

# Unit 1 Great places to be



1 .....



3 .....



2 .....

## Starting off

1 Work in pairs. Write the names of the cities beside the photos.

Amsterdam    Dubai    New York  
Rio de Janeiro    Shanghai    Sydney

2 Which of the cities would you like to visit? Why? Use these ideas to help you.

excellent shopping    friendly people    great food    lots to do  
unusual buildings    lively festivals    spectacular scenery



4 .....

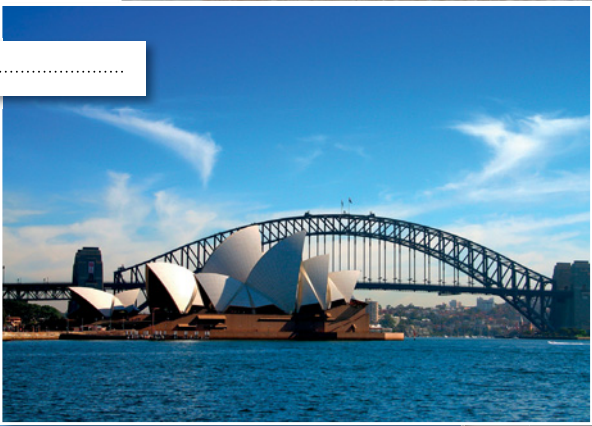
## Reading 1 Table completion

1 Work in pairs. You are going to read a passage about cities around the world. Before you read, decide if these are good or bad aspects of cities. Write G (good) or B (bad).

- |                         |                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 friendly inhabitants  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 fast public transport | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 3 crowded streets       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 4 a high crime rate     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 5 people in a hurry     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 6 a relaxed lifestyle   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

2 Work in pairs. Write two more aspects of cities which are good and two more which are bad.


- 3 Read the passage on page 9 quickly.
- 1 Which four cities are mentioned?
  - 2 Which is the friendliest?



5 .....



6 .....




# The world's friendliest city

A team of social psychologists from California has spent six years studying the reactions of people in cities around the world to different situations. The results show that cities where people *have less* money generally have friendlier *populations*. Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, which is often *known for* its crime, comes out top, and the capital of Malawi, Lilongwe, comes third.

But what makes one city friendlier than another? The psychologists from California State University say it has got more to do with environment than culture or nationality.

They carried out a study into the way locals treated strangers in 23 cities around the world. The team conducted their research through a series of tests, where they dropped pens or pretended they were blind and needed help crossing the street.

The study concludes that people are more helpful in cities with a more relaxed *way of life* such as Rio. While they were there, researchers received help in 93 percent of cases, and the percentage in Lilongwe was only a little lower. However, richer cities such as Amsterdam and New York are considered the least friendly. Inhabitants of Amsterdam helped the researchers in 53 percent of cases and in New York just 44 percent. The psychologists found that, in these cities, people tend to *be short of* time, so they hurry and often *ignore* strangers.



adapted from an article by Victoria Harrison, BBC News

- 4 Read the passage quickly again. Which of the good and bad aspects in Exercise 1 are mentioned?
- 5 Match the words and phrases in *italics* in this table with the words and phrases in *italics* in the passage.

city	positive aspects	negative aspects	% of help received
Rio de Janeiro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>friendly <i>inhabitants</i></li><li>more 1 .....</li></ul> <i>lifestyle</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>People <i>don't have so much</i> 2 .....</li><li><i>Has reputation for</i> 3 .....</li></ul>	93%
Amsterdam and New York	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>richer</li></ul>	People ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>have little</i> 4 .....</li><li><i>don't pay attention to</i> 5 .....</li></ul>	Amsterdam: 53% New York: 44%

Exam advice

Table completion

- Quickly look for words and phrases in the passage which mean the same as words and phrases in the table (for example: *not many* – *few*; *well-known* – *famous*), then read around those words carefully.
- Copy the words from the passage into the table exactly as you see them.

- 6 Now complete the table. Choose ONE word from the passage for each answer.
- 7 Work in small groups.
  - Are you surprised that people in cities with less money are friendlier? Why? / Why not?
  - What is the friendliest place you have ever visited?
  - How friendly are people in your town or city to visitors? Give examples.

Listening  
Form completion

1 In the IELTS test, you are often asked to complete part of a form by writing a number or a name which is spelled for you. Listen to eight speakers and decide if each name or number is written correctly (✓) or incorrectly (✗).

