

1 Fascinating Places

Sana'a is a fascinating place. It is the capital of Yemen and is one of the oldest cities in the world. It is also one of the highest! It became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986 because of its unique old buildings. They are beautifully painted and have large, decorated windows.

Quiz

How old is the old city of Sana'a?

- a more than 5,000 years old
- b more than 2,500 years old
- c more than 1,000 years old

1 Lesson 1

My travels!

Reading

Jake and Mandy are on a trip with Uncle Oliver to see some of Britain's famous landmarks. Read Mandy's travel diary and follow their journey. Which place does Uncle Oliver really like?

Friday 10th July

We're leaving tomorrow! We're travelling in Uncle Oliver's camper van. It's great because you can eat and sleep in it too. This is really exciting!

Saturday 11th July

Our first stop is at Hampton Court Palace in the south of England. Outside there's a maze, which is cool! It's like a big puzzle made of 1,000 trees. Visitors walk around it and usually get lost! It closes at 6.00 pm, so we've got all day!

Monday 13th July

Today we're visiting Uncle Oliver's favourite monument, Stonehenge. It is a prehistoric circle of massive stones. Nobody knows what the stones were for – it's a mystery! We're staying near here for the night! Archaeologists think it's about 5,000 years old. What a fascinating place!

Wednesday 15th July

Now we're driving up to the north of England. We're going to see the Angel of the North. It's a modern sculpture which was finished in 1998. Some people say it's ugly but others admire it. It's 20 metres high and its wings are as wide as a plane's! It's on a hill and I think I can see it now. It's very impressive!

Thursday 16th July

We're just south of Scotland now, at the famous Hadrian's Wall. This stone wall is about 118 km long. It was built by the Romans in AD 122 to mark the northern border of the Roman Empire and to keep out the Picts – an ancient Scottish tribe. We're crossing the border into Scotland tomorrow morning. Our next destination is Glasgow. Goodbye England!

Vocabulary

Find words in the travel diary that have these meanings. The words are in the same order as they appear in the text.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 something built that is famous | _____ |
| 2 older than ancient | _____ |
| 3 very large in size | _____ |
| 4 a type of work of art | _____ |
| 5 the point where two countries meet | _____ |
| 6 the place you are travelling to | _____ |

Comprehension

Write **H** (Hampton Court Maze), **S** (Stonehenge) or **A** (Angel of the North).

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 This place is very old. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 You can easily lose your way here. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 This landmark is in a high place. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Some people don't like this landmark. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 This landmark is quite new. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Grammar

Present Simple and Present Continuous

We use the Present Simple to talk about:

- general truths.
*In Scotland, people **speak** English.*
- things we do regularly.
***Do you write** in your diary every day?*
- permanent states.
*England **isn't** a big country.*
- timetabled and programmed events in the future.
*The train to Glasgow **leaves** at 9.00 tomorrow morning.*

We use the Present Continuous to talk about:

- things that are temporary or are happening now or around now.
***I'm not looking** at the map. **I'm reading** a book.*
- what is happening in a picture or photograph.
*In this photograph, Jake **is standing** outside Buckingham Palace.*
- fixed future plans.
***Are you leaving** tomorrow?*

Time expressions

Present Simple: every day, on Mondays, at the weekend
Present Continuous: now, at the moment, this year, today

A Complete the sentences with the Present Simple or the Present Continuous of these verbs.

arrive drink go laugh not send not use

- We _____ for a walk in Hyde Park tomorrow.
- My train _____ at Cardiff Station at 7 o'clock.
- Why _____ you _____ in this photo? What's so funny?
- I _____ any postcards to my friends this year.
- _____ people in Britain _____ a lot of tea?
- My dad _____ his mobile phone in the car because it's dangerous.

B Complete the dialogue with the Present Simple or the Present Continuous of the verbs in brackets.

- Tim:** What (1) _____ (you do)?
- Lucy:** I (2) _____ (look) at a website. It (3) _____ (have got) lots of interesting information about Britain. For example, 30,000 people have the name John Smith!
- Tim:** Really? I don't know anyone with that name. So, what else (4) _____ (it say)?
- Lucy:** Well, 80,000 people (5) _____ (leave) their umbrellas on the London Underground trains every year!
- Tim:** Mmm. Very interesting but ...
- Lucy:** Tim! Why (6) _____ (you switch) my computer off?
- Tim:** Have you forgotten? We (7) _____ (meet) Liz at 1 o'clock and we're late. The bus (8) _____ (leave) at 12.30. Come on!

Vocabulary

Match.



- bridge ☐
- fountain ☐
- market ☐
- palace ☐
- monument ☐
- tunnel ☐



Listening

Listen to the information about the London Eye and complete the notes.

