

1) Read the article and match the places (a-f) with the paragraphs (1-5). There are 2 places in one of the paragraphs.

a) Roswell, USA

b) Papua New Guinea

c) Dubai, UAE

d) Sahara Desert

e) Lajamanu, Australia

f) Bhutan

Amazing experiences in amazing places

1 — If you're in the United Arab Emirates, why not go to the Dubai Aquarium? Every day at 4:00 p.m., divers get into the 10-million litre fish tank, and feed the sharks. And you can watch from 11 metres below the surface. But don't worry — you don't need to get wet. Just walk down the aquarium tunnel for an unforgettable view!

2 — Go to the International UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell, USA. Something strange fell out of the sky in 1947, and people have been going there ever since. Don't expect to see any little green men, though: there aren't any!

3 — Talking of strange things falling out of the sky, one day in 2010 in Lajamanu, Australia, it rained fish. Yes, hundreds of fish fell from the sky into the town. The amazing thing is that the nearest river is 500 km away. So how did it happen? Winds in a thunderstorm lifted the fish out of the water and took them as far as Lajamanu. Believe it or not, this happens quite often in Lajamanu!

4 — Go to Bhutan in the Himalayas. There are very few cars, so wherever you go, it's very calm and peaceful. Going to Bhutan is like traveling back in time. The only problem is getting into the country, as visas are limited. Still, if you can't get one, go to the Sahara Desert. It's 9,065,000 square kilometres, so there should be enough space for everybody!

5 — Go to Papua New Guinea. Kelly Woolford of First Contact holidays will take you on a three-week trip for \$8,000. There, you will trek through the rainforest and search out traditional tribespeople. Kelly Woolford says, "There are places in West Papua which are untouched (by modern travellers). People are too scared to go there."



2) Match the headings (a-e) with the paragraphs (1-5).

a) Where can I see some crazy weather?

b) Where can I watch sharks safely?

c) Where can I learn about UFOs?

d) Where can I find some peace and quiet?

e) Where can I meet remote tribes?

3) What do these numbers refer to in the article?

a) 9,065,000: the size of the Sahara Desert (in square km)

b) 11:

c) 10,000,000:

d) 500:

f) 8,000:

4) Read the article again and write true (T) or false (F).

- a) You need to swim underwater to see the sharks.
- b) Visitors to Roswell will see little green men.
- c) People go fishing in the river at Lajamanu.
- d) It is easier to go to the Sahara than to Bhutan.
- e) Kelly Woolford is a tourist in Papua New Guinea.

5) Look at the Active grammar box and match the example phrases/sentences (1-8) below with the rules (A-H).

- 1) Ken de Vico, who is **a** professional diver, says ...
- 2) In Hawaii,...
- 3) Some of **the** most incredible travel stories ...
- 4) **Rings** are top of ...
- 5) They didn't expect **a** 30-foot humpback whale to leap out of the ocean ...
- 6) They didn't expect a 30-foot humpback whale to leap out of **the** ocean ...
- 7) No one was seriously hurt, not even **the** whale.
- 8) Some of the most incredible travel stories are about **a** pet.

Active grammar

A We use *a/an* when something is one of many. e.g. sentence _____

B We use *a/an* when it's the first time something has been mentioned. e.g. sentence _____

C We use *a/an* with jobs. e.g. sentence _____

D We use *the* when something is the only one. e.g. sentence _____

E We use *the* when something has been mentioned before. e.g. sentence _____

F We use *the* with superlatives. e.g. sentence _____

G We use no article (-) when we make generalisations with plural or uncountable nouns. e.g. sentence _____

H We use no article (-) with most names of people and places. e.g. sentence _____

We use *the* in names if the title includes *States, Kingdom and Republic*: *the United States, the United Kingdom, the Republic of China*.

We use *the* if the name is a plural: *the Netherlands, the Andes, the Falkland Islands*.

We say *the south of Spain*, but *southern Spain* and *the north of Africa*, but *North Africa*.

We use *the* with rivers, seas, oceans and deserts: *the Pacific Ocean, the River Thames*.

6) Find and correct the mistake in each sentence.

- a) It is best holiday I've ever had. (It is **THE** best holiday I've ever had).
- b) The Europe is not most beautiful continent.
- c) It'd be really relaxing to go on trip along a river, like River Nile, for example.
- d) The delayed flights are one of greatest problems travellers face these days.
- e) The travel is a bit boring for me.
- f) I hate travelling in the aeroplanes.

7) Complete the stories with **a/an/the** or - (no article).

Alvaro Cortez met his girlfriend, (1) ____ musician called Pilar, at collage in Madrid, and she showed him her favourite guitar. (2) ____ guitar was (3) same instrument that Alvaro's grandfather had played 50 years earlier. It had been lost when his grandfather had moved to (4) ____ new house in (5) ____ Valencia, Spain.