

The New Seven Wonders of the World

SPEAKING

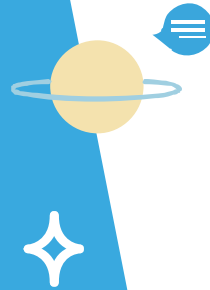
LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
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LANGUAGE
English



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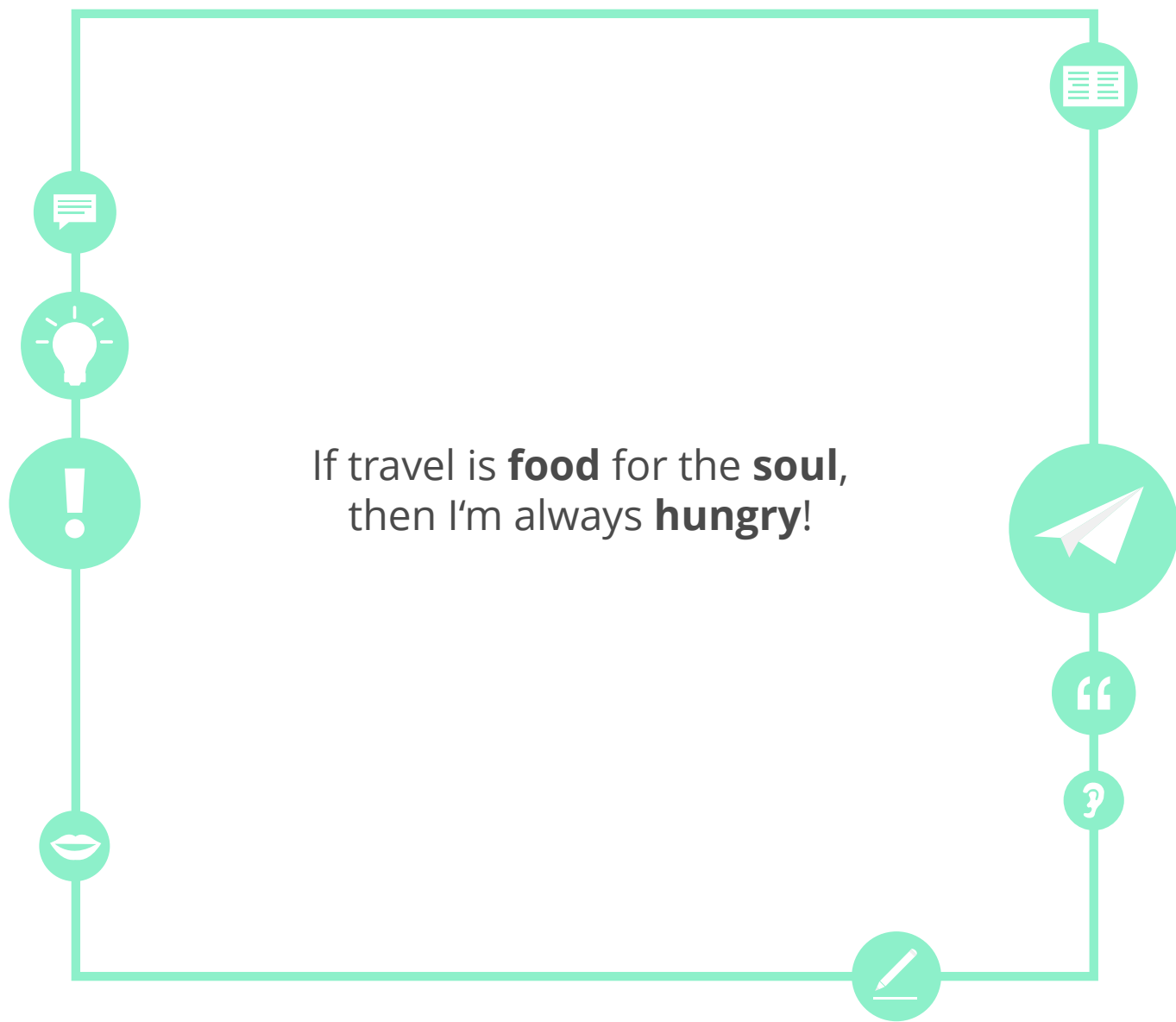




Goals

- Can read and understand a factual text about the New Seven Wonders of the World and World Heritage Sites.
- Can evaluate the positive and negative impacts of tourism and share my own views on the topic.







Travelling

What inspires you to travel? Do you prefer to visit natural landscapes, historical sites, or urban areas?





The Seven Wonders of the World

How many of the classic Seven Wonders of the World can you name? Here are some hints.





World Heritage Sites



Does your country have any World Heritage Sites? What are they?