The London Eye

Place: (1) _____ London

Opening times: 10 am – (2) _____ pm

Cost of tickets: adults (3) £ _____ ; children £7.75

Tickets: book on the (4) _____ or buy from the ticket office

Length of ride: (5) _____ minutes

Speaking

Ask and answer these questions about a famous landmark in your country with a partner. Use these words and other vocabulary from this lesson to help you.

ancient beautiful huge
interesting modern ugly

What's its name? _____ Why do people visit it? _____
Where is it? _____ Why do you like/not like it? _____
Is it ancient or modern? _____

Writing

Write five sentences about the landmark you talked about in the Speaking task.

1 Lesson 2

Reading

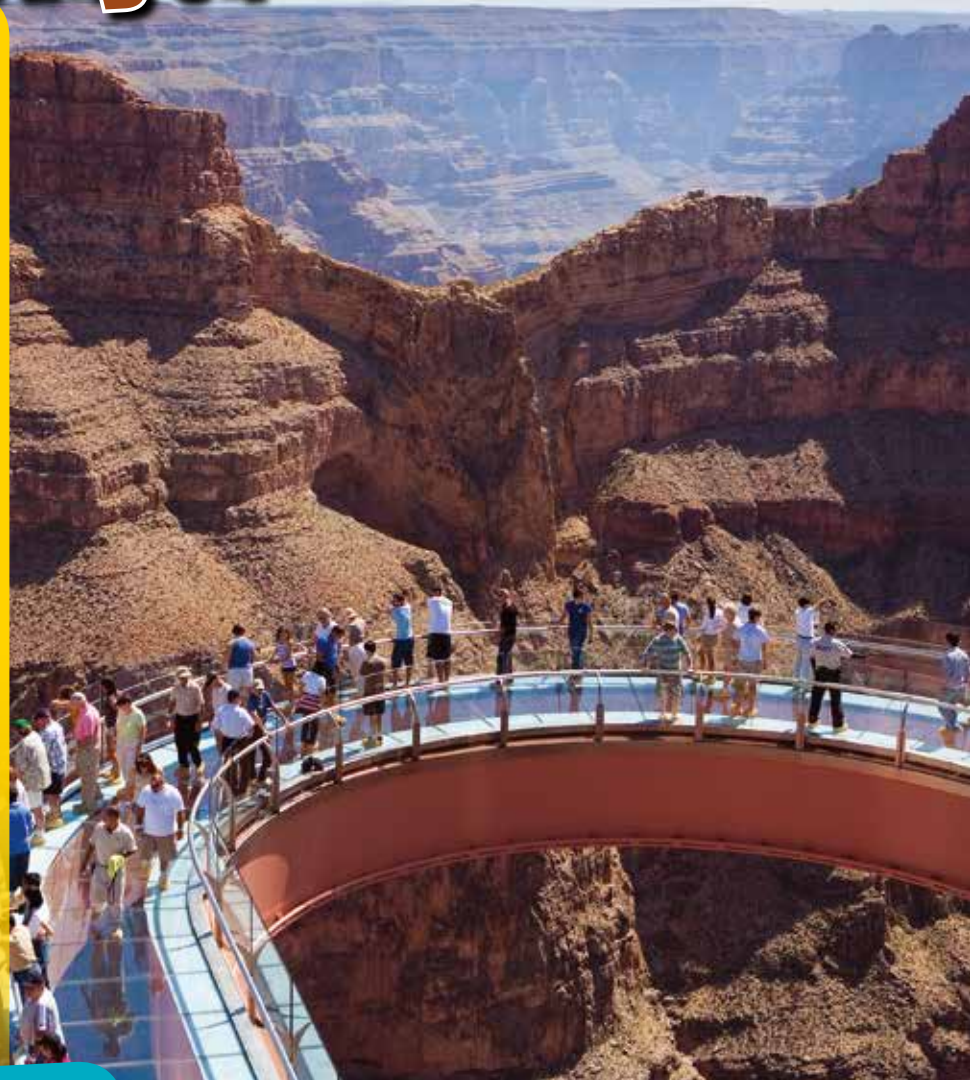
Read the article. What does the article say you should wear when you visit the Grand Canyon?

The Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon is one of the world's seven natural wonders. These include Mount Everest in Asia, the Great Barrier Reef in Australia and Victoria Falls in Africa. The Grand Canyon is a massive gorge. It is situated in the US state of Arizona and the Colorado River runs through it. The river has created the gorge slowly over the past six million years. The canyon is 446 kilometres long and nearly 2 kilometres deep at some points.

The view from the top of the canyon is amazing! From a glass pathway you can look down and see the bottom of the canyon about 1,200 metres below! Some visitors love to hike through the canyon while others prefer to go rafting on the Colorado River. Anyone who thinks it's an easy ride, though, is wrong. The river is fast and powerful!

