

3 Far and Away



“Certainly, travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living.”

—Miriam Beard Vagts

1 Listen and Discuss



In pairs, tell each other five things you expect a hotel to have. Then read about these four unusual hotels. Share with each other how each hotel is different from what you expected.

Jules' Undersea Lodge Florida, USA

Undoubtedly, most people have never been to a hotel like Jules' Undersea Lodge before. This extremely unusual hotel, located in Key Largo, Florida, is on the ocean floor! Guests scuba dive to the hotel's one unit, which is over 19 feet (six meters) below the surface. The unit includes two bedrooms, a television, and 50-inch (127-centimeter) circular windows that offer views of passing sea life.



Capsule hotels Throughout Japan

In recent years, capsule hotels have gained widespread popularity in Japan. Capsule hotels are hotels in which guests stay in a small sleeping space that is just big enough for a bed. There is so little room that some people can scarcely sit up in these capsules. However, in expensive cities, capsule hotels offer a relatively inexpensive alternative to more traditional hotels.

Ariau Amazon Towers Hotel Manaus, Brazil

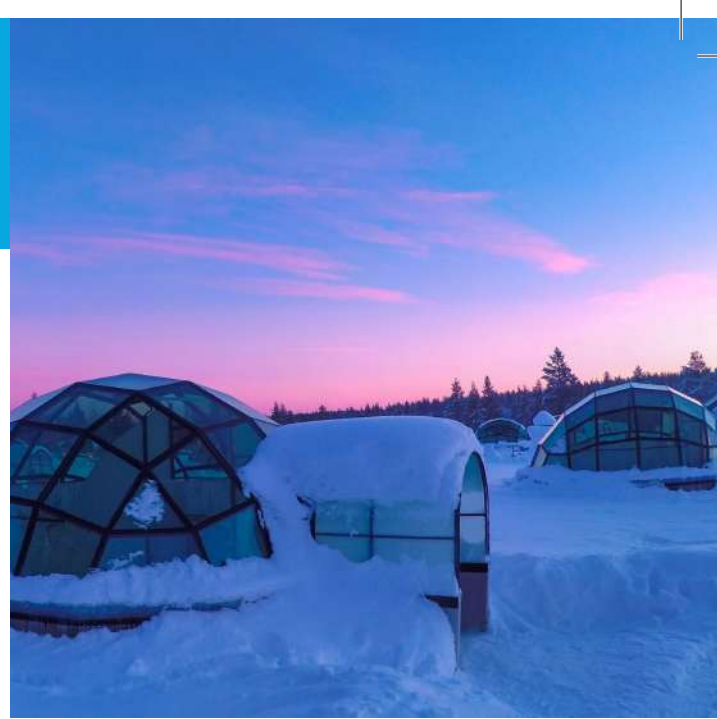
Ariau Amazon Towers Hotel in Manaus, Brazil, is the world's largest commercial tree house. Amazingly, Ariau's towers are built at the level of the rain forest treetops, about 72 feet (22 meters) in the air. The towers are linked together by four miles (six kilometers) of wooden catwalks. This very unusual setting gives guests the unique opportunity to experience the plant and animal life of the rain forest canopy while leaving the rain forest's ecosystem undisturbed.



The Kakslauttanen Hotel

Lapland, Finland

In the heart of Finnish Lapland, 155 miles (250 kilometers) north of the Arctic Circle, lies a truly magical place. The Kakslauttanen Hotel offers guests the opportunity to stay overnight in either a snow or glass igloo. Those who choose the glass igloos can enjoy the night skies and the stunning Northern Lights from the comfort of their own bed. Luckily, the hotel provides cozy, extra-warm sleeping bags for the guests who choose to sleep in snow igloos!



Quick Check ✓

A. Vocabulary. Complete the paragraph with words from the box.

commercial	relatively	undisturbed
ecosystem	surface	widespread

I live in a beautiful area of Panama that is very popular with tourists. In the last few years, there has been (1) _____ development of large, impersonal hotels. Lately, I've been thinking about opening a small, friendly hotel. It would be (2) _____ close to the center of town, but far enough away that the guests would be (3) _____ by the noise and traffic. I'd like my hotel to have a view of the water. There's nothing I like better than to watch the sun reflect off the (4) _____ of a lake. I'd also like to run a wildlife park close to the hotel. I wouldn't charge admission to the park because I don't think enjoying nature should be a (5) _____ activity. However, I'd limit the number of people who could enter the park each day, as too many visitors would disrupt the (6) _____.

