

Your vacation, their home

Teacher's Notes

Aim

This lesson looks at the topic of ecotourism. It starts off with a text examining what is meant by ecotourism. The final speaking activity extends the topic by asking the students to choose between two eco-vacations.

Warmer

On the board make two columns with the headings *Advantages of tourism* and *Disadvantages of tourism*. Put the students in groups and give them five minutes to come up with three ideas for each column. Ask the groups to tell you the ideas and write these up on the board.

1 Reading

- Put the students in groups and ask them to discuss the two questions (without reading the text).
- Monitor and make notes (but don't interfere).
- Then ask the students to read through the text quickly and check their ideas / see which of their ideas are mentioned.
- Check and discuss as a class. Were any of their ideas not mentioned?

2 Comprehension

- Ask the students to read through the six headings (a–f).
- Then ask the students to read through the text and match the headings with the correct paragraphs.
- Put the students in pairs and ask them to check their ideas together.
- Monitor and help where necessary.
- Check the answers as a class.

Answers

1 c 2 b 3 e 4 f 5 a 6 d

- Ask the students to read through the text again and answer the true/false sentences.
- Encourage them to discuss their answers in pairs.

- Monitor and help where necessary.
- Check the answers as a class.

Note: You might want to do the vocabulary exercise before the second comprehension exercise.

Answers

1 False 2 False 3 True 4 False
5 True 6 True 7 False 8 True

3 Vocabulary

- Ask the students to look up the words in the text and then choose the correct definition, a or b.
- Encourage them to discuss their answers in pairs.
- Monitor and help where necessary.
- Check the answers as a class.

Note: You might want to do the first one (*impact*) with the whole class as an example.

Answers

1 a 2 b 3 b 4 a 5 b 6 a 7 a 8 b

4 Speaking

- Ask the students to read the two short advertisements for eco-vacations and check they understand all the vocabulary. You might want to check and pre-teach words such as *Antarctica*, *archeologists*, *settlement*, *sorting*, etc.
- Put the students in small groups (4–6).
- Ask them to think about these two vacations and discuss the first two questions. (Note: You could tell them they must all agree on the answer for question 2).
- Then, ask the students to discuss question 3.
- Monitor and help where necessary.
- Ask a few students to report back to the class about their group discussion.

Websites

Here are some websites with more information.

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/tourism/ecotourism_rev1.shtml – a nice simple guide to what ecotourism is.

www.ecotourdirectory.com/ecotourism – a guide to what is meant by ecotourism.

www.tourismconcern.org.uk – a website that looks at issues surrounding tourism and promotes ecotourism, sustainable tourism and community tourism.