

Topics: Travel by Adrian Tennant

LEVEL: Pre-intermediate
AGE: Teenagers / Adults
TIME NEEDED: 90 minutes + project
LANGUAGE FOCUS: articles; understanding vocabulary in context; topic words, i.e. *transport* and types of activities

LEAD-IN

Put students in groups and ask them to discuss the four questions. Ask a few students to report back to the class about their group discussion.

PICTURES

Ask students to look at the five photos and, in their groups, discuss what they can see. You could write up some prompts on the board, e.g. *Where was each photo taken? What kind of holiday does each photo show? What can you do in each place?* etc. Elicit ideas from students as a whole class discussion.

READING: ADVERTISEMENTS

Ask students to read through the five advertisements and match the photos to the correct one. Tell them to look for the clues in each, e.g. advertisement 1: ... *floating among the glaciers of Antarctica*. If you want, you can give a short time limit, e.g. two minutes. Get students to check their answers in pairs before checking as a class.

Key a _____
 1. D; 2. B; 3. E; 4. A; 5. C

Next, ask students to read the texts again and answer the five questions. Again, get pairs to check their answers together before checking as a class.

Key _____
 1. *seven-and-a-half hours*
 2. *in Yosemite National Park*
 3. *the Atlantic ocean*
 4. *fresh fruit*
 5. *because the cabins are heated*

WORKING WITH THE LANGUAGE

Ask students to look at the examples of article use in the box (a-e). Next, ask them to match these examples to the sentences explaining the different uses of articles (1-5). Put students in pairs and get them to check their answers together before checking as a class.

Key a _____
 1. c; 2. a; 3. d; 4. b

Then, ask students to complete the short text with *a, an, the* or no article. Monitor, and help where necessary. Get students to check their answers in pairs before checking as a class.

Key b _____
 1. -; 2. *the*; 3. *the*; 4. -; 5. *a*

WORKING WITH VOCABULARY

Focus 1: Meaning

Ask students to look back at the travel advertisements and find words that match the definitions. The words are in the order in which they appear in the advertisements. Encourage them to work in pairs and discuss their ideas as they read. Monitor, and help where necessary. Check the answers as a class.

Key _____
 1. *floating*; 2. *luxurious*; 3. *navigate*; 4. *drift (along)* 5. *scenery*; 6. *cobbled streets*; 7. *delicious*; 8. *hiking*

Focus 2: Topic-related words

Ask students to try to find words in the texts for each of the four categories. Encourage students to work together and discuss their answers. Check the answers as a class.

Key _____
 1. *cruise ship, kayak, houseboat, train, car, raft(ing)*.
Students might also want to add 'plane' as in advertisement 4 it mentions flying, but the word 'plane' doesn't actually appear in the text.
 2. *hiking, climbing, camping and rafting*

Topics: Travel
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Ask students to listen to a short radio feature and answer the two questions. Play the recording. Put students in pairs and ask them to discuss their answers together. Play the recording again, if necessary. Elicit ideas from the class asking students to explain their answers.

Key _____
B – Kerala. The clue is the holiday involves a boat going slowly down the river.

Transcript:

I'm a travel journalist and the type of holiday I like is one where I can do things like shopping or visiting museums. I've never enjoyed holidays where I just sit around doing nothing, so I really didn't think I'd enjoy this one. However, I was really surprised. Sitting on a boat going slowly down a river and looking at the beautiful scenery was so relaxing and I didn't want the holiday to end.

SPEAKING

Put students in small groups and ask them to discuss the questions together. Monitor, and help where necessary. Afterwards, ask a few groups to report back on their discussion, explaining which of the holidays they would like to go on and why.

PROJECT

Ask students to carry out the project for homework. The advertisements could be posted around the room, possibly with photos showing the destinations.

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LEAD-IN

Work in groups to discuss the following questions:

- 1. Where did you last go on holiday?
- 2. How did you get there?
- 3. What did you do there?
- 4. What would your ideal holiday be? Why?

PICTURES

Look at these photos. Talk about what you can see in each one with a partner.