- |           |                                     |                 |                          |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Romney  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 5 Fawcett       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Cairns  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 6 15 cents      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Bragg   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 7 0726 05791    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Jeckyll | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 8 30 Lower Road | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Work in pairs. Spell out these names and read these numbers to each other. Then listen to check your answers.

- |           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| 1 Bracken | 5 Vernon       |
| 2 Gower   | 6 17           |
| 3 Jeremy  | 7 01950 674236 |
| 4 Pollard | 8 31st         |

3 Work in small groups. You are going to hear a man phoning to ask about a holiday apartment. Before you listen, answer these questions.

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of staying in an apartment when you're on holiday?
- What sort of holiday accommodation do you prefer?



4 Work in pairs. Look at the form below.

- In which gaps do you think you will have to:
  - write a number only?
  - understand words which are spelled out?
  - write a number and a word?
- What sort of information do you need for the other gaps?

Dubai Palm Apartments

Enquiry taken by: *Amanda*  
Name: **1** .....  
Address: *37 2* .....  
*Vienna*  
Telephone number: **3** .....  
Number of people: *four*  
Starting date: **4** ..... *January*  
Length of stay: **5** .....  
Price per day: *maximum 6* ..... *euros*  
Other requirements:

- fully equipped **7** .....
- view of **8** .....
- air conditioning must be **9** .....
- 10** ..... for car

5 Now listen and complete the form. Write no more than TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

Exam advice Form completion

- Before you listen, think what information you need for each gap.
- Do not write more words than the instructions tell you to.
- Write words or numbers you hear.

6 Work in pairs. Take turns to talk about a place you have stayed at. Say why you stayed there, who you stayed with, and what you did while you were there.

Reading 2  
Note completion

- 1 Work in small groups. You are going to read a passage about Costa Rica. Before you read, look at the photos of Costa Rica on the right. What do they tell you about the country?
- 2 Read the passage below quickly. Who are:  
1 Mariano Rojas?                      2 Saamah Abdallah?



The happiest country  
in the world

Children growing up in Costa Rica are surrounded by some of the most beautiful and diverse landscapes in the world. Preserving tropical rainforests isn't Costa Rica's only success, because the government also makes sure everyone has access to health-care and education. So when the New Economics Foundation released its second Happy Planet Index, Costa Rica came out number one. The index is a ranking of countries based on their impact on the environment and the health and happiness of their citizens.

According to Mariano Rojas, a Costa Rican economics professor, Costa Rica is a mid-income country where citizens have plenty of time for themselves and for their relationships with others. 'A mid-income level allows most citizens to satisfy their basic needs. The government makes sure that all Costa Ricans have access to education, health and nutrition services.' Costa Ricans, he believes, are not interested in status or spending money to show how successful they are.

Created in 2008, the Happy Planet Index examines happiness on a national level and ranks 143 countries according to three measurements: their citizens' happiness, how long they live (which reflects their health), and how much of the planet's resources each country consumes. According to researcher Saamah Abdallah, the Index also measures the outcomes that are most important, and those are happy, healthy lives for everyone.

adapted from *Yes! Magazine*

- 3 Look at the notes below.
  - 1 What are the notes about? Find which sentences in the passage deal with this.
  - 2 Find words in the passage which mean the same as the words in *italics*.

The Happy Planet Index

Year started: **1** .....  
Number of countries it *lists*: **2** .....  
Measures each country's happiness according to:


- its *effect* on the **3** ..... (i.e. *the quantity of the Earth's 4* ..... that it *uses*);
- the **5** ..... of the *population* (i.e. how long people live);
- how happy its **6** ..... are.

- 4 Now complete the notes. Choose ONE WORD OR A NUMBER from the passage for each gap.


Exam advice      Note completion

- Read the title of the notes first and find the right place(s) in the passage.
- Carefully read the parts of the passage which deal with the key ideas in the questions – the answers may not come in passage order.


- 5 Work in small groups.
  - 1 Which of these things do you think are important in making people happy, and which are not so important? Why?
    - being healthy
    - earning a lot of money
    - having a good education
    - having good relationships
    - living in a beautiful place
  - 2 What other things are important?




I live by a 1 *busy* 2 ..... road.




I come from a 3 ..... village.




I live in a 4 ..... apartment block.



I come from a 5 ..... 6 ..... city.



I live in a 7 ..... 8 ..... street.



I live in a 9 ..... flat.

Vocabulary  
Collocations and prepositional phrases

We often use the same adjectives and nouns together. We call these *adjective-noun collocations*.

1 Work in pairs. Look at the photos and complete the captions by writing an adjective from the box below in each gap. If you need more than one adjective, put the more general one first.

