

READING

A working holiday

LEVEL

Upper-Intermediate
(B2)

NUMBER

EN_B2_1013R

LANGUAGE

English



Learning outcomes

- I can read a short text about work and travel and summarise its key points.
- I can talk about working and travelling abroad.





Warm-up

Has anyone heard of the term 'working holiday visa'?



Can they explain to the class what it is?



Reading

Read the story. **Answer** the questions below.

I'd just **graduated** from university and decided it was time for me to do something totally different. My parents had always told me: **get out** and see the world and do it while you're young!

I'd never had enough time to travel while at uni, so now that I did, I thought: what better time than now? I'd rather travel than start **hunting** for a job right away!



1. In the past, was it easy for the author to travel or not?



Vocabulary check

Give a synonym for the word in bold.

1 I had just **graduated** from university.

2 My parents had always told me: **get out** and see the world

3 I'd rather travel than start **hunting** for a job right away!





Reading

Continue reading the story. **Answer** the questions below.

Since it would be my first time outside of my home country, I thought it would be best to spend time in a place where my first language, English, is also spoken. It would be a small step rather than a big **leap** for my first time abroad!

After **getting** all of my documents together, I applied for a working holiday visa in Australia. I planned to stay for a year and to work and travel during that time. I soon got my passport back from the embassy with my stamp in it. It was time to head 'Down Under'!



1. Where did the author choose to travel to?
2. Why did she choose that place?



Discuss



Since it would be my first time outside of my home country, I thought it would be best to spend time in a place where my first language, English, is also spoken.

How do you think the author was feeling before her trip?

What's your first language?

In which countries is it an official language?





It was time to head
'**Down Under**'!

Down Under is a colloquial term used to refer to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

Does your country have an alternative name?



Reading

Continue reading the story. **Fill in** the gaps with the missing word.

After 24 hours of flying, I 1. _____ in Sydney. I was excited to be a tourist for a few days! Soon, it was time to find work, though! I first got a job as a pot washer at a restaurant. The kitchen was

2. _____ hot and the work was tiring. After a couple of weeks, I quit and started working at a clothes shop. This job was far more interesting, as I got to 3. _____ with people. The air con during the summer was great as were the 4. _____ hours. While working there, I would get lunch at the café next door. I got to know the 5. _____ and we soon became friends!

5

10



owners

landed

boiling

interact

flexible



Discuss

**Which of the two jobs
would you prefer to do?**



**What are some other
typical jobs to do while
on a working holiday?**



Reading

I worked for several months and soon I'd saved up enough money to take some time off to work and travel in Australia. My first stop: the capital city, Canberra.

I **realised** that the best way to save money on accommodation was to stay in a hostel. They're also a great way to meet other travellers and **socialise**. After a few days, I met some other **backpackers** and we decided to travel to Melbourne together.



1. Where did the author stay in Canberra?
2. Did she enjoy staying there or not?



Discuss

Work in pairs. **Ask** and **answer** the questions in **breakout rooms** or as a class.

1



**My first stop:
the capital city, Canberra.**

2



**The best way to save money
on accommodation was to
stay in a hostel.**

What's the capital
city of your country?

What is there to see
and do there?

Is it expensive to
travel around your
country?

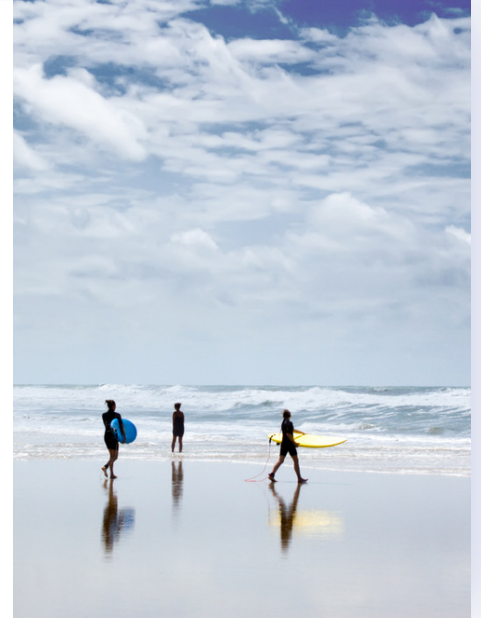




Reading

After Melbourne, we found some cheap tickets to a place called Kangaroo Island, close to Adelaide. The island is surrounded by crystal-clear waters and home to huge amounts of wildlife. It was stunning!