B. Comprehension. Answer *true* or *false*.

- _____ Capsule hotels are popular in Japan.
- _____ Guests take a boat to Jules' Undersea Lodge.
- _____ Jules' Undersea Lodge has small, square windows.
- _____ The Kakslauttanen Hotel gives guests the opportunity to explore the rain forest canopy.
- _____ Capsule hotels provide an inexpensive alternative to traditional hotels.
- _____ Guests at the Arianau Amazon Towers Hotel have a negative effect on the rain forest's ecosystem.



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3 Grammar

Adverbs of Degree

Adverbs of degree tell us about the intensity of a verb, adjective, or other adverbs. Some common adverbs of degree are:

absolutely	completely	hardly	quite	so
almost	enough	just	rather	too
barely	extremely	nearly	scarcely	very

Adverbs of degree usually go before the main verb they modify.

I've **almost** finished packing.

I **nearly** missed my flight.

Adverbs of degree usually go before the adjective or adverb they modify.

The travel agent was **extremely** helpful.

He read the map **very** carefully.

When *enough* is used as an adverb of degree, it is placed after adjectives and adverbs.

Is your coffee hot **enough**?

You are not speaking loudly **enough**.

Sentence Adverbs

Sentence adverbs modify an entire sentence, or a whole clause within a sentence. They indicate the attitude of the speaker. Some common sentence adverbs are:

actually	certainly	frankly*	obviously	probably
admittedly*	clearly	honestly*	officially*	undoubtedly
apparently	evidently	naturally*	presumably	(un)fortunately*

(*) Some sentence adverbs usually go at the beginning of a sentence.

Frankly, I'm disappointed in the quality of this hotel.


Other sentence adverbs can go after the verb *be*, before simple tenses of other verbs, or after the auxiliary in a compound verb.

You are **obviously** having a good time.

He **certainly** spent a lot of money on this trip.

The flight has **undoubtedly** left by now.

A. Rewrite each sentence to include the adverb of degree.

 We have recovered from our trip. (almost) We have almost recovered from our trip.

1. We ate anything on the airplane. (hardly)

2. The food was bland for me. (too)

3. The flight attendant dropped my meal on me. (nearly)

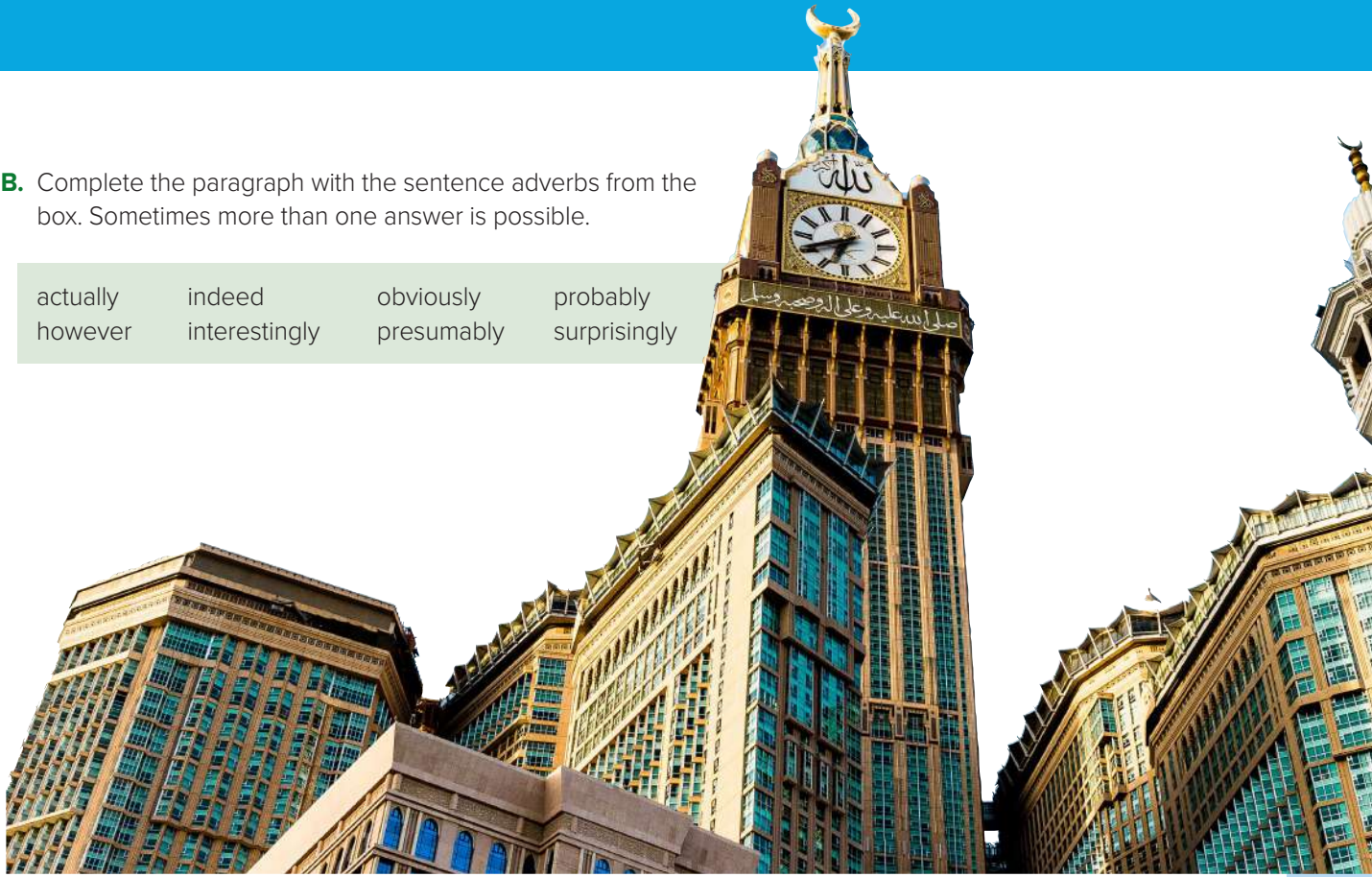
4. Sleeping on the train was uncomfortable. (rather)

