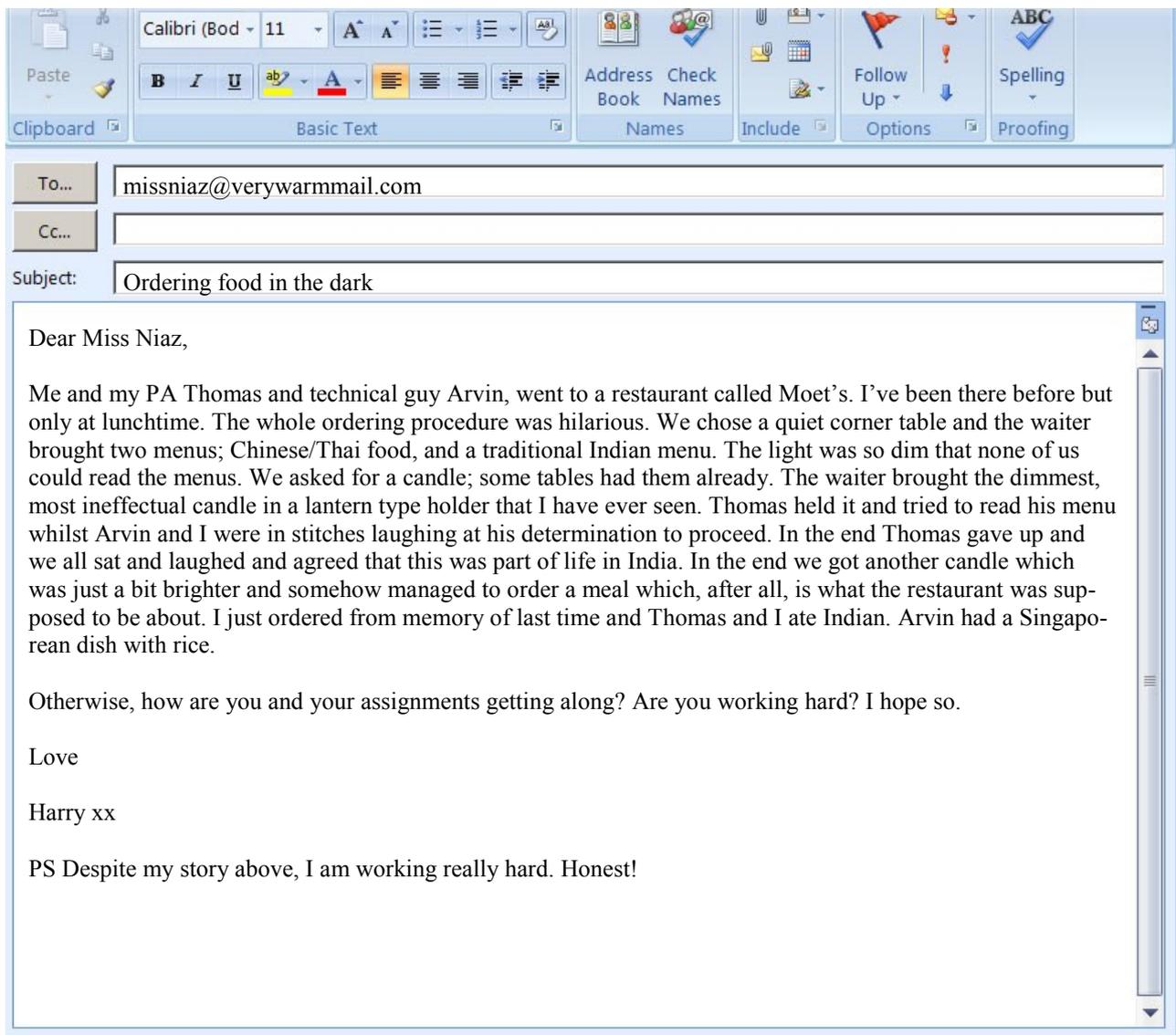
Love

Saima x

harry says....



harry says....



The screenshot shows an email client interface with a toolbar at the top. The toolbar includes a Clipboard section with a Paste button, a Basic Text section with Bold (B), Italic (I), Underline (U), text color (A), background color (ab), bulleted list, numbered list, and indent list buttons, and a Proofing section with Address Book, Check Names, Follow Up, and Spelling buttons. Below the toolbar, the email fields are filled: To... missniaz@verywarmmail.com, Cc... (empty), and Subject: Ordering food in the dark. The main body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

Me and my PA Thomas and technical guy Arvin, went to a restaurant called Moet's. I've been there before but only at lunchtime. The whole ordering procedure was hilarious. We chose a quiet corner table and the waiter brought two menus; Chinese/Thai food, and a traditional Indian menu. The light was so dim that none of us could read the menus. We asked for a candle; some tables had them already. The waiter brought the dimmest, most ineffectual candle in a lantern type holder that I have ever seen. Thomas held it and tried to read his menu whilst Arvin and I were in stitches laughing at his determination to proceed. In the end Thomas gave up and we all sat and laughed and agreed that this was part of life in India. In the end we got another candle which was just a bit brighter and somehow managed to order a meal which, after all, is what the restaurant was supposed to be about. I just ordered from memory of last time and Thomas and I ate Indian. Arvin had a Singaporean dish with rice.

Otherwise, how are you and your assignments getting along? Are you working hard? I hope so.

Love

Harry xx

PS Despite my story above, I am working really hard. Honest!

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Food and candles

Hi Harry,

Your life in Delhi seems to be just one big party! The story was really funny. I suppose the restaurant was trying to be upmarket.