Over the next months, I learned to surf on the Gold Coast and even took a trip to the Outback. Before I knew it, a year had gone by. I'd met so many amazing people from all over the **globe**. It was tough saying goodbye to them and to Australia!



1. Which three places did she visit next?
2. What will she miss most about Australia?

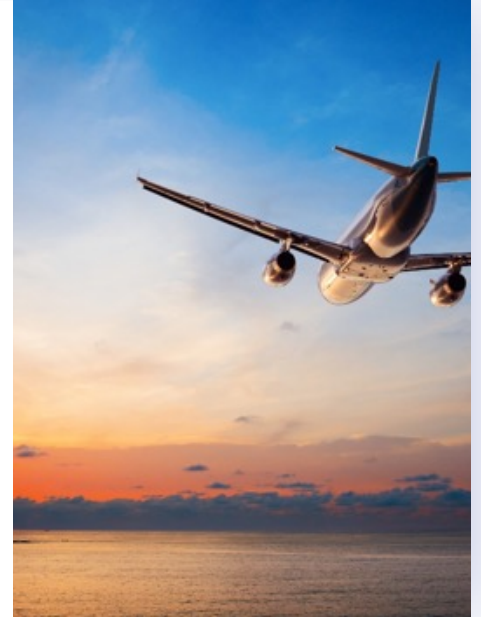


Reading

After the excitement of being in an unfamiliar place, I thought: where can I **explore** next?

Perhaps I'll **push myself** and go somewhere with a totally different language and culture.

Let's see where life takes me!



3. What is she planning on doing now?
4. How do you think her experience in Australia changed her?



Reflection task

What are the benefits of doing a working holiday?



After reading the text, would you now like to do one or not?



End of the lesson

Idiom

the world is your oyster

Meaning: There are no limits to the opportunities open to you.

Example: Southeast Asia or South America? Go explore! **The world is your oyster.**



Additional practice



Summarise the story

Match the place to what the author did there.

Sydney

Canberra

Kangaroo Island

Gold Coast

- A** Stayed in a hostel and met lots of other backpackers who she later travelled with.
- B** Saw some amazing scenery and wildlife with her new friends.
- C** Learned how to surf here.
- D** Worked in a restaurant kitchen then switched to working in a clothes shop.



Discuss

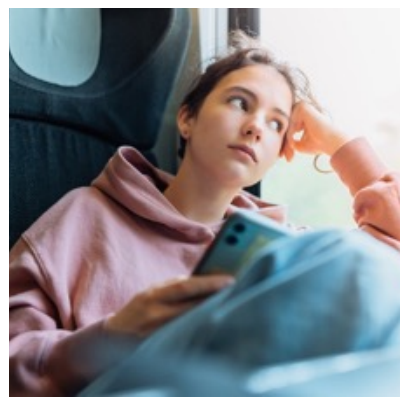


After the excitement of being in an unfamiliar place I thought: where can I explore next?

Do you relate to the author here or not?

Have you been to an 'unfamiliar place' before?

Where are some other places you'd love to explore?





Write a plan

1. **Choose** one country from anywhere in the world.
2. **Do** some research online about it. **Plan** your own working holiday.
3. **Share** your plan with the class.

- How long will you stay for?
- Which 4 places will you visit?
- What jobs are available to you?





Answer key

- P. 4:** 1. No, as she was busy at university.
- P. 6:** 1. She chose to travel to Australia.
2. She chose Australia as they speak English there, which is her first language.
- P. 9:** 1. landed; 2. boiling, 3. interact, 4. flexible, 5. owners
- P. 11:** 1. She stayed in a hostel.
2. Yes, she did. It was a way to save money and meet other backpackers.
- P. 13-14:** 1. Kangaroo island, Gold Coast and the Outback.
2. She'll miss the amazing people she met there.
3. Visiting somewhere with a totally different language and culture.
- P. 19:** **Sydney:** D
Canberra: A
Kangaroo Island: B
Gold Coast: C



Summary

Working and travelling abroad

- *to graduate; to get out and see the world; to hunt for a job.*
- *to realise; to socialise; backpackers; globe; to explore; leap; to push oneself.*
- *After I **graduated** from university, I took **a leap** and went on a working holiday to Australia.*



Vocabulary

to graduate

to get out and see the world

to hunt for a job

to realise

to socialise

backpackers

globe

to explore

a leap

to push oneself



Notes