About five million people visit the Grand Canyon safely every year. However, it's a dangerous place and accidents often happen. The canyon is bare and rocky so there's little shade from the hot sun. There are also many different paths and some of them are very steep and narrow. Are you thinking about a trip to the Grand Canyon? Well, you will definitely need a strong pair of walking boots, lots of water and a good map or guidebook!



Guess what!
Native American people have lived in the Grand Canyon for at least 10,000 years.

Comprehension

Write **R** (Right), **W** (Wrong) or **DS** (Doesn't say).

- The Colorado River is very deep. ☐
- The glass pathway is high above the bottom of the canyon. ☐
- Rafting on the Colorado River is easy. ☐
- Over six million people go to the canyon every year. ☐
- Some people die in accidents in the Grand Canyon. ☐
- Many visitors don't wear the right clothes. ☐

Vocabulary

A Complete the sentences with these words.

gorge past point powerful rafting rocky

- The path is very _____ so watch where you're walking.
- I haven't been hiking for the _____ few years.
- _____ on that river in winter is dangerous!
- At one _____ during the journey, we stopped for a picnic.
- The view from the top of the _____ is fantastic.
- You need a _____ torch to see in the mountains at night.

B Circle the correct words.

- The path is very deep / steep so it isn't safe for children.
- The field is muddy / sandy because it rained last night.
- Holland is a shallow / flat country so it's good for cycling.
- The mountain looks very unspoilt / bare after the forest fires.
- Is this country road wide / narrow enough for a car?

Grammar

Stative verbs

There are some verbs that we don't usually use in continuous tenses. These include verbs of:
feelings: *like, hate, admire, prefer, want*
possession: *belong to, own*
understanding and opinion: *believe, remember, understand, know*
senses: *feel, hear, see, smell*

Complete the postcard with the Present Simple or the Present Continuous of the verbs in brackets.

Hi Jake!

We (1) _____ (have) a great time in Iceland! I (2) _____ (think) it's an amazing place! (3) _____ (you/remember) the cave in Cortuga? Well here there are ice caves! I (4) _____ (want) to visit them but Kate (5) _____ (not like) caves. I (6) _____ (not know) why! She (7) _____ (prefer) waterfalls so we (8) _____ (go) to see a famous one tomorrow.

See you soon!

Robbie



See and think

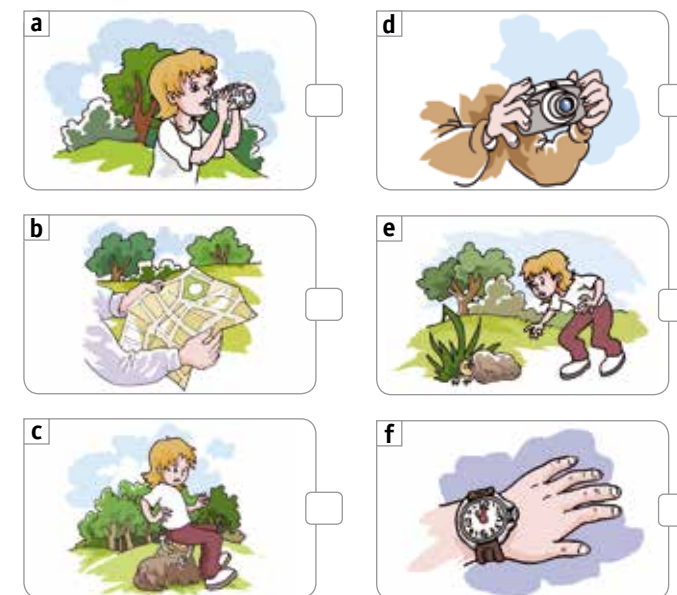
We can use some stative verbs in the Present Simple and the Present Continuous, but the meaning changes. *The doctor **is seeing** someone at the moment. (see = have an appointment with)* *'The path to the river goes down there.'* *'I **see**.'* (see = understand) *What do you **think** of the view? (think = have an opinion)* *We're **thinking** about going to the USA this year. (think = consider)*

Complete the sentences with the Present Simple or the Present Continuous of the verbs in brackets.

- Tom and Dan _____ (think) about climbing Mount Everest!
- This is how the camera works. _____ you _____ (see)?
- I _____ (not think) hiking is fun.
- Helen can't come out with us because she _____ (see) Ann tonight.
- _____ anybody _____ (think) about going to the beach?
- Oh, yes. Now I _____ (see)! This is where we are on the map of the canyon!

Listening

Listen to the conversation and number the pictures in the correct order.



Phrasal Verbs

Circle the correct words.

- My dad's car often breaks into / down because it's 18 years old!
- Julia isn't here at the moment. She's coming back / across later.
- Let's set about / off early tomorrow so we get there by lunchtime.
- Get on / over the train! It leaves in one minute!
- We had a great view when the plane took after / off.
- Kate and her family are going away / about for the weekend.
- Where do we have to check in / up for our flight?
- Can we all get on / in a taxi and go to the museum?

