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1

There's no place like home

READING

1 Look at the photo and read part of Ella's blog about her travelling life. Complete it with the correct words.

community freezes hang out lift open pressure



Our travels
HOME NEW POSTS

This is my second year of travelling with my family now. When my parents first talked about selling our home and going travelling, I was very ¹..... with them and said I wasn't sure about it. At fifteen years old you just want to go to school and ²..... with your friends, right? But in fact it's great. We're now part of a different ³..... of families who choose to travel around, and I'm definitely pleased that I don't have the ⁴..... of school exams anymore! We meet lots of different people – today we gave two students from Sweden a ⁵....., and they were really fun to chat to. Tomorrow we're going into the mountains. It's really cold there, and we want to see what a river looks like when it ⁶..... – it sounds cool to me!



2 Read Ella's blog in Ex 1 again. Decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Ella spoke to her parents honestly when they suggested going travelling.
- 2 Ella thinks that teenagers enjoy doing organised activities with their friends.
- 3 Ella thinks that families who travel around help each other and feel connected to each other.
- 4 Ella used to get worried when she had exams.
- 5 Today, two students from Sweden travelled with Ella and her family.
- 6 Ella wants to see a river in very hot weather.

3 Read an interview with Ella on page 7. Match the headings with the correct paragraph.

- 1 What about your education?
- 2 What are the best and worst things about travelling all the time?
- 3 Was it hard to leave your friends behind?
- 4 What's it like being with your parents all the time?

4 Read the interview again. Decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Ella and her family drive to a new place every day.
- 2 Ella doesn't enjoy having to keep her room tidy.
- 3 Ella often argues with her parents now.
- 4 Ella has a better relationship with her brother now.
- 5 It isn't easy for Ella to contact her friends back home.
- 6 Ella feels disappointed that she can't relax with her friends now.
- 7 Ella and her mum both find maths difficult.
- 8 Ella and her family sometimes visit places to help with Ella's studies.

5 What do you think Ella would say about her life now?

- A I love it, but my brother finds it really difficult.
- B There are some difficulties, of course, but there are lots of good things, too.
- C I thought it was a good idea at first, but now I'm not so sure.
- D We have lots of problems as a family that we didn't have before.

6 Match the words in bold in the interview with the meanings.

- 1 sad because you are on your own and not with other people
- 2 normal
- 3 untidy
- 4 not nice or enjoyable
- 5 a good thing
- 6 to feel sad because you can't do something that you did before

When home



is the **open road**

Ella doesn't live in a house or flat. Her home is on the road, travelling around America with her parents and her brother, Scott. Her parents decided to sell their home and buy a big RV (mobile home), because they wanted to see different parts of the country and experience a different way of life. Her dad has his own internet business, so he works from an office in the RV. We asked Ella what life is like when your home is always on the move.

A ?

My favourite thing is that every day is different! We don't always travel somewhere new, but I never know when I wake up what's going to happen. Life is never boring! The other great thing is meeting people. When you live in a house or flat, you spend a lot of time inside. We're always outside, so we meet some really interesting people. The most difficult thing is that I can't be **messy**. I've got my own room in the RV, but it's really small, so I can't leave things lying around – that's annoying!

B ?

A lot of people ask me if I have all the **usual** arguments with my parents – about staying up late, doing jobs around the home, that kind of thing. But when you live together in such a small space it just isn't possible to argue – it's too **horrible** for everyone! In fact, things are much better now. Because we spend a lot of time together, I talk to my parents and my brother, Scott, a lot more. We're more like friends than family now.

C ?

That was the biggest problem for me at the start. Saying goodbye was definitely difficult. But we're online and I have my phone of course, so it isn't difficult to keep in contact with them and stay up to date with what's going on in their lives. And I'm never **lonely**. Every time we go to a new place I make new friends. So I've got a lot more friends now than I had before. But I guess I do **miss** just hanging out with people, watching a movie or chatting.

D ?

My mom is my teacher now, but I help her plan what I'm going to study each month. I do a lot of studying online. I also have an online teacher for maths. That's my worst subject, and mom isn't brilliant at it either! It isn't easy to study on your own, but the **advantage** is I can choose what to learn about. I love learning about animals, so we try to get to places where I can see wild animals – that's really useful. I think I want to study biology at college when I'm older.