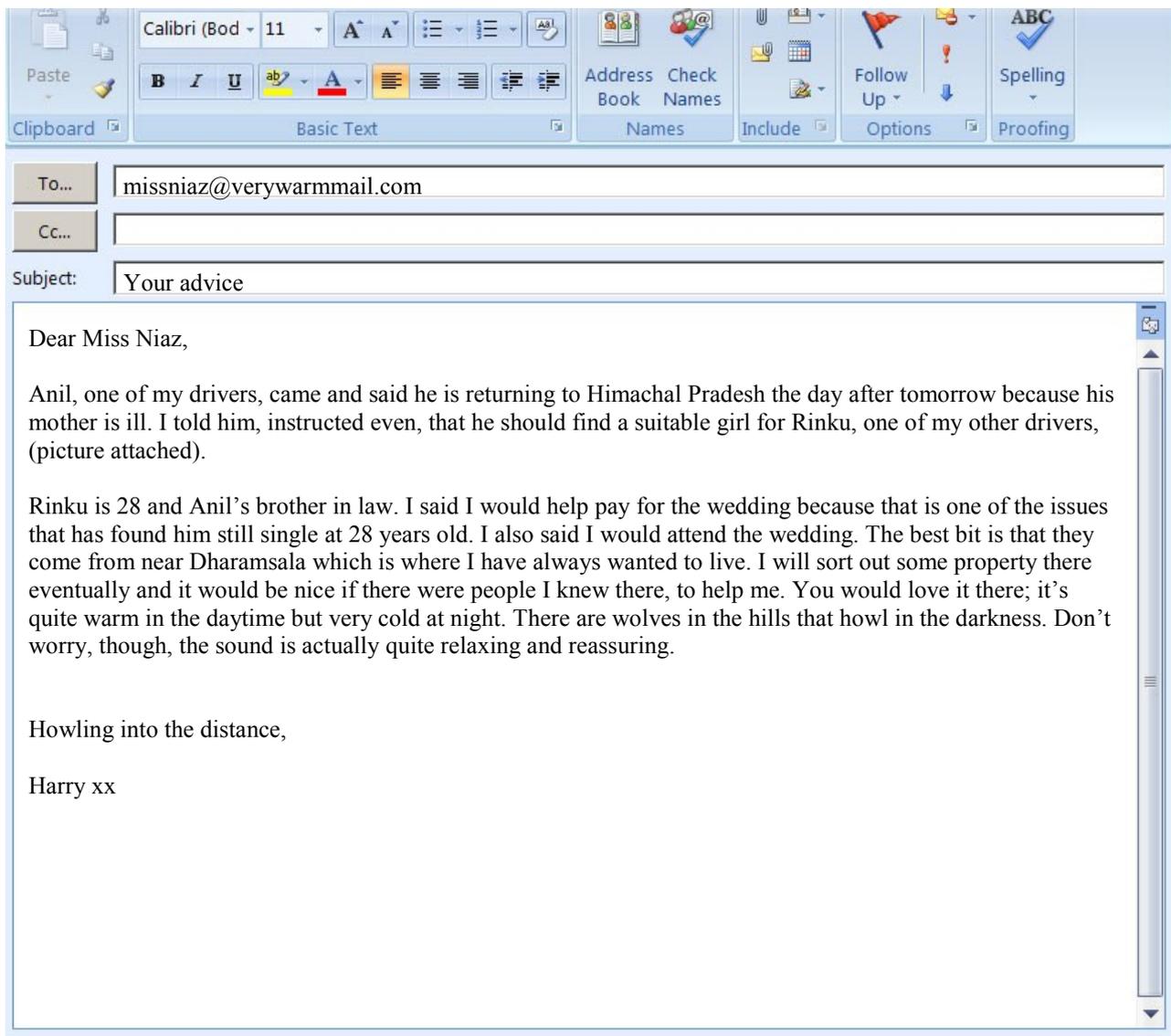
I've been up to my ears in my sister's wedding preparations. I have been studying as well though, before you start telling me off. We have got most of the dresses and jewellery sorted out now and my father has booked a huge hall in the city centre for the reception. Yesterday we were tasting wedding cakes to decide which was the best one. Really, it was difficult to choose; I was stuffed by the end. It's OK, I won't have a belly to show you when we meet! I won't tell you any more about the wedding preparations because I know you will be yawning at it all.

In other news, I got a B for one assignment which is OK I suppose, but I want to improve on that next time. The next one is nearly finished and due in next Monday. Back to the grindstone I suppose. But we did bring back a box full of cake samples, so I think I better have another taste before I start writing the assignment.

Getting chubbier,

Saima x

harry says....



The screenshot shows an email client interface with a toolbar at the top. The toolbar includes options for font (Calibri, size 11), bold, italic, underline, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, and indent. There are also buttons for 'Address Book', 'Check Names', 'Follow Up', and 'Spelling'. Below the toolbar, the 'To...' field contains 'missniaz@verywarmmail.com', the 'Cc...' field is empty, and the 'Subject:' field contains 'Your advice'. The main body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

Anil, one of my drivers, came and said he is returning to Himachal Pradesh the day after tomorrow because his mother is ill. I told him, instructed even, that he should find a suitable girl for Rinku, one of my other drivers, (picture attached).

Rinku is 28 and Anil's brother in law. I said I would help pay for the wedding because that is one of the issues that has found him still single at 28 years old. I also said I would attend the wedding. The best bit is that they come from near Dharamsala which is where I have always wanted to live. I will sort out some property there eventually and it would be nice if there were people I knew there, to help me. You would love it there; it's quite warm in the daytime but very cold at night. There are wolves in the hills that howl in the darkness. Don't worry, though, the sound is actually quite relaxing and reassuring.