5. We were exhausted by the end of our trip. (absolutely)

6. The airplane seat wasn't big for me. (enough)

B. Complete the paragraph with the sentence adverbs from the box. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

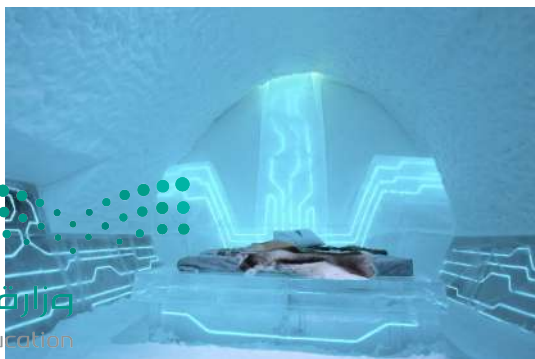
actually	indeed	obviously	probably
however	interestingly	presumably	surprisingly



Staying in the Abraj Al-Bait hotel in Makkah, Saudi Arabia, is an amazing experience. (1) _____ it is a complex of seven skyscraper hotels. (2) _____, the central hotel tower has the world's largest clock face and, (3) _____, the tallest tower in the complex is (4) _____ the tallest building in Saudi Arabia, with a height of 601 meters. The hotel is very close to Islam's most sacred site, the Great Mosque of Makkah. The hotel complex was (5) _____ built to accommodate pilgrims of the Hajj that visit Makkah every year from all parts of the Muslim world (6) _____, it also welcomes visitors to Makkah throughout the year, even though the greatest concentration of visitors is most (7) _____ during the Hajj. The Abraj Al-Bait has a five-story shopping mall and a parking garage capable of holding over a thousand vehicles, (8) _____ both for the visitors of the mall and for the hotel guests.

C. Read the following facts about another unusual hotel in another country. Then write a paragraph about it, using adverbs of degree and sentence adverbs.

- The hotel is located on the Torne River, 124 miles (200 kilometers) north of the Arctic Circle.
- The hotel is the biggest igloo in the world.
- It melts into the river every spring and is recreated every winter.
- The temperature inside the hotel is 23° Fahrenheit (-5° Celsius).



**ICEHOTEL,
Sweden**

3 Far and Away



4 Conversation

Attendant: Flight C458 is ready for takeoff. Please ensure your seatbelts are fastened and your seats are in the upright position.

Passenger: Excuse me?