7 Complete the sentences with words from Ex 6.

- 1 The big of travelling is that you see lots of new places.
- 2 My sister is really – she leaves her things all over the house!
- 3 My best friend moved to a new city and I really seeing her every day.
- 4 I sometimes feel if I'm on my own in the flat.
- 5 My brother likes doing all the things that teenagers do, like riding his skateboard.
- 6 I can't eat this soup – it's!

1 There's no place like home

GRAMMAR

a/an, the and no article

1 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 I think that **families / the families** are really important.
- 2 My sister wants to be **a / an** actor.
- 3 I'm learning to play **a / the** piano.
- 4 There isn't much for **the young people / young people** to do in my town.
- 5 I have **dinner / the dinner** with my family most evenings.
- 6 My mum can speak **Spanish / the Spanish**.
- 7 My uncle lives in **USA / the USA**.
- 8 Some parents put **pressure / the pressure** on their children to do well at school.
- 9 Was **a / the** film good last night?
- 10 There isn't **a / an** university in my town.

2  1.1 Complete what the people say about their families with *a/an, the* or no article (-). Then listen and check.

A I'm ¹..... only child but it isn't ²..... problem for me. I like spending ³..... time with my parents, and I've got ⁴..... friends I can see if I want to be with people my own age.

B I come from ⁵..... big family with nine children, and ⁶..... house where we live is always very busy, especially in ⁷..... mornings, when everyone is trying to get ready for ⁸..... school!

C I've got ⁹..... younger brother and he's really annoying! Like, he always wants to play ¹⁰..... same computer game that I want to play, at ¹¹..... only time I'm free to play! There are often ¹²..... arguments in our house! But other days we get on really well.

3 Read the sentences about Sam and her interesting family. Which sentences use articles correctly? Write C for correct or I for incorrect.

- 1 Sam Briggs lives in a small town in USA.
- 2 She lives with her parents and 24 brothers and sisters.
- 3 Sam's brothers and sisters come from all over the world.
- 4 Two of her brothers are from Mexico, and three sisters are from the Africa.
- 5 All the children had problems in their own countries, so Sam's parents offered them a home.
- 6 They have big house, with 10 bedrooms.
- 7 Sam works hard at school, and she wants to study art when she's older.
- 8 Sam loves her brothers and sisters and is really happy that she has unusual family!

4 Read Helen's blog about her life on a small Scottish island. Complete it with *a/an, the* or no article (-).

My home is on ¹..... small Scottish island. It's called Lewis and it's two and a half hours by boat from ²..... west coast of the mainland. About two thousand people live on ³..... island, and I know most of them! A lot of ⁴..... tourists visit in the summer, too. People often ask me what it's like to live here, so I'll tell you. Yes, we *do* have ⁵..... electricity and ⁶..... cars! In fact, we have most of ⁷..... things that you can get in ⁸..... towns and cities, even ⁹..... coffee shops and ¹⁰..... cinema. But it's different here because life is very relaxed. Of course, we have ¹¹..... stress sometimes, but not very much. I get on well with my family, and I know everyone else my age, so I can always ask ¹²..... friend for ¹³..... help if I need it. And it's easy for me to find out what's happening in other parts of ¹⁴..... world, because of course we have ¹⁵..... internet!