Howling into the distance,

Harry xx

Attachments



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Matchmaking

Hi Harry,

Since when did you become a matchmaker, sorting out your staff? Is it the talk of my sister's wedding that has got you all romantic? I bet that has something to do with it.

And you never told me about your plans to retire in the Himalayas. When were you going to tell me? I know you think I am too young for you, and all the cultural stuff and the bit about my father chopping you up into bite sized pieces, but what if we did end up together? I still want you and although I realise your arguments are probably true, it is still my dream to be with you.

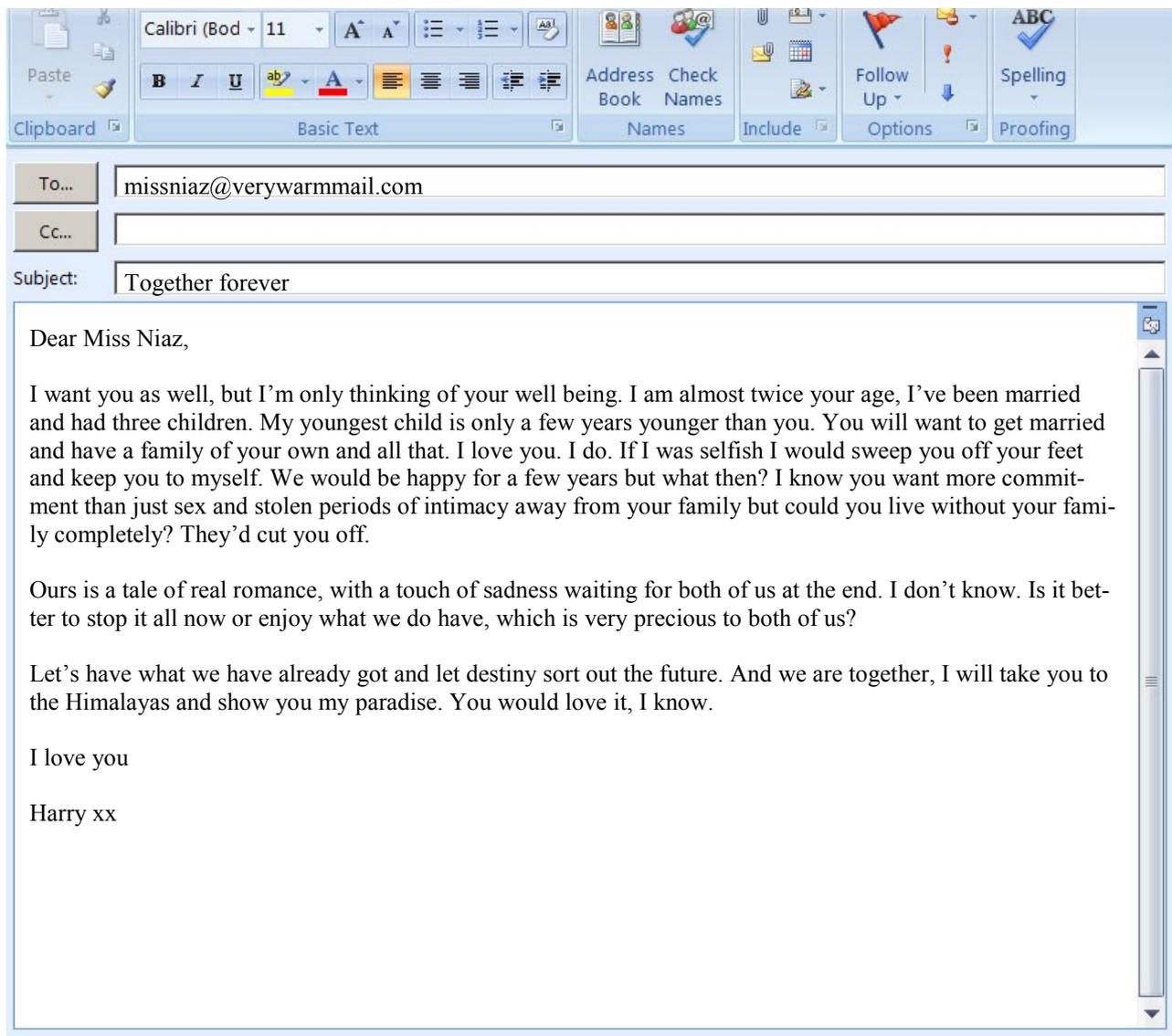
You should share your dreams with me and be more serious about us being together. Culture and religion are strong reasons but can't we overcome them? Are you surrendering without a fight?

