

Summer sun in Finland? Åland isles try to attract tourists to cooler climate

Level 1: Elementary / Pre-Intermediate

Article summary: This article discusses how Finland is gaining popularity as a tourist destination.

Time: 60 minutes

Skills: Reading, Speaking, Writing

Language focus: Past Simple vs Present Simple

Materials needed: One copy of the worksheet per student

1. Warmer

- a. This activity aims to set up the topic of a perfect vacation spot. Give students some time to create their drawings and have them present their ideas in pairs or small groups. If any of your students don't want to draw, they can create a word cloud or mind map with words related to their ideal vacation spot.

2. Key words

- a. Ask students to work individually or in pairs and complete the sentences using key words from the text. Tell them all the words appear in the article so they can see them in context if they are unsure about their meaning. Allow a few minutes for students to check answers in pairs or groups of three before checking with the whole group.

Key:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <i>campaigns</i> | 6. <i>co-owner</i> |
| 2. <i>decreased</i> | 7. <i>widely</i> |
| 3. <i>approaching</i> | 8. <i>destination</i> |
| 4. <i>archipelago</i> | 9. <i>several</i> |
| 5. <i>despite</i> | 10. <i>landscapes</i> |

- b. Students complete the sentences using phrases from task A.

Key:

1. *widely*
2. *landscapes*
3. *despite*
4. *decreased*
5. *approaching*

3. Comprehension check

- a. Ask students to work individually and choose the correct option to complete each sentence. Once finished, give them a few minutes to check in pairs before checking answers with the whole class.

Key:

1. *from other countries*
2. *10%*
3. *the high temperatures in the rest of Europe*
4. *campaigns*
5. *more widely*

4. Key language

- a. Ask students to complete the sentences from the article using the past simple form of the verbs in brackets. They can do this individually or in pairs.

Key:

1. *was*
2. *saw*
3. *told*
4. *said*
5. *was*

- b. Ask students to look at the sentences they completed in task A and choose the correct option.

Key:

1. *habits and general information*
2. *actions and events that happened in the past*

- c. Students work in pairs and complete the sentences using the verbs given in the correct form (present simple or past simple).

Key:

1. *visited*
2. *loved*
3. *was*
4. *were*
5. *enjoyed*
6. *want*

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5. Discussion

- a. Students discuss the statements from the article and provide reasons for their opinions, referring to their own experiences whenever possible.

6. In your own words

- a-c. Ask students to do some online research and prepare a presentation about a holiday destination that is not very popular with tourists, but they would like to visit. Each group presents their ideas and then each student decides which place they would like to visit on their next holiday.