5 Read some questions people have left Helen on her blog. Complete them with *a/an, the* or no article (-).

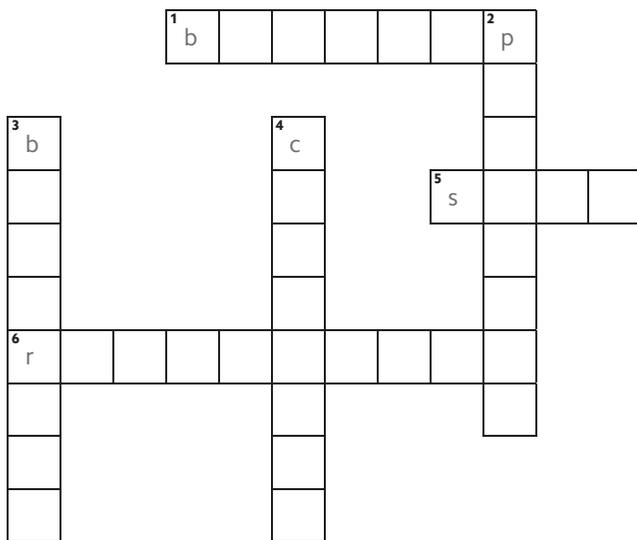
- 1 Is there school on the island, or do you have to go across sea to the mainland?
- 2 I love meeting new people. Do you ever get fed up with seeing same people every day?
- 3 Do you want to find job on the island when you leave school, or do you want to move to big city like Edinburgh?
- 4 I think I would enjoy life on Lewis. Can I come and visit you for holiday?



VOCABULARY

around town

1 Complete the crossword.



Across

- 1 You wait here if you want to catch a bus. (two words)
- 5 You might sit here if you're tired while you're shopping in town.
- 6 This is where you put things that you don't want. (two words)

Down

- 2 This is where people walk next to a road.
- 3 This is a place where you can leave your bicycle. (two words)
- 4 You can use this place to go to the other side of the road.

2 Complete the sentences with the correct words. Use one word from each box.

apartment art department skate sports swimming

block centre gallery park pool store

- 1 There are some amazing paintings at the new
- 2 We play our football games at the
- 3 It's hot – let's go to the – the water's always nice and cool there!
- 4 Jake's new flat is in that over there.
- 5 I never buy clothes in the – it's too expensive.
- 6 A lot of people hang out with bikes and skateboards at the

3 1.2 Complete the fun facts with the correct words from Exs 1 and 2. Listen and check your answers.

city fun facts



- 1 The biggest in the world is at a hotel in Alfonso de Mar in Chile. It's over 1 km long – that's a lot of water!
- 2 There are nearly 20,000 in London. Most of them have a roof to keep you dry, but at the others you may get wet while you're waiting to travel.
- 3 In the UK, it's against the law to throw waste from your home in a in the street! The ones on the street are only for things you need to throw away while you're out.
- 4 There were in the streets over 2,000 years ago. In very old Roman cities you can still see places where people could get across the road safely.
- 5 The tallest in the world is in New York. It's at 432 Park Avenue, and it has flats on 85 floors.

Extend

4 Match the words (1–7) with their meanings (A–G).

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 clinic | 4 palace | 7 tourist information centre |
| 2 college | 5 police station | |
| 3 factory | 6 stadium | |

- A a place where things are made using machines
- B a place where police officers work
- C a place where people can go to watch sport
- D a place where you can see a doctor
- E a place where visitors can get information about the area
- F a large house where a king or queen lives
- G a place where people can study

5 Read what the people are saying. Where are they, or where are they going? Use the places 1–7 from Ex 4.

- 1 'Hurry up! The game starts in half an hour!'
- 2 'What time does the museum open, please?'
- 3 'I'm so stressed – I've got exams all this week!'
- 4 'I'm arresting you – you need to come with me!'
- 5 'They produce 5,000 cars a week here.'
- 6 'If your leg is still painful tomorrow, come back here.'
- 7 'Look – there's the princess! She's waving from the window!'

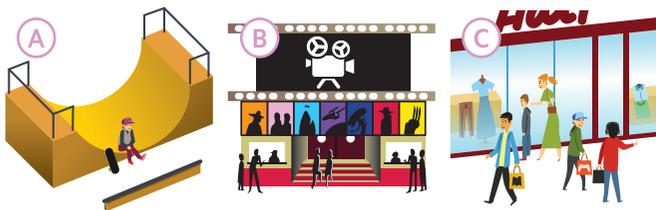
1 There's no place like home

LISTENING

1 Look at the five sets of pictures and read the questions. Match each word below with the picture it matches.

bowling **5A** camping diving snacks
 film game hiking ice skating museum
 music sailing water-skiing shopping
 skate park theme park

1 Where do the boys agree to go on Saturday?



2 What new sport does the girl want to do?



3 Which trip won the youth club members' vote?



4 What should the boy bring on Friday?



5 Which activity does Anna like doing with her family?



2 **e** **1.3** Listen and choose the correct answer, A, B or C in Ex 1.