Attendant: Yes? Can I get something for you?

Passenger: No, but I wonder if I can ask you a question?

Attendant: Certainly.

Passenger: I see that there's an empty row near the front of the plane. I was wondering if it would be possible to change seats. I usually try to get some sleep during **red-eye** flights, and it would be much easier if I could spread out.

Attendant: Unfortunately, that won't be possible. It's against our policy for passengers to leave their assigned seats on this airline.

Passenger: Well, that's a **crummy** policy. I **don't get it**. Other airlines allow it. Why should passengers be crammed together when there are open seats on the flight?

Attendant: Please try to understand. The problem is that if we gave you the seat, it wouldn't be fair to other passengers who might also want the open seat.

Passenger: That's a **drag**. Especially since I requested a window seat at the front of the plane, and they put me on the aisle near the back!

Attendant: Could I see your ticket, please?

Passenger: Sure, why?

Attendant: Sir, the empty window seat at the front of the plane *is* your seat! Your seat is number 3, not 33.

Passenger: Oh! **Awesome!**



Real Talk

red-eye = overnight

crummy = bad

don't get it = don't understand

a drag = a disappointment

Awesome! = Terrific!

About the Conversation

1. What request does the passenger make?
2. How does the flight attendant respond? What reasons does he give?
3. How does the passenger end up getting what he wants?

Your Turn

- Role-play with a partner. Imagine you are at a shopping mall, making a special request of the sales clerk or assistant. Use phrases for making and declining special requests.

Making and Declining Special Requests

I wonder if it would be possible...

Do you think it would be possible...?

Unfortunately, that's not possible...

I wish it were possible, but...

That won't be possible...

I'm afraid (we) can't...

We can't do it because...

The problem is...

5 Listening

Listen to the experienced traveler talk about what to pack for a backpacking trip through Europe. Tick ☒ the items he recommends bringing.

rain jacket	<input type="checkbox"/>	smartphone	<input type="checkbox"/>
expensive boots	<input type="checkbox"/>	sunglasses	<input type="checkbox"/>
toiletries	<input type="checkbox"/>	box of bandages	<input type="checkbox"/>
trash bags	<input type="checkbox"/>	tweezers	<input type="checkbox"/>
water bottle	<input type="checkbox"/>	expensive jewelry	<input type="checkbox"/>
2–3 bandages	<input type="checkbox"/>	guide book	<input type="checkbox"/>



6 Pronunciation

A. Words like **backpack** and **water bottle** are called compound nouns because they are made up of two separate nouns. The stress goes on the first part of the compound noun. Say each sentence. Then listen to see if you stressed the compound nouns correctly.

1. Throw a couple of **trash bags** in your **backpack** for dirty laundry.
2. Keep your **sunglasses** and **water bottle** in an easily accessible front compartment.
3. Some people like to bring a **notebook** or journal to write about their travels.
4. You packed everything except your **toothpaste** and **toothbrush**.
5. I'll look for a **postcard** in my **mailbox** every day!

B. Find compound nouns in the passages about hotels and in the conversation you read. Underline and practice reading them aloud. Remember to stress the first part.

7 Vocabulary Building

A. You will see these words in the reading on pages 40 and 41. Match the words with their meanings.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. _____ pristine | a. the action of cutting down trees to clear forests |
| 2. _____ preserve | b. distinguishing traits or qualities |
| 3. _____ conservation | c. something that causes a person to act |
| 4. _____ incentive | d. abundantly green, fertile |
| 5. _____ deforestation | e. careful protection of something |
| 6. _____ characteristics | f. to keep safe from injury, harm, or destruction |
| 7. _____ remote | g. lessening, diminishing |
| 8. _____ reduction | h. geographically isolated |
| 9. _____ lush | i. not spoiled |



B. Check your answers with a partner. If you do not understand the meaning of a word, look it up in a dictionary.

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8 Reading

Before Reading

1. **Eco-** means “related to the earth or environment.” What do you think **ecotourism** means?
2. Read the passage and underline all the words and phrases that can help you understand what ecotourism means.

Ecotourism: See the World While Saving It



Imagine vacationing in a place of stunning, natural beauty. Picture yourself relaxing on a pristine beach in Belize, exploring the desert on a camel in Riyadh, or following lions and zebras in Kenya. Now imagine that while enjoying these experiences, you are also helping to preserve the environment, protect wildlife, and support local communities. Sound too good to be true? It isn't! Such vacations are part of the fastest-growing trend in the travel industry. The trend is called ecotourism.

