

You are going to read a magazine article about wild camping. For questions 16–30, choose from the people (A–D). The people may be chosen more than once.

- A Luis Gallivan
- B Anna Cresswell
- C Thomas Parsons
- D Jennie Martinez

Which person

- enjoys the idea of facing some risks while camping?16 B
- compares attitudes to wild camping now and in the past?17 C
- mentions the inexpensive nature of wild camping?18 A19 D
- was forced by circumstances to share a camping experience?20 B
- is unwilling to recommend areas suitable for wild camping?21 C
- is pleased to have shown others how to enjoy camping?22 D
- accepts that parents may be concerned about their children?23 C
- refers to the need to travel light when wild camping?24 C
- explains how a negative experience made her avoid camping for a while?25 B
- says more people are beginning to see the attraction of wild camping?26 A
- describes a dangerous situation which could have been avoided?27 D
- says inexperienced campers should not go to remote places?28 C
- gives reasons for disliking organised campsites?29 A
- mentions being unable to do without certain comforts?30 B

Tip Strip

Question 16: Find a similar way of saying 'enjoys facing risks'.

Question 21: Find a similar way of saying 'unwilling to recommend'.

Question 27: Be careful! paragraph B refers to 'an accident', paragraph C refers to 'dangerous activities' and paragraph D refers to 'a disaster'. Which one is the correct answer here?

**Luis Gallivan** I'm turning my back on organised sites, particularly the supersized ones. Even at the relatively quiet sites you can seldom escape the constant chattering of people in neighbouring tents, or worse still, the noise of satellite-assisted televisions from camper vans. I go wild camping, which means I can set up my tent in a field or on a mountainside without paying anyone for the privilege. Lots of 'mild campers' (that's what we call the ones who use campsites) are waking up to the fact that wild camping gives you an eco-friendly break and offers a great deal more in the way of adventure. Because it's so different from 'mild' camping, though, people need to ask themselves: 'Do I really need this?' before packing their stuff. Wild camping is the ultimate budget holiday – once you've got to wherever you're going, the only expense is feeding yourself.

Anna Cresswell

My first experience of wild camping was a bit of an accident. I'd trekked with a friend to a remote spot but we each had different plans. She wanted to stay the night in a tent, whilst I was wanted to head back home before bedtime. As it happened, I was so exhausted that I ended up sharing the tiny uncomfortable tent with her. I must say the experience put me off wild camping for months, until I reminded myself that if I hadn't stayed, I'd never have witnessed that breathtaking sunset which more than made up for all the discomfort. Then there's the excitement that comes from making yourself slightly vulnerable: out in the wild with nobody watching over you. And I never have to book, if the weather's disappointing I don't go, if it turns cold I go home. This is as stress-free as holidays get. But I'm a bit fussy about taking everything I need, even if it means a heavier backpack: for example, I must have a folding chair, a thin self-inflating mattress and a pile of good books.

**Thomas Parsons** Perhaps the main reason why many people shy away from wild camping is our modern-day culture of 'risk aversion' – in other words, avoiding all activities that seem in any way dangerous, however unlikely it is that anything would actually go wrong. In less paranoid times, wild camping was indeed very common, but people nowadays want safe environments, especially when it comes to feeling at ease with what their kids are doing, and organised campsites are the obvious answer. I'm not keen to suggest good places to go wild camping, though, because one of the joys of the activity comes from finding places nobody else knows about. For the beginner, I'd advise places which aren't too far from civilisation in case anything does go wrong. I learnt the hard way, weighing myself down with unnecessary home comforts and camping gadgets when apart from the usual backpacker's tent, warm sleeping bag, spare clothes and food,

all you really need is a torch, lightweight cooking equipment, a map and a compass.

Jennie Martinez

Camping was an integral part of my early years, and I've managed to pass on some of my

enthusiasm to my own children. In striving for little luxuries like hot showers, 'mild' campers miss out on the delights of wild camping. There are very comfortable state-of-the-art tents available nowadays if you want a bit of comfort, and they don't cost that much. Once you're hooked on wild camping, nothing else will do and you get not to mind occasional problems with ants or wasps. The lack of fellow travellers makes me feel that the great views and the starlit skies have been laid on expressly for my own personal enjoyment. But camping in wild places also means having to observe a few basic rules. For instance, during a particularly dry season, it's best to avoid high fire-risk areas. I'll always remember a time when I was camping with friends and we noticed that somebody had failed to extinguish a small fire completely. We managed to put it out, but it could have been a disaster.

Wild camping

Camping in the wild rather than at organised campsites is a great way of getting away from it all and getting back to nature. Four experienced wild campers tell us why.

### **Part 3: Wild camping**

- 16** B: '... the excitement that comes from making yourself ... vulnerable'
- 17** C: 'In less paranoid times, ... but people nowadays ...'
- 18** A: 'the only expense is feeding yourself'  
[18/19 in either order]
- 19** D: 'they don't cost that much'
- 20** B: 'ended up sharing the tiny uncomfortable tent ...'
- 21** C: 'not keen to suggest good places ...'
- 22** D: 'managed to pass on some of my enthusiasm ...'
- 23** C: 'when it comes to feeling at ease with ... kids are doing'
- 24** C: 'when apart from ... a compass'
- 25** B: 'the experience put me off wild camping for months'
- 26** A: 'are waking up to the fact ...'
- 27** D: 'somebody had failed to extinguish a small fire ...'
- 28** C: 'I'd advise places which aren't too far from civilisation ...'
- 29** A: '... you can seldom escape the constant chattering ... or worse still, ...'
- 30** B: 'I must have a folding chair, a thin ... mattress ...'