I dream of us being one, together,

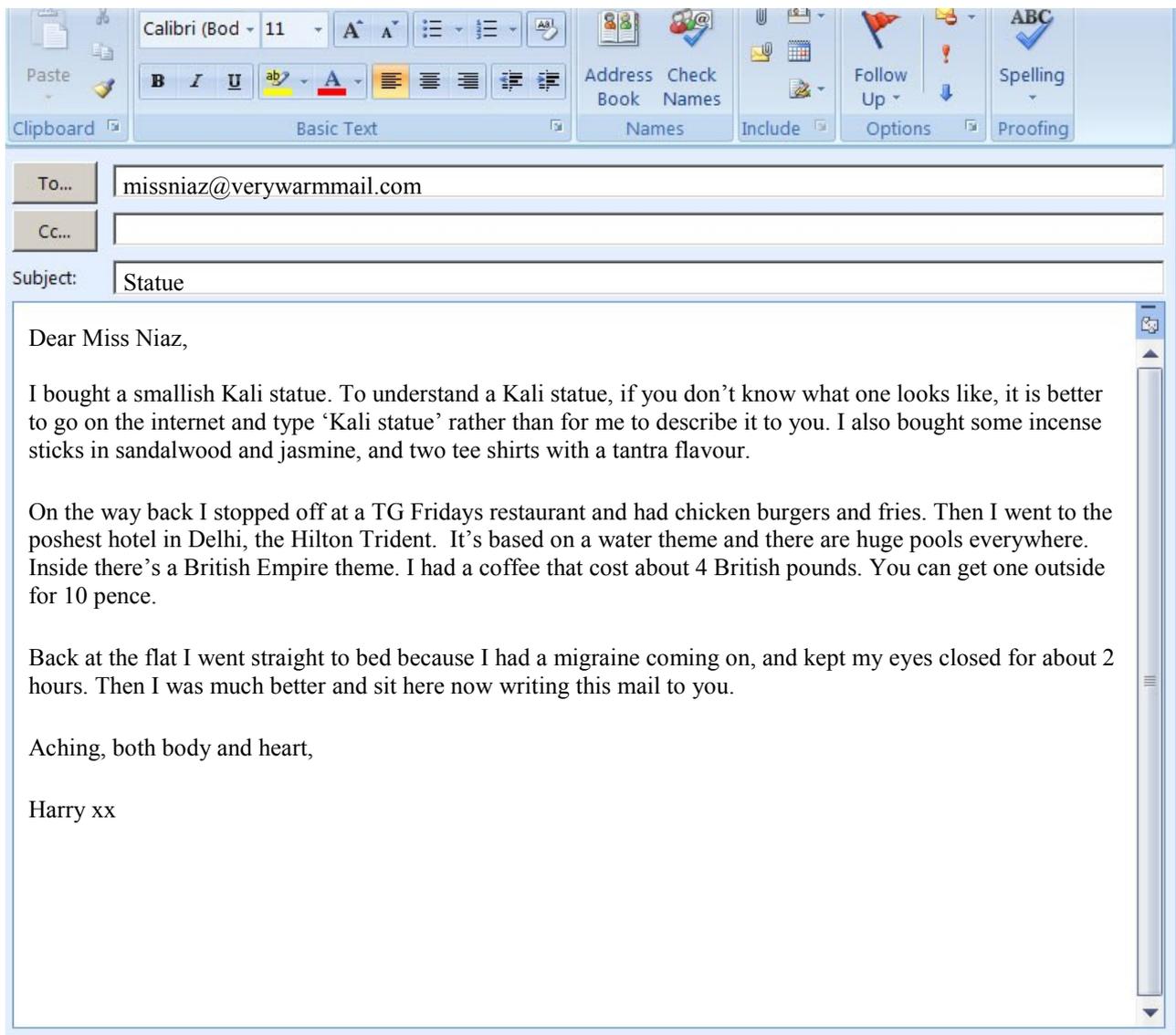
Disappointed and sad,

Saima x

harry says....



harry says....



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Hi Harry

Hi Harry,

I looked up Kali on the Internet and found out all about her. It sounds a bit frightening to me, having a statue in your home with a necklace of skulls.

Why did you feel the need to spend so much on a cup of tea in a hotel? Although, I suppose you are paying for the decor and atmosphere. I am answering my own questions, aren't I?

I've done all my clothes shopping for our Nepal break and am ready. You probably haven't thought about new clothes and holiday preparations have you? You are a typical man! If I were there with you I'd get you a whole new wardrobe of clothing; you could probably do with one.

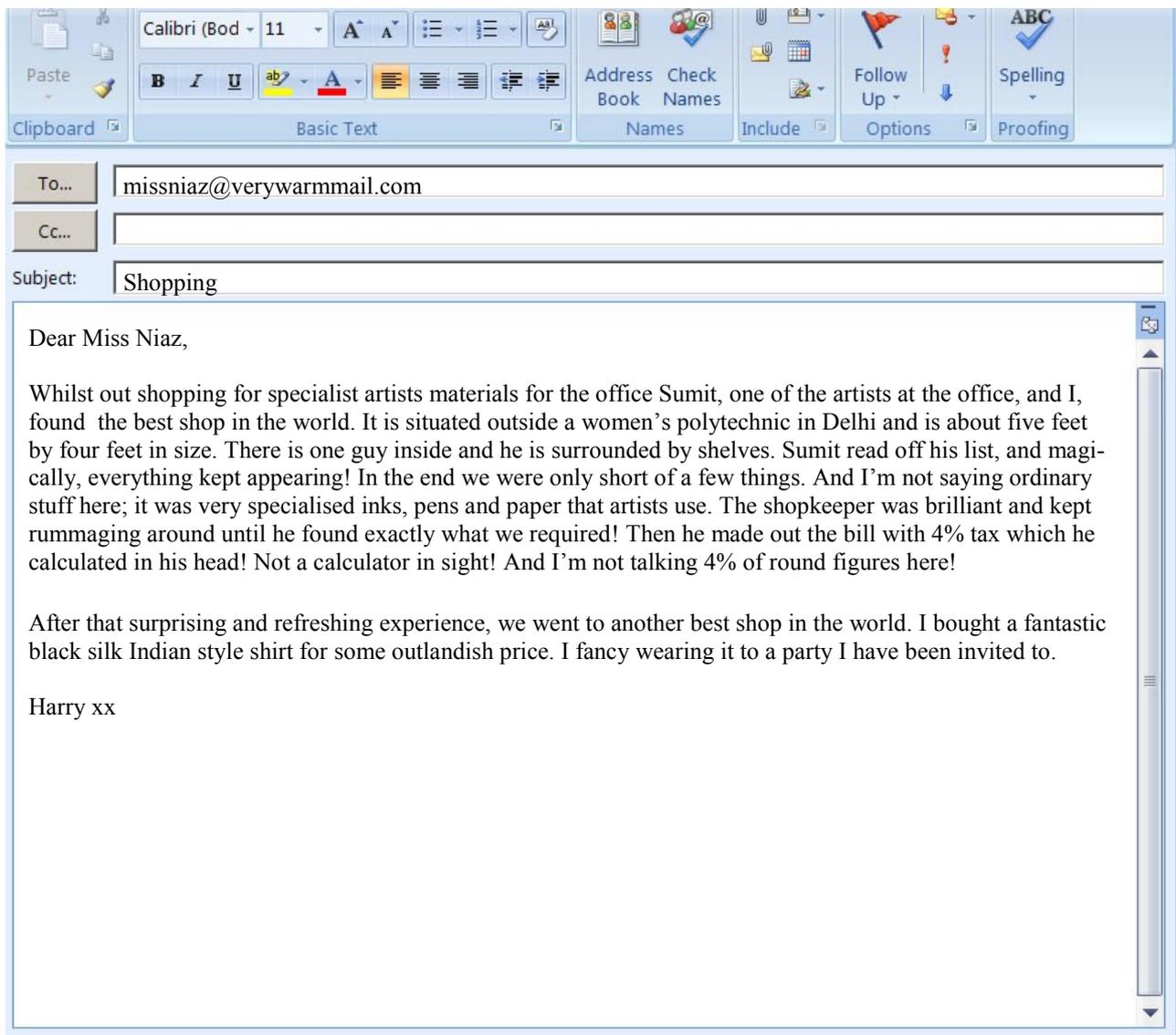
I think you will be complaining soon that I am getting too bossy with you, more like a wife than a girlfriend. Sorry!