Secret Destinations

Reading

Three teenagers talk about amazing places in their countries that most people from other countries have never heard of. Read the descriptions of these unusual places. Which country is well known for its fiords?



Ahmad, 17, India

Not many people who visit India know about the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway. There's a special train which uses the railway called the 'toy train' because it's so small. The journey to the town of Darjeeling is very slow because the route through the mountains is steep and narrow. The 80-kilometre journey sometimes takes 10 hours, but the views are really impressive!



Tina, 16, New Zealand

Norway is the place where you expect to find fiords, but we have our own 'Fiordland' in New Zealand! Some of the fiords, which are deep lakes between high mountains, which are over 200 metres deep! Actually, some tourists already know about Fiordland because they made the film 'The Lord of the Rings' there. The people who know about it want to keep it a secret, though!



Petros, 13, Greece

Greece is famous for its ancient monuments and sandy beaches, but did you know that it also has big mountains, gorges and rivers? Zagori, in Epirus, where I'm going this spring, is a fantastic mountain area in the north of Greece. There are many paths. Some are along the rivers and the gorges. There are also others which you can take to hike to the tops of the mountains.

Say it like this!

Using time expressions

Present Simple

always	often	never	once a week
usually	sometimes	frequently	every day/week

We **frequently** go hiking in summer.
They meet their friends **once a week**.

Present Continuous

(right) now	at the moment	for the time being
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We're staying at a cheap hotel **at the moment**.

With prepositions

on Saturdays	in July	on August 15th
at twelve o'clock	in summer	in 2011

I always do something special **on Saturdays**.

Talk to your partner about holidays. Practise the time expressions above.

Comprehension

Answer the questions.

- What's another name for the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway train?
- Why isn't the train fast?
- Why do some people know about Fiordland?
- What do people expect to find in Greece?
- Where in Greece is Zagori?

Grammar

Relative clauses

We use relative clauses to give more information about people, animals and things. A relative clause begins with a relative pronoun (**who**, **whose** and **which**) or a relative adverb (**where** and **when**).

Is that the boy **whose** name is Ahmad?
Ireland is a place **where** it often rains.

There are two types of relative clauses: defining and non-defining.

Defining relative clauses give essential information about something or someone. They can't be separated from the rest of the sentence by commas. In defining relative clauses we can use **that** instead of **who** and **which**.
Japan is a country **which/that** seems very interesting.

Non-defining relative clauses give extra information about something or someone. We separate them from the main part of the sentence with commas. We can't use **that** instead of **who** and **which**.
Crete, **which** is an island, is in Greece.
Tina, **who** comes from New Zealand, is 14 years old.
Sydney, **where** my grandparents live, is a big city

A Tick (✓) the sentences that are correct and cross (X) the ones that are wrong. Add commas to correct them.

- This is the hotel where we're staying. ☐
- Reykjavik which is the capital of Iceland is clean. ☐
- My mum who loves ancient monuments wants to go to Rome. ☐
- The day when Dan reached the top of the mountain was his birthday. ☐
- My friend Jane whose dad is a pilot gets free plane tickets. ☐

B Combine the sentences using non-defining relative clauses. Use the words in bold.

- The Taj Mahal is in India. It is a famous building. **which**
- We met our new friends. It was Friday. **when**
- Sabina is my penfriend. She lives in Spain. **who**
- Amsterdam is very flat. Most people use bicycles there. **where**
- Paul is travelling around the world. His sister is in my class. **whose**

Writing

There is / There are vs It is / They are

A Read about the difference in use.

There is and **There are** are used to say what exists in a place we are describing. We then use **It is** and **They are** to refer back or to continue talking about what exists.
There is an ancient monument on that hill. **It is** very famous.
There are many paths in the forest. **They are** very narrow.

B Complete the description with **there, **it** or **they**.**



Wild Wales

Pembrokeshire, which is in Wales, is a great place for a holiday. Summer is the best time to go there because it often rains in winter.

- (1) _____ are lots of nice beaches and old castles in Pembrokeshire.
- (2) _____ is also an island which you can visit by boat. (3) _____ is great for a day trip.
- (4) _____ are also great hotels and restaurants. (5) _____ are cheap and they have special prices for children. I recommend a holiday in Pembrokeshire because it's beautiful and interesting.

Task

C Write a description of a famous place or landmark in your country. Include defining and non-defining relative clauses in your description and vocabulary from this unit.

Answer the questions.

What's its name?
Where is it?
What is there to see and do there?
Why do you think it's interesting?
Why do you recommend it?

D Read your description and make sure you have used **There is, **There are**, **It is** and **They are** correctly.**

Tip!

Use adjectives to make your description more interesting.