The New Seven Wonders

In 1999, filmmaker Bernard Weber was inspired by the Internet's potential to reach people all around the world, and sought to connect with them through a universal concept that everyone could recognise. He **struck upon** the idea of creating a new version of the classic Seven Wonders of the World, selected by people all over the planet. The result was the New Seven Wonders of the World, chosen by popular vote via the Internet and telephone in 2007.





The New Seven Wonders

The winners were The Great Wall of China, Petra in Jordan, Rome's Colosseum, Mexico's Chichen Itza, Machu Picchu in Peru, the Taj Mahal in India, and Christ the Redeemer in Brazil. While all 200 candidates were undoubtedly incredible, it later turned out that some of the winning sites are in countries that had very active media campaigns encouraging citizens to vote for their local "wonder".





World Heritage Sites



Out of all the **splendid** natural and man-made marvels on planet Earth, what makes a site truly special? The United Nations seeks to **determine** this with a system more scientific than a popular vote. The organisation has its own list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, which are selected on the grounds of having cultural, historical, scientific or other importance to the common culture of humanity. Sites range from the well-known, like the **majestic** redwood forests of northern California, to the relatively **obscure**, like the remains of the Dacian Fortresses in the mountains of Romania. Even the Sydney Opera House is a World Heritage Site.



The New 7 Wonders and World Heritage Sites

It's a very **prestigious** honour to be named a World Heritage Site, and countries around the world strive to have their own unique sites fulfil the **criteria** to be selected. There are currently 1073 cultural, natural and mixed sites, with the number increasing every year.

One benefit of being **designated** a World Heritage Site is that the location receives some protection from things like development, war, and modification. Most of all, of course, it is a huge **boom** in tourism.





Discuss the meaning of each word and try to think of synonyms

splendid

criteria

obscure

to strike upon

majestic

prestigious

to determine

boom

to designate



World Heritage Sites



How many World Heritage Sites have you visited? Describe your favourites. Were any sites underwhelming?



World Heritage Sites

The text mentions that being selected as a World Heritage Site is a huge boom in tourism. How else could an area benefit from World Heritage Site status?



I think it could be a boom to...



Popular vote or committee?

What do you think is a better way to select outstanding special sites: a popular vote like the New 7 Wonders, or with a committee, like UNESCO? Why?



World Heritage Sites



The text says World Heritage Sites are selected on the basis of cultural, historical, scientific or other importance to the common culture of humanity. What do you think the **common culture of humanity** is?



Choose your own Wonder

What would be your criteria to determine a Wonder of the World or World Heritage Site? Consider the aspects below and make a list of three to four criteria. Prioritise your list from most to least important and explain why.

age

condition

physical beauty

cultural
significance

popularity

historical value

A blank sheet of lined paper with a spiral binding on the left side, intended for writing criteria and explanations.



Choose your own world wonder

Using those criteria, choose a place in your country or local area that you would select as a Wonder or World Heritage Site. How does it fulfil your criteria?



Get ready to listen



The next few slides will focus on
training your listening comprehension



Listen closely for the answers

Listen to your teacher read and answer the following questions.

1. UNESCO World Heritage sites can be endangered by what?
2. Which heritage site is mentioned as being on the World Heritage in Danger list?
3. What damaged a number of sites in Mexico?
4. How might a site lose its World Heritage Status?
5. Why was the Elbe Valley delisted by UNESCO in 2009?





Discuss the meanings with your teacher

urbanisation

delist

to impact (on)

volatile



What do you think?

The text mentions **natural disasters, pollution**, and **urbanisation** as threats to World Heritage Sites. What other factors might endanger them?



Negative impact

**Do you think having a site designated a World Heritage Site or Seven Wonder could have a negative impact on an area?
How so, and what could be done to limit it?**

tourism



local
community



environment



government





Cultural World Heritage

UNESCO also has a list for **Cultural World Heritage**. Their first criteria to be selected is for something to **represent a masterpiece of human creative genius**. What would you nominate to put on the list and why?





Bucket lists



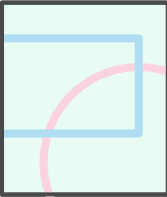
A **bucket list** is a list of things a person hopes to do or see in their lifetime. Many people create their own travel bucket lists.

Make your own travel bucket list. Where do you hope to visit and why? Are any of these places World Heritage Sites or New 7 Wonders?



Imagine...

You're on a trip and have just completed the top item on your bucket list. Write a postcard home to a friend or family member describing the experience.

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Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!