Write soon,

Back to the grindstone of studying for me,

Saima x

harry says....



from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Hi Harry

Hi Harry,

It was interesting to hear about the shopping you did for specialist artists materials in Delhi. Outside my college there are also lots of shops, well hardly shops, tiny and in-substantial, that hold so much specialist stuff, it almost unbelievable. I love those tiny places!

Talking about shopping, I've been having withdrawal symptoms for western food. I found a Pizza Hut and that helped a bit, but I do sometimes miss the real junk food I loved to eat in the UK. There are three Pizza Huts in Lahore, poster attached.

I can't wait to see you in your black silk shirt. Bring it with you to Kathmandu. I also have a black dress. It's too short to wear here because I'd probably get arrested!! But I'll bring it with me.

Have you sorted out the tickets and stuff for the trip? Let me know.

Getting excited,

Love,

Saima x

Attachments



harry says....

The screenshot shows an email client window with a ribbon-style menu at the top. The ribbon includes sections for Clipboard, Basic Text, Names, Include, Options, and Proofing. The email header shows the recipient as missniaz@verywarmmail.com and the subject as 'idiocy'. The body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

Every day I am amazed by both the brilliance and stupidity of Indians. One chap, an animator, Sumit Chitkara, has been working for four days and only today told me he is working in the artists section because he has no computer on his allocated desk. The two technical support guys couldn't understand that there was a problem! We have two technical support people for 20 posts, probably the highest ratio ever! They can't sort out 20 computers between them. I really think I could do both their jobs with my limited skills. In India you can't assume anything and have to check every little detail and prise answers out of the workers.

Anyway, regarding the flights, I've researched and found the following information. No flights from Lahore airport; you'll have to go to Islamabad. I will confirm that I have booked the tickets soon. All you have to do is get on the plane. I will sort everything else out. Your plane arrives at about 3pm every day. From Delhi I will arrive at 1pm. I will arrive before your plane so that I will be there to meet you. So you don't have to worry about being on your own.

Almost there,

Harry xx

Attachments

Islamabad	Kathmandu	2	PK269	1155	1505	-	2h25m
Kathmandu	Islamabad	2	PK268	1700	1900	-	2h40m

IndiGo	New Delhi	→	Kathmandu	1hr 40min (Non Stop)	INR 9,804 All incl per adult	Book Now View Flight Details
	10 Apr, 11:05		10 Apr, 13:00			
	Kathmandu	→	New Delhi	1hr 45min (Non Stop)		
	14 Apr, 14:00		14 Apr, 15:30			

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Excitement

Hi Harry,

I'm so excited that you have researched the flights. I feel that we are almost there!