While ecotourism was almost unheard of before the 1990s, it has quickly become a multi-billion dollar industry. But what exactly *is* ecotourism? These are some of its characteristics:

- It involves travel to natural, often remote, destinations. These are often protected areas where development is limited.
- Ecotourism destinations focus on recycling, water conservation, and using renewable energy sources.
- It builds environmental awareness. As visitors explore an area, they also learn about it.
- It provides an economic incentive to preserve the environment and raises money to help protect it.
- It creates financial opportunities and jobs for the local population.

Costa Rica was one of the first ecotourism success stories. At one time, Costa Rica had the highest rate of deforestation in all of Latin America. However, since ecotourism, there has been a dramatic reduction in deforestation. Now, more than a quarter of Costa Rica's land is protected from development. Costa Rica is now the world's top ecotourism destination. Amazingly, this small country of five million people has about three million visitors per year.

Stacy Davison is one of the three million tourists who chose to visit Costa Rica this year. “We wanted to explore a country that was largely unspoiled by development. And, boy, did we get what we were looking for. We saw beautiful beaches, lush rainforest, and exotic wildlife.” Stacy is especially enthusiastic about a wildlife refuge she and her husband visited during their trip. “Getting there took four hours by bus along an unpaved road. But it was so beautiful that it was worth it. We hiked the trails and took a tour through the rain forest canopy. Our guide showed us how to poke a stick into a termite nest to get a snack (They have a nutty flavor!), and how to use live leaf-cutter ants to create stitches for a cut. It was quite an amazing experience!”

Stacy also enjoyed knowing that the money she was spending on her vacation was being used in environmentally responsible ways. She stayed in locally-owned, environmentally-friendly hotels that grow their own fruits and vegetables, and use renewable sources of energy such as wind and solar power.

Undoubtedly, ecotourism plays a critical role in preserving the land in Costa Rica as well as in other ecotourism destinations around the globe. At the same time, ecotourism provides visitors with a unique, unforgettable, and educational vacation. Basically, ecotourism is a win-win situation for both the tourists and the countries they visit.



After Reading

Complete the sentences.

- _____ is the fastest growing trend in the travel industry.
- _____ is the world's top ecotourism destination.
- At one time, Costa Rica had the highest rate of _____ in Latin America.
- More than _____ of Costa Rica's land is protected from development.
- Two examples of renewable energy sources are _____ and _____.

9 Speaking

- Work in pairs or groups. Think about the characteristics and benefits of ecotourism and make notes in the chart. Then list the names of places in your country that are good for ecotourism and the activities that are offered there.
- Use your notes to discuss your ideas in class.

	Characteristics/benefits of ecotourism	Places in my country for ecotourism
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

10 Writing



- A. 1. • Think about the most important places in Saudi Arabia. Why are these places or sites significant? Why should a tourist visit them?
- What does Saudi Arabia have to offer visitors that is unique or special?
- How does the country welcome and look after its visitors?
2. Read the following extract from the Vision 2030 Program and find out the following:
 - a. What are the unique and special things that Saudi Arabia has to offer visitors? Compare these to your ideas in part 1.
 - b. What plans does the government of the country have to further improve and develop tourism and travel to Saudi Arabia?

Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030

Saudi Arabia is blessed with many rich assets. Our geographic, cultural, social, demographic and economic advantages have enabled us to take a leading position in the world.

To build the best future for our country, we have based our vision for Saudi Arabia on three pillars that represent our unique competitive advantages. Our status will enable us to build on our leading role as the heart of Arab and Islamic worlds.

At the same time, we will use our investment power to create a more diverse and sustainable economy. Finally, we will use our strategic location to build our role as an integral driver of international trade and to connect three continents: Africa, Asia and Europe.

Using our unique location, our vibrant economy and our status as the heart of the Arab and Islamic worlds, we will increase travel to our country and welcome guests. We recognize that Allah the Almighty has given to our country, a gift more precious than oil. Saudi Arabia is the Land of the Two Holy Mosques, the most sacred sites on earth and the direction of the Kaaba (Qibla) to which more than a billion Muslims turn at prayer. We will expand and further develop our country to ensure that Muslims from around the world can visit the Holy Sites.

