

34a *If you come here...*

Information

STUDENT A

Wolong in the misty mountains of south-western China

Wolong is a spectacular region of bamboo forests, mountains and rivers on the edge of the Tibetan plateau. It is the home of 150 giant pandas – one sixth of the entire world population. During our stay, we'll visit one of the Tibetan farming communities where the women wear traditional dress and cook rice dishes on wood fires. Their lifestyle is simple and close to nature.

We will also have time to look for a variety of other exotic wildlife including red pandas, golden monkeys, snow leopards, Asiatic black bears and 230 different kinds of birds.

We'll stay in a mountain hut on the edge of the Tibetan plateau where you will enjoy a spectacular view of snow-capped mountains and bamboo forests. This is the ideal place to go walking: the clear mountain air will make you feel on top of the world, but come prepared for extreme changes of temperature – it's very hot in the daytime and very cold at night.

When you have had enough of the peace and quiet of the mountains, you will have plenty of time to go shopping in Chengdu, the busy capital of this region, where you can buy medicinal herbs and unusual spices.



STUDENT B

The Highlands of Scotland

Coming to Scotland is like stepping back in time – the relaxing scenery will soon make you forget the busy routine of everyday life. We'll explore the mountains, forests and lochs (lakes) of the Highlands where we hope to see the most interesting wildlife of Scotland including red deer, sea eagles, golden eagles and many other rare species of birds.

We'll spend a few days on the north coast where you can sit on one of the excellent beaches with their golden sands and watch the dolphins playing around the fishing boats. You should be prepared for all types of weather – it can be sunny one minute and pouring with rain the next. But these changes in the weather are also responsible for beautiful rainbows and sunsets as well as the colourful countryside. We'll visit the famous distilleries where whisky has been produced since the beginning of the 17th century.

During our stay, we'll stay in an 18th century castle where you can try traditional Scottish haggis made of sheep's heart, liver and lungs! Scottish people are warm-hearted and welcoming – you will love sitting round a warm fire in the evening, listening to their stories. You may not understand their Scottish accent but you'll appreciate the warm atmosphere!



STUDENT C

The Caribbean island of Barbados

If you don't like sunshine and sea, this is not the holiday for you! If you come to the volcanic islands of the Caribbean, you'll spend a lot of time on, in or under the ocean. There are so many different kinds of exotic fish that it is a scuba diver's paradise.

For sunbathers, the beaches are sandy and the surface of the sea is as calm as a cup of tea. Don't expect any changes in weather – you'll see the sun every day.

We will stay in the West of the island, away from the package-tour hotels and accommodation will be in a small family hotel made of wood in the traditional style. Here, the speciality is curried goat or chicken in coconut sauce... followed by music from the family band. There are plenty of places where you can listen to reggae all night if you want, but if you want to join us on our fishing and diving trips, you'll go to bed early and get up with the sun.

You can buy the clothes you need from one of the many colourful clothes stores – all you need is a straw hat, bermuda shorts, a brightly coloured T-shirt and a pair of flip-flops. Most people hire their water-sport equipment. The people of Barbados are friendly and fun, but don't expect anything to happen on time, life is much too relaxed for that.



STUDENT D

The Indonesian jungle of Borneo

If you are an adventurous traveller you will enjoy this trip. We'll fly to the middle of Borneo and then spend a week walking through peaceful rice paddies. We'll meet the gentle, hospitable people who live in villages along the rivers and stay in their long-houses for a few days.

During our stay, we'll learn how to bathe and do our washing in the river, cook over open fires and understand how these people survive in the jungle.

We'll continue our journey through the jungle by houseboat: we'll sleep and cook on board. During the day, you can sit on the roof sipping tea and watching the world pass by. We'll explore the lakes at sunset and try to see the shy monkeys and freshwater dolphins.

When we come to a town, we'll stop at one of the floating markets where you can buy all sorts of local produce: curry spices, cakes, tea and local handicrafts made from tree-bark.





You won't see a bathroom or a soft bed for three weeks, but you will experience a completely new world.



346

If you come here...

Chart

	Wolong in south-west China 	The Highlands of Scotland 	The Caribbean island of Barbados 	The Indonesian jungle of Borneo 
environment/ weather				
wildlife				
accommodation/ food				
people/lifestyle				
places to visit/ things to do				

The group has decided to go to _____

because _____

If you come here... Worksheets **34a** and **34b**

NOTE: Use Worksheets 34a and 34b for this activity.

ACTIVITY

Groupwork: reading, writing, speaking

AIM

To read information and to write notes about it.

To choose a place you want to visit.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS

First conditional to talk about a likely situation and to describe its result

VOCABULARY

Description of places: scenery and lifestyle

PREPARATION

Make one copy of Worksheet 34a for every four students in the class and cut it into sections A, B, C and D as indicated.

Make one copy of Worksheet 34b for each student in the class.

TIME

30 to 40 minutes

PROCEDURE

- 1 Ask the students to work in groups of four.
- 2 Explain that they are going to decide where their group will go for the trip of a lifetime and that they have got four places to choose from.
- 3 Write the four places on the board:
 - a) Wolong in south-west China
 - b) the Highlands of Scotland
 - c) the Caribbean island of Barbados
 - d) the Indonesian jungle in Borneo.
 Now ask the students to spend a few moments brainstorming what sort of experiences they think they will have if they go to each of the places.
- 4 Give sections A, B, C and D from Worksheet 34a to each group and ask each student to read one section without showing it to the other members of their group. Explain that each member of the group has got information about one of the places.
- 5 Give a copy of Worksheet 34b to each student in the class and ask them to write notes about their place in the space provided.
- 6 When they have finished writing notes, tell them that each student in the group is now responsible for describing their place while the rest of the group takes notes in the relevant spaces on their chart.
- 7 When they have done that, they should discuss the four places and come to a group decision about which of the places they are going to visit. They should write the place they have chosen and the reasons why in the space provided at the bottom of the worksheet.

OPTION

Throughout the activity students can work in pairs rather than individually. That is, in each group there are two Student As, two Student Bs, etc.