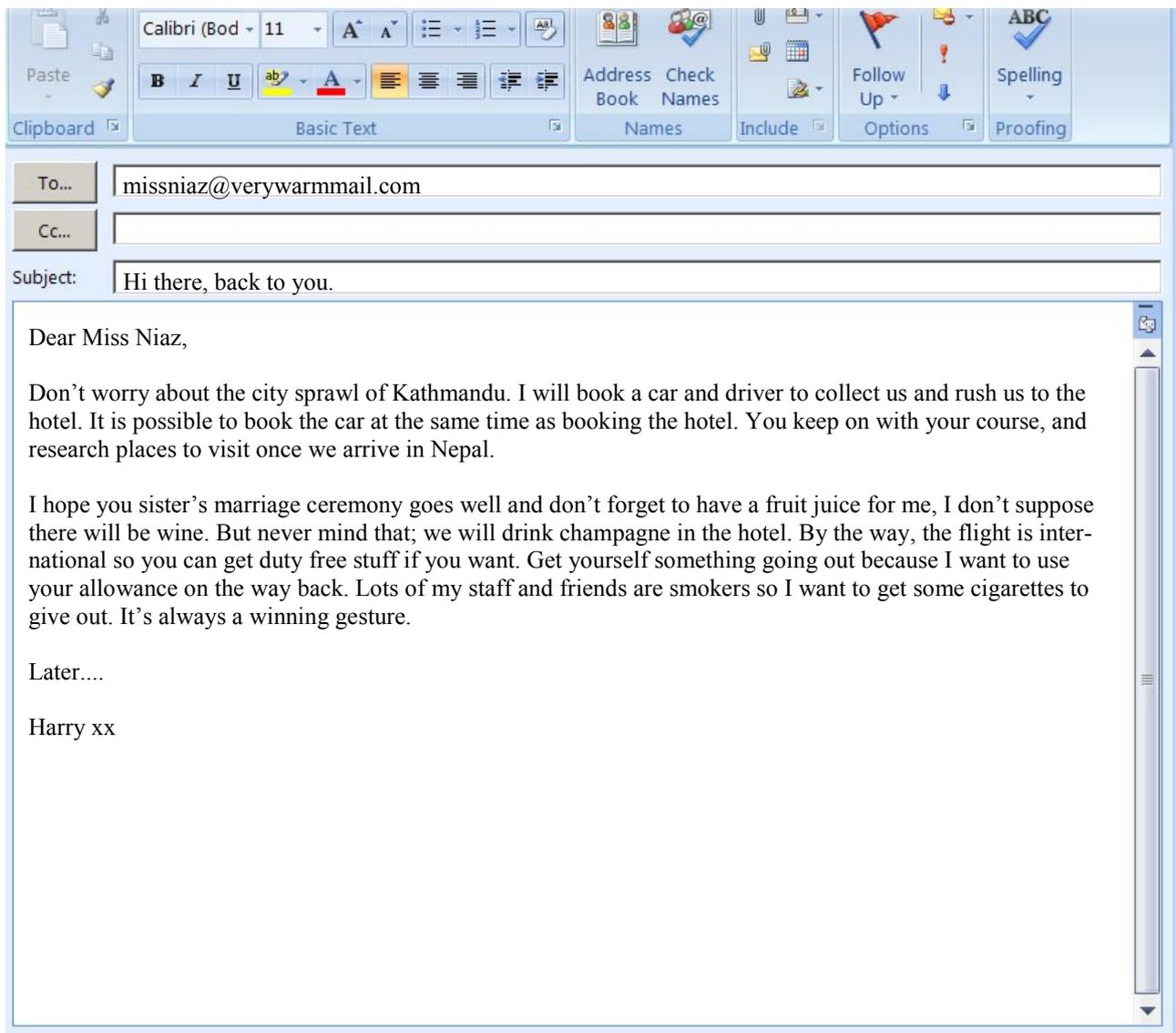
Everything is nearly done here as well regarding my sister's marriage. So, with that and almost break time from the college, everything is up to date, shopping and assignments. I have been researching places to visit in Kathmandu. I think you are right when you said we shouldn't visit more than one place per day so we have time to relax. But that means we can only go to a few places. There is so much to see that the decision on which ones to choose is very hard.

Another thing I have found out about Kathmandu is that it's really big. People think it's a small hill town but in reality it is huge, mainly because of the tourist trade I expect. I was reading some visitors comments and a lot of them are a bit critical of Kathmandu but they mostly enjoyed the sightseeing once they got used to the city.