The Hajj and Umrah Vision Realization Program will allow the highest possible number of Muslims to perform Hajj and Umrah to the fullest. We will develop facilities and transport around the Two Holy Mosques – providing pilgrims with the best possible services before, during and after their visits to Makkah and reflecting the bright

and civilized image of the country in the service of the Two Holy Mosques. This unique status of our country is clearly manifested in our responsibility in providing generous services and care for visitors to these two holy sites.

Furthermore, we will provide wider tourism, as well as cultural and historical programs, for those who come to perform Umrah. To achieve this, we will continue working on the development of our infrastructure and support the private sector to provide high quality Umrah services.

The program will support the revival, preservation, promotion and classification of Islamic, Arab and National heritage through supporting museums and historical sites by facilitating access and funding preservation and funding events that showcase local traditions.

Cultural tourism destinations including the world's largest 'open air museum' (at Al-Ula) are planned along with the re-establishment of art and crafts centers.

Through our vibrant economy, we will develop the tourism infrastructure to create new holiday resorts and extend the road infrastructure, so visitors can experience the natural beauty of the country. Environmental parks will be rehabilitated and developed for ecological tourism. We will also further develop the digital systems to attract conference tourism to our country.



* Adapted from the text of the Vision Programs at <https://vision2030.gov.sa/en> and from the text that was drafted by the Council of Economic and Development Affairs as instructed by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman.



B. Write a letter to your friend from Britain (who has never been to Saudi Arabia), about a place in your country that you plan to visit.

1. Research and collect information about an important place in Saudi Arabia that you feel a visitor should see, or that a person who has never been to your country should learn about.
 - Think about the history of the place and why it is significant to the country's history and culture.
2. Use the organizer to make notes on:
 - What you know about the place
 - New information you have found
 - What you can do there
 - Your reasons for choosing the place and why it is important
 - Examples and details

When you write the letter, give reasons why this place is important and also how it is special or unique.

Name of the place and what it is (an historical site, a place of natural beauty etc):		
Reasons why it is important	Things to do there	Examples and details (from your research)

Dear Hamed,
 How are you? I hope that you and your family are well.
 I have some exciting news that I wanted to write to you about.
 I'm going on a trip to climb the highest mountain in Britain. It
 is in Scotland and it is called Ben Nevis.
 In addition to the fact that it is an area of outstanding natural
 beauty, it also has a historical significance.
 It was the site of Britain's first weather observatory and it was
 built in 1883. This helped scientists all over the world learn how
 to study the weather and understand the climate.
 It is going to be tough to climb, but it will be great to be outside
 in nature and enjoy the clean environment. This mountain region is
 unique as it has many plants and geological features that can only
 be found here in Scotland.

Writing Corner

When you write an informal letter:

- Open in a friendly way with an appropriate greeting and tell your friend why you are writing.
- When you are giving news such as an up-and-coming trip you will take, give as many details as you can. Use lots of words to describe the place or the experience.
- Note down your feelings, expectations, assumptions, questions, and doubts.
- Plan what information you are going to include in each paragraph.
- Close in an appropriate way and sign off with: Speak soon; Give my best wishes to your family; Write to me soon; and so on.

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11 Form, Meaning and Function



Future with *Be Going To*

Use *be going to* for the future, to talk about plans.

Affirmative (+)

I'm **going to** travel to Jordan.

Negative (-)

I'm **not going to** visit Petra.

Yes-No Questions (?)

Are you **going to** travel to Jordan?

Short Answer (+)

Yes, I am.

Short Answer (-)

No, I'm not.

Information Questions

What are you going to do on your vacation?

I'm going to travel to Africa.

When is he going to leave?

He's going to leave next week.

Which countries is he going to visit?

He's going to visit Tunisia and Morocco.

How are we going to go?

We're going to go by plane.

Where am I going to stay?

You're going to stay in a four-star hotel.

Who is going to travel with them?

They're going to travel with friends.

How long are they going to stay?

They're going to stay for a month.

Position of Adjectives

Antarctica is an **exotic** place. (*before nouns*)

Antarctica is **exotic**. (*after the verb be*)

A. Complete the article. Use the adjectives in the box.

coastal dense fertile humid local tropical

Jazan

Jazan, in southwestern Saudi Arabia, is a (1) coastal city on the Red Sea. It is the capital city of Jazan Province near the Yemeni border. Although it is a small province, it has a (2) _____ population of 1.6 million inhabitants. The terrain of the region is varied, consisting of mountains, (3) _____ plains, coasts, and islands. Jazan is famous for its (4) _____ products, especially its (5) _____ fruits like mango, figs, and papaya. The climate in the city of Jazan is very hot and (6) _____ in the summer, while temperatures in the mountains to the northeast are much cooler.