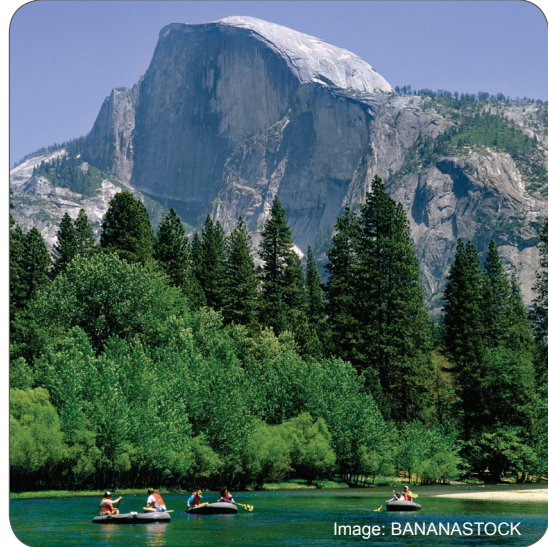
A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



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READING: ADVERTISEMENTS

a. Read the travel advertisements below and match the photos from the previous exercise to the correct advertisements.

1. _____

Experience the trip of a lifetime floating among the glaciers of Antarctica.



There's no need to worry about the cold. You'll be staying in heated cabins during the eleven-day cruise.

The ship leaves from Ushuaia in the far south of Argentina. Once in the Antarctic, you'll have the chance to see penguins and seals and go kayaking.

2. _____



Hire a luxurious houseboat and explore the backwaters of Kerala - it's such a relaxing way to spend your time.

There are more than forty-four rivers in this southern Indian state for you to navigate.

Visit villages, buy fresh fruit from the riverside markets and just relax as you drift along on the water.

3. _____

DON'T LIKE BUSY ROADS? TAKE THE TRAIN! ON THE RAILS



This seven-and-a-half-hour journey takes you through some of the most beautiful scenery in Europe. You'll travel across 291 bridges, through 91 tunnels and over the 7,000-foot-high Oberalp Pass. Sit by the window and watch the world pass slowly by.

4. _____

Fly to Lisbon, hire a car and drive through some really beautiful countryside.



Visit the lovely town of Óbidos with its cobbled streets and medieval walls.

Drive down to the coast, walk along the beautiful beaches and watch the Atlantic waves as they crash against the cliffs.

Then, in the evening, sit down for a delicious meal and have a glass of wine.

5. _____



THE USA IS NOT JUST ABOUT BIG CITIES LIKE NEW YORK, BOSTON AND LOS ANGELES. IN FACT, THERE'S SO MUCH EMPTY SPACE YOU'D BE AMAZED.

WHY NOT GO CAMPING AND HIKING IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK? THE PARK IS FULL OF WILDLIFE AND YOU MIGHT BE LUCKY AND SEE A BLACK BEAR. YOU CAN ALSO GO CLIMBING OR HAVE FUN RAFTING DOWN THE MERCED RIVER.

b. Now read the texts again and answer these questions:

1. How long does the train journey take?
2. Where might you see a bear?
3. Which ocean or sea is the town of Óbidos near?
4. What can you buy in the markets in Kerala?
5. Why won't you be cold in Antarctica?

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WORKING WITH THE LANGUAGE

a. Articles are an important part of English. Look at the examples below:

- a. ... hire a car ...
- b. ... through some of the most beautiful scenery ...
- c. ... have fun rafting down the Merced River ...
- d. ... big cities like New York ...

Now match the uses to the examples:

1. We use the definite article, *the*, with many rivers, seas and mountain ranges.
2. We use an indefinite article, *a* or *an*, when we are talking about a singular thing that we haven't mentioned before.
3. Generally we do not use an article with a place name.
4. We use the definite article, *the*, when we use a superlative adjective.

b. Complete the advertisement with *a*, *the* or - if no article is needed.



(1) _____ Budapest is the capital of Hungary.

With (2) _____ River Danube dividing the city in half – Buda on one side and Pest on the other – it's one of (3) _____ most interesting cities in (4) _____ Europe.

Visit the castle and enjoy the amazing views of the city, or go for (5) _____ walk in one of the many parks.

WORKING WITH VOCABULARY

Focus 1: Meaning

Find words in the texts that mean ...

1. moving slowly across water
2. very expensive and comfortable
3. to use maps or other equipment to decide which way to go
4. to move somewhere slowly as though you do not know where you are going
5. natural things like trees, hills and lakes that you can see in a particular place
6. surfaces made from many small round stones fixed closely together
7. with a very nice taste or smell
8. the activity of walking for long distances in the countryside

Focus 2: Topic-related words

Read the texts again and find the following:

1. six types of transport
2. four activities you can do in Yosemite National Park

LISTENING

Listen to the short radio feature and answer the questions below.

1. Which of the five holidays featured in the travel advertisements did the person go on?
2. How do you know?

SPEAKING

Discuss these questions in small groups.

1. Which of the five holidays would you choose as a group? Why?
2. What would you need to take with you on the holiday?

PROJECT

Write a short travel advertisement for a newspaper about a holiday destination of your choice.