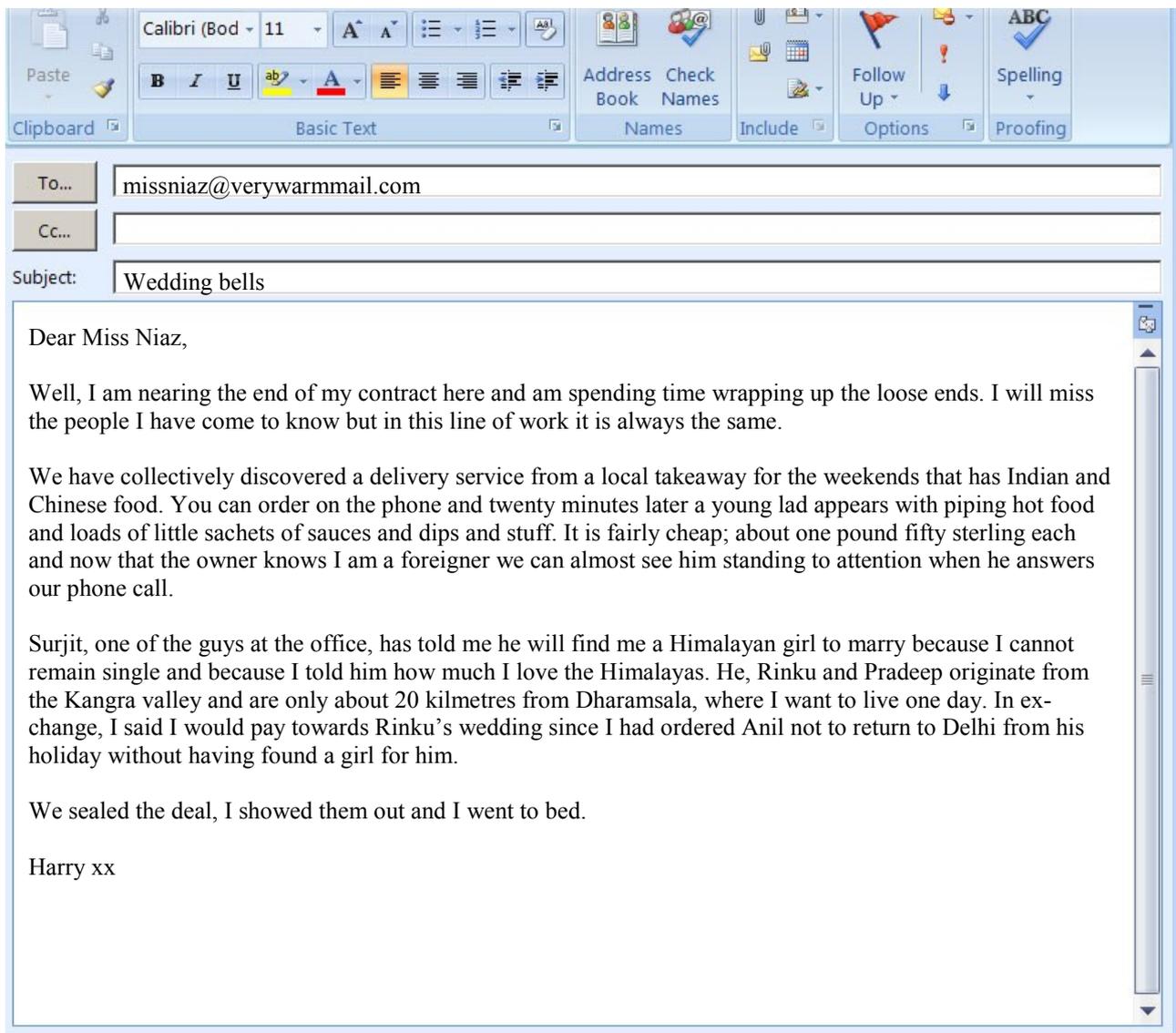
Love

Saima x

harry says....



harry says....



The screenshot shows an email client window. The top toolbar includes options for Paste, Clipboard, Basic Text (font face: Calibri, size: 11, bold, italic, underline, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink), Names (Address Book, Check Names), Include, Options (Follow Up, Spelling), and Proofing. The email header shows the recipient as missniaz@verywarmmail.com, the subject as 'Wedding bells', and the sender as Harry xx. The body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

Well, I am nearing the end of my contract here and am spending time wrapping up the loose ends. I will miss the people I have come to know but in this line of work it is always the same.

We have collectively discovered a delivery service from a local takeaway for the weekends that has Indian and Chinese food. You can order on the phone and twenty minutes later a young lad appears with piping hot food and loads of little sachets of sauces and dips and stuff. It is fairly cheap; about one pound fifty sterling each and now that the owner knows I am a foreigner we can almost see him standing at attention when he answers our phone call.

Surjit, one of the guys at the office, has told me he will find me a Himalayan girl to marry because I cannot remain single and because I told him how much I love the Himalayas. He, Rinku and Pradeep originate from the Kangra valley and are only about 20 kilometres from Dharamsala, where I want to live one day. In exchange, I said I would pay towards Rinku's wedding since I had ordered Anil not to return to Delhi from his holiday without having found a girl for him.

We sealed the deal, I showed them out and I went to bed.

Harry xx

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Getting married

Hi Harry,

So, without telling me, you have decided to marry a Himachali girl? Tell your 'guys at the office' that you already have someone. Really, you are so insensitive sometimes. Here I am thinking only of you, and there you are posturing to your friends! Really!

I feel better for that little outburst. I know you are only joking, (you better be), and you only have eyes for me. I will refresh your mind in Kathmandu about what you have been missing and I'm sure you will want me even more then!

See, you are getting me to be inappropriate in my mail. You never know who might read it. Don't show it to anyone, will you?

YOUR GIRLFRIEND,

Saima x

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Hi Harry

Hi Harry,

I have been researching on the Internet about places to visit in Kathmandu. We can finally decide when we get there but for now, have a look and think about where you want to visit. See attachment.

Love

Saima x

Attachments

Bodnath Stupa



Durbar Square



Ranked 1 of attractions in Kathmandu

Category: Religious Sites

This very imposing stupa is believed to house some of the remains of previous great sages and the bones of Buddha. Believers walk in a clockwise direction around the stupa...

Ranked 10 of attractions in Kathmandu

"A square different from others"

"So many beautiful temples"

Category: Landmarks/ Points of Interest

Monuments, temples and wandering animals dot this bustling town square, which is also where Nepal kings are crowned.

Swayambhunath Temple



Ranked 2 of attractions in Kathmandu

"A must see if you visit Kathmandu"

"Great Experience..Always!"