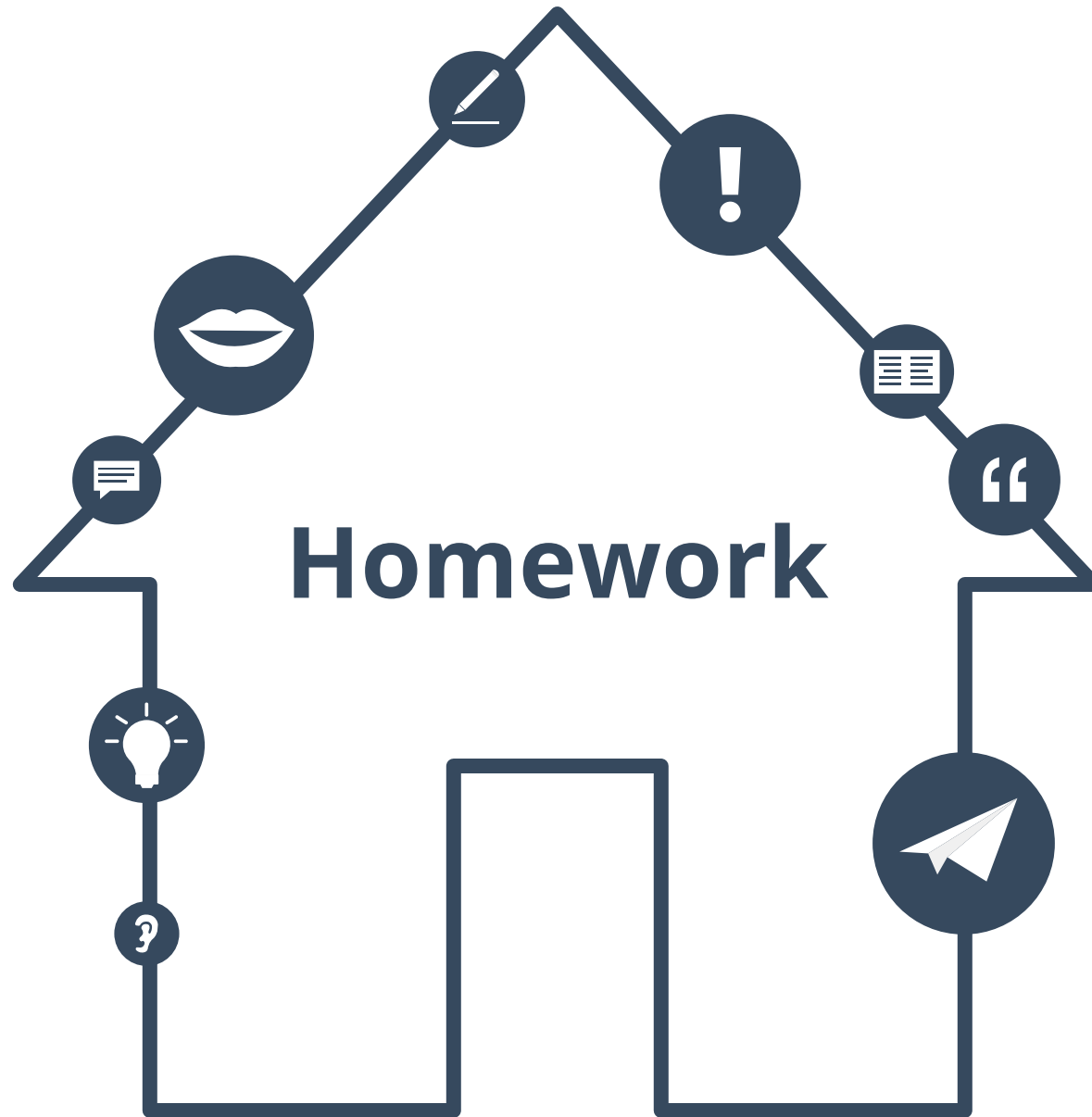




Transcription

There are, however, some sites that are considered by UNESCO to be endangered by factors like natural disasters, pollution, and **urbanisation**. Earthquakes in **volatile** regions are a constant danger. The ancient citadel and cultural landscape of Bam, Iran, is on the list of World Heritage in Danger due to damage from a serious earthquake in 2003. In 2017, a series of earthquakes in Mexico damaged a number of World Heritage Sites, shocking both tourists and locals who were visiting at the time.

If a site is not properly managed or preserved, it can lose its prized status as a World Heritage Site. In 2009, UNESCO **delisted** Germany's Dresden Elbe Valley after construction of a bridge which is said to have seriously **impacted** on the landscape.





If travel is food for the soul...

Looking back at the third slide, make your own similar analogy of what travel means for you.

○	
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○	If travel is _____,
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○	then _____!
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Brainstorm and list

**Do you have any pet peeves about things that tourists do?
Write a list of things that annoy you about tourists, and what
you think makes a good tourist.**

Tourist pet peeves

Qualities of a good
tourist



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