B. Add the question words. Match the questions and the answers.

1. Which suitcase are you going to take? e
2. _____ are they going to travel? _____
3. _____ is he going to do when he arrives? _____
4. _____ are they going to write to? _____
5. _____ are we going to stay? _____
6. _____ are we going to get there? _____

- a. In a beautiful hotel.
- b. To their parents.
- c. They're going to take a bus.
- d. They're going to arrive in the morning.
- e. The red one. It's new.
- f. He's going to rest.

Present Progressive

Use the present progressive for actions happening now or for definite arrangements in the future.

My friends **are waiting** for me at the airport.
What **are** you **doing** now?

My friends **are arriving** tomorrow.
What **are** you **doing** tonight?

Future with *Going to* and *Will*

Use (*be* +) *going to* to talk about plans. Use *will* + *maybe/probably* for uncertain or indefinite plans.

What are you **going to** do on your vacation?
I'm **going to** travel to Europe.
I'm not **going to** travel this year.

Where **will** you stay?
Maybe I'll stay with friends.
I probably **won't** stay in a hotel.

Time Expressions for the Future

I am leaving **tomorrow night**.
This year we will go on vacation to Al Ula, Saudi Arabia.
They are flying to Oman **on Thursday**.

Hurry! They will be here **soon**!
I am meeting her **in an hour**.
We will sit examinations **next month**.

- C. Complete your schedule for next Saturday. Then ask and answer questions with a partner.
Try to arrange a time to meet and do homework together.

⚡ **A:** What are you doing at two o'clock next Saturday?
B: I'm getting a haircut. How about you?

My Schedule	Activities and Times	My Partner's Schedule	Activities and Times
Morning		Morning	
Afternoon		Afternoon	
Evening		Evening	

- D. Look at the expressions in the box. Work with a partner. Ask and answer about their future plans. Use *going to* and *will*.

⚡ **A:** Where **are** you **going to go** on vacation this year?
B: I'll probably go to Dubai. How about you?
A: I'm going to visit my grandparents.

tomorrow • this week / month / year • tonight
next month / year / Tuesday • soon • on the weekend

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12 Project

1. Make a poster promoting ecotourism in your country. Work in pairs or groups.
2. Choose a place that would be good for ecotourism.
3. Research and complete the chart with information and details about the place.
4. Collect visuals and find samples of posters on the Internet to help you.
5. Design your poster. Think of a slogan and/or an attractive title. Look at the photo in your book and find more examples on the Internet to help you.

An area for ecotourism in Saudi Arabia: _____

Questions we would like to find answers to	Details and information we found out about the place	Pictures and images we can use in our poster
What kind of place is it? Is it an inland area? Is it a coastal area?		
How can visitors travel and explore the area?		
What can they see, observe, or experience?		
What outdoor activities can visitors do? (e.g. off-road driving, rock climbing, desert trekking, etc.)		
How is money raised in order to maintain the area?		
How are local communities and people involved? Jobs? (e.g. caretakers, guides, rangers, etc.)		
What are some of the environmental benefits?		

When you prepare a poster, remember it should:

- be quite large, so it can be noticed or read when posted on the wall
- be colorful in a tasteful way and have photos and/or drawings
- include memorable slogans
- convey a strong message
- be appealing to the viewer



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13 Self Reflection

Things that I liked about Unit 3:	Things that I didn't like very much:
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>

Things that I found easy in Unit 3:	Things that I found difficult in Unit 3:
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>

Unit 3 Checklist	I can do this very well.	I can do this quite well.	I need to study/ practice more.
talk about travel experiences and travel dreams			
discuss hotels and services			
make and decline special requests			
use adverbs of degree			
use sentence adverbs			
talk about the future with <i>be going to</i> and <i>will</i>			
ask information questions			
know about the position of adjectives			
use the present progressive to make future arrangements			

My five favorite new words from Unit 3:	If you're still not sure about something from Unit 3:
<hr/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read through the unit again • listen to the audio material • study the grammar and functions from the unit again • ask your teacher for help
<hr/>	
<hr/>	