Category: Religious Sites

Garden of Dreams



Ranked 5 of attractions in Kathmandu

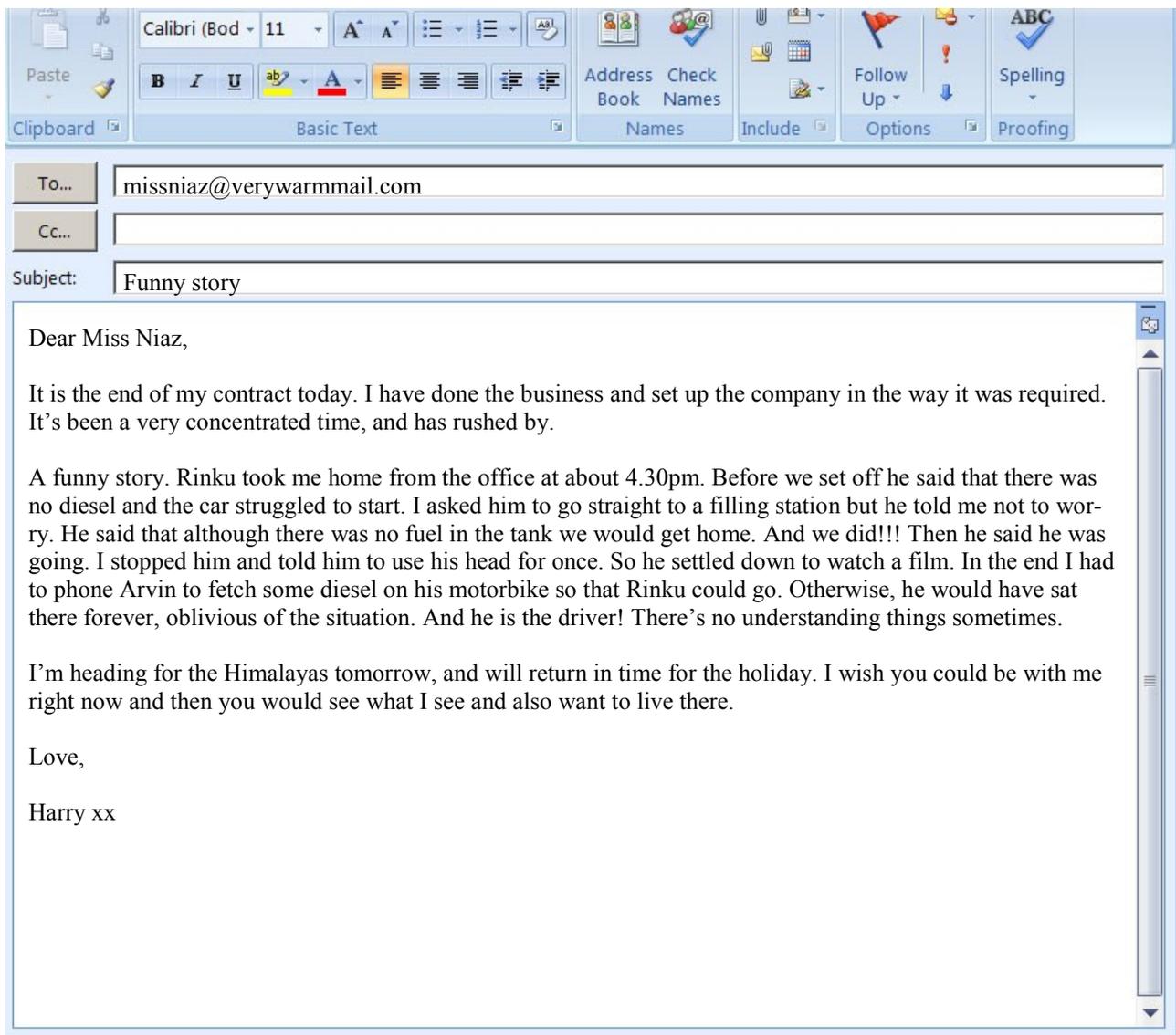
"An oasis of calm & beauty"

"Walk the Garden of Dreams"

Category: Gardens

The Garden of Dreams, a neo classical historical garden, is situated in the midst of Kathmandu city.

harry says....



The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. The top toolbar includes various icons for text formatting (bold, italic, underline, color, background color), alignment, and other functions. Below the toolbar, the email header fields are visible: "To..." with the address "missniaz@verywarmmail.com", "Cc..." which is empty, and "Subject:" with the text "Funny story". The main body of the email contains the following text:

Dear Miss Niaz,

It is the end of my contract today. I have done the business and set up the company in the way it was required. It's been a very concentrated time, and has rushed by.

A funny story. Rinku took me home from the office at about 4.30pm. Before we set off he said that there was no diesel and the car struggled to start. I asked him to go straight to a filling station but he told me not to worry. He said that although there was no fuel in the tank we would get home. And we did!!! Then he said he was going. I stopped him and told him to use his head for once. So he settled down to watch a film. In the end I had to phone Arvin to fetch some diesel on his motorbike so that Rinku could go. Otherwise, he would have sat there forever, oblivious of the situation. And he is the driver! There's no understanding things sometimes.

I'm heading for the Himalayas tomorrow, and will return in time for the holiday. I wish you could be with me right now and then you would see what I see and also want to live there.

Love,
Harry xx

from saima

To...	harryzenman@evenhotterthanthatmail.co.uk
Cc...	
Subject:	Excitement

Hi Harry,

Enjoy your stay in the Himalayas but don't forget that we are travelling to Nepal in a few days.

You must be a very lucky person to be able to go all over the place whenever you want to. I am finishing off at college tomorrow and then will have a few days before our holiday. I am so excited!! My sister and her new husband are coming back from their short honeymoon and will visit us. I will ask them what they want as a present from Nepal, although I don't know what sort of special things you can get there that you can't get here in Pakistan.

Well, that's it. See you in Kathmandu in four days time at 3pm. I hope you get there on time and can meet me. I will feel nervous if I have no-one there waiting for me. So make sure you get back from the Himalayas in time for your flight.

I can't wait to see you.

I love you

Saima xxxxxxxxxx

harry says.....

I arrived in Kathmandu on time at 1pm and waited with both nervousness and anticipation for Miss Niaz. Her plane was on time and landed at just after 3pm. She came out about 30 minutes later. We hugged and then our driver rushed us to our hotel.

The holiday was excellent and we even had some time for a bit of sightseeing. When she had left the UK Miss Niaz had been very much a girl, even at 25 years old, but now she was more of a woman, with signs of her girlishness hidden just under the surface.

At the end of the week, that passed very quickly, we returned to the airport and kissed with lying eyes, and promised to be together forever. We were both quite good liars, and knew that this was the end. As she disappeared air side, she turned and gave me a little wave.

My flight was without incident and on my return to India, I went straight to the foothills of the Himalayas. I rented a small apartment in a village near the town of Palampur and tried to merge into the background.

I was found and returned to the world about six months later.