3 **1.4** Complete sentences 1–5 from the audio with the correct words from the box. Listen and check.

brilliant choice fit perhaps suggested

- I've got a new trick I want to show you.
- You have to be very and strong for that.
- The most popular was the camping trip.
- He wants to have some snacks, so you could get some.
- Mum maybe a trip to a museum.

4 Match the words from Ex 3 (1–5) with their meanings (A–E).

- A maybe
 B the thing that someone chose
 C with a strong, healthy body
 D said something as an idea
 E very good

some, any, (how) much, (how) many, all, a little, a few, a lot of

- 5 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.
- I'd like to invite **some / any / a little** friends round tonight.
 - How **much / many / a lot of** people were at the party?
 - I'm sorry, we don't have **much / any / some** snacks.
 - Some fun activities don't cost **many / much / some** money.
 - It's easy to organise a party if you have **a little / a few / much** help from your parents.
 - Dan has got **a little / any / a lot of** computer games!
 - Can you bring **a little / a few / much** drinks with you?
 - All / Every / A few my friends love this new film!
- 6 Read the magazine article about the perfect teenage hangout and think of one word which best fits each gap.

A place of my own



Ben Radcliffe has the perfect hangout space – a wooden hut in his garden! Ben's hut is warm and comfortable inside. There's a carpet on the floor, and there are a **1** chairs, but there aren't very **2** places to sit. 'If I have a lot **3** friends here, we have to sit on the floor,' Ben says. There's electricity and heating in the hut, and Ben can also use the wifi from inside the house. 'It's great. I use my hangout hut every day,' Ben says. 'I keep **4** my computer games here, and I can listen to music or watch films. And what if he's noisy? 'It's impossible to be completely quiet, but I don't make **5** noise,' he says. 'The only problem is that there aren't **6** windows, so it isn't possible to see outside. But of course that also means that no one can see in!'

SPEAKING

1 Look at the photo. Complete the sentences describing it with the correct present tense form of the verbs in brackets.



- 1 The photo (show) four people.
- 2 I can (see) two teenagers and their parents.
- 3 They (not talk) to each other.
- 4 The family (sit) in the kitchen.
- 5 I think they (have) breakfast.
- 6 The boy (wear) some headphones.
- 7 The dad (work) on his laptop.
- 8 The boy and his mum (look at) their mobile phones.

2 Choose the correct words in the sentences about the photo in Ex 1.

- 1 The dad is on the **left** / right.
- 2 The boy is **next to** / behind his mum.
- 3 I think they are **in** / on their home.
- 4 There is a microwave **between** / behind them.
- 5 There is some toast and butter **in** / on the table.
- 6 There is a glass of juice **behind** / in front of the girl.

3 Look at the photo below. Match the kinds of information for describing photos (1–6) with the sentences (A–F).

- 1 the people
 - 2 the place
 - 3 the weather
 - 4 the clothes
 - 5 the activities
 - 6 the people's feelings
- A I think it's summer, but it isn't very hot.
 B The photo shows two teenagers.
 C They both look happy and are smiling a little.
 D I can see some water behind them, so I think they're near a lake.
 E They are cooking some food over a fire.
 F They are wearing trainers.

4 e Use the ideas in Ex 3 and practise describing the photo. Try to add more information. Record yourself.

5 1.5 Listen and compare your ideas with the answer on track 1.5.



1 There's no place like home

WRITING

an article

1 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences that describe a place someone visits.

- It's the south of Spain.
A at B near of C in
- It's a region called Andalucia.
A in B at C on
- It's the coast.
A in B in front of C on
- The house is right the sea.
A behind B by C into
- It's also the mountains.
A near B on C from

2 Choose the best connector in each sentence.

- The weather is warm **and** / **but** it's also sunny most of the time.
- There's a train station there **so** / **but** you can get to the town easily.
- I love this place **so** / **because** it's so beautiful.
- There are no shops, **so** / **but** I don't mind that.
- There's a big swimming pool **because** / **so** you can swim every day.
- I can invite lots of friends **so** / **because** the living room is quite big.

3 Read the task. Then read a student's article. Does it answer all the questions in the task?

A place that I visit

Think about a place that you visit.

Where is it?

Who do you go there with?

What is special about it?

Write an article answering these questions. We will publish all the articles on the school website.

My uncle's apartment

I sometimes visit my uncle's apartment **in** New York. It's **on** the top floor **of** a typical Manhattan apartment block. It's quite big, so I can go there with my family and a few friends.

The apartment is clean and modern, and it has great views **of** a park. The best thing about it is that when I stay there I can enjoy everything about the city. I can go **to** shows on Broadway, walk **around** the shops and eat **in** typical New York restaurants.

I love going **to** my uncle's place!

4 Look at the bold prepositions in the student's article. Then choose the correct prepositions to complete the sentences (1–6).

- We sometimes have lunch **in** / **to** a little café.
- Our apartment is **in** / **on** the second floor.
- There's a restaurant at the top **from** / **of** the building.
- We sometimes go **to** / **in** the cinema to see a film.
- I love walking **about** / **around** London.
- My aunt lives **at** / **in** Paris.

5 Plan your ideas for an article about a place that you visit.

Where it is

Who I go with

What is special about it

6 Use your notes and write an article on a place that you visit. Write about 100 words.



UNIT CHECK

1 Complete the sentences with the correct words.

bike rack bus stop crossing pavement rubbish bin seat

- The cinema is on the other side of the road, so we need to find a
- Shall we sit on this and have a rest for a few minutes?
- I'll wait for you on the outside the department store, then we can go in together.
- Don't drop that paper on the ground – put it in the
- Hurry up, we need to get to the before 10.30!
- Lots of people cycle to college, so there's a big there.

2 Read the clues and complete the words.

Where are we?

1 You can play tennis and football here.

s_o_s_c_ _ _e

4 A lot of people live in one of these.

a_ _t_m_t_b_ _k

2 People take their skateboards here.

s_ _e_p_k

5 You can buy lots of different things here.

d_ _ _t_m_t_s_ _e

3 You can see famous paintings here.

a_ _g_ _ _ _y

6 Families play in the water here.

s_ _m_g_p_l

3 Complete the sentences with the correct words.

clinic college factory information centre
palace police station stadium

- I've got an appointment to see the doctor at the next week.
- Two officers arrested the thief and took him to the
- They make engines for aircraft in this
- The king and queen live in a beautiful in the old city.
- I want to go to and study business.
- More than 20,000 fans watch their team play every week at this
- They have lots of information about sightseeing and local events at the tourist

4 Complete the sentences with a/an, the or no article (-).

- I need to get new phone.
- There's a big department store in city centre.
- It might rain, so take umbrella with you.
- My sister doesn't eat meat.
- It's often hot and sunny in the south of Italy.
- Are you student?
- My uncle travels all over world.
- I don't like bananas.
- Can you speak French?
- My aunt has bought new house. She really likes house, but she doesn't like her neighbours!
- A lot of people come to UK to work.
- Let's meet at swimming pool in hour.

5 Choose the correct words in the dialogues.

A: How ¹many / much people do you want to invite?

B: Only a ²few / little.

A: There are ³some / any great shops in this town!

B: Yes, but there aren't ⁴some / any that are cheap enough for me!

A: ⁵All / Every the parks in the city are very popular.

B: I know. I walk through the park ⁶a lot of / every day when it's sunny.

A: How ⁷many / much money have you got?

B: Only ⁸a little / some. Not enough for a pizza!

6 Read the blog post about home. Choose the best words to complete it. There are two words you don't need.

all any every few how lot much some

It's only when you go away that you find out ¹..... much home means to you. I spent six weeks in South America last summer. It was a great experience, but there were a ²..... of things that I missed about home. The first thing was friends! Of course, I made a ³..... new friends, but new friends just aren't the same as old ones! Then there was my family. At home, my sister seems to do at least one thing to annoy me ⁴..... day, but when I was hundreds of miles away I was amazed how fond of her I felt! There are ⁵..... things that always feel strange when you're away from home – like sleeping in a different bed and eating different food. And of course you can't be in a bad mood – you have to be polite and cheerful ⁶..... the time, which isn't easy!