- busy    industrial    large    main    pretty  
quiet    suburban    tall    tiny

2 Complete the phrases below describing places where people can live by writing a preposition from the box in each gap. In several cases, more than one answer is possible.

- by    in    near    on

- 1 ..... a river

2 ..... the city centre

3 ..... the country

4 ..... the desert

5 ..... the mountains

6 ..... the outskirts

7 ..... the sea

8 ..... the suburbs

3 Work in small groups. Look at this sentence.

I live in a pretty village in the mountains.

Take turns to talk about:

- where you live;
- where you would prefer to live, and why.

Speaking  
Part 1

1 Listen to two students answering these questions and complete the notes in the table below.

- Can you tell me what you do?
- Where do you come from?
- Can you describe your city/village to me?

name	occupation	where from	where located	words used to describe place
Hanan		Muttrah, Oman		large, ...
Kwan			near Chonju, ...	

Pronunciation: Sentence stress 1

- 2 Think how you could answer the questions in Exercise 1. Then work in pairs and take turns to ask and answer the questions.
- 3 Look at these questions (a–b) and the phrases below (1–8). Which phrases can be used to answer question a, and which phrases can be used to answer question b?

- a What do you like about the area where you live?  
b What things in your town/city do you not like?
- 1 Another good thing is ...  
2 I enjoy ...  
3 I really dislike ...  
4 I really like ...  
5 ... is something I don't like.  
6 I'm not very keen on ...  
7 I find ... very enjoyable.  
8 I find ... unpleasant.

- 4 05 Now listen to Hanan and Kwan answering questions a and b. Which phrases are used by Hanan, and which by Kwan?
- 5 05 Listen again and complete this table.

name	likes	dislikes	how changing?
Hanan		the hot weather, ...	
Kwan	walking in the mountains, ...		

▶ page 14 Key grammar: Present simple and present continuous

- 6 Think about how you could answer these questions and make notes. Then work with a different partner and take turns to ask and answer the questions.

- Can you tell me what you do? Do you work, or are you a student?
- Where do you come from?
- Can you describe your town or city to me?
- What do you like about the area where you live?
- What things in your town or city do you not like?
- How is the area changing?
- What do people in your area do in their free time?
- What do you think visitors to your town or region should see? Why?

Exam advice Speaking Part 1

- Don't answer questions with just one or two words – use longer sentences.
- Stress the words which answer the question.
- Give some extra information when you can.

Pronunciation  
Sentence stress 1

We normally stress the main information in a sentence. When we answer a question, we usually stress the words which give the answer, or give new information.

- 1 Underline the words you think Hanan and Kwan should stress in their answers.



- Examiner: Can you tell me what you do, Hanan?  
Do you work, or are you a student?  
Hanan: Yes, I'm a student. I'm studying medicine because I want to be a doctor.  
Examiner: And where do you come from?  
Hanan: I come from Muttrah in Oman.
- Examiner: Can you tell me what you do, Kwan?  
Do you work, or are you a student?  
Kwan: I'm a student. I'm studying economics at Chonju University at the moment.  
Examiner: And where do you come from, Kwan?  
Kwan: I come from a small village near Chonju in Korea.

- 2 06 Listen to check your answers.
- 3 Work in pairs. Take turns to read the parts of the Examiner, Hanan and Kwan in Exercise 1.
- 4 Work alone. Write your own answers to the Examiner's questions in Exercise 1. Underline the words which you should stress.
- 5 Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer the questions.

Key grammar

Present simple and present continuous

1 Underline the verbs in these four extracts from the Speaking section and say whether they are present simple or present continuous.

- 1 At the moment, I'm studying English as well. *present continuous*
- 2 I come from Muttrah in Oman.
- 3 I find the traffic very unpleasant.
- 4 Young people are leaving the village.

2 Look at the extracts in Exercise 1 again and complete this table.

name of tense	use	example
present continuous	to talk about something happening now	<i>At the moment, I'm studying English as well.</i>
	to express what someone feels or thinks	
	to talk about something which is changing	
	to talk about something which is always true	

▶ page 120 Present simple and present continuous

3 Complete these sentences by putting the verb in brackets into the present simple or present continuous.

- 1 Hassan *lives* (live) in Qatar, but right now he ..... (visit) friends in Bahrain.
- 2 I ..... (study) geology because I ..... (want) to work in the oil industry.
- 3 He ..... (not like) living in Manchester because it ..... (rain) too much.
- 4 Transport in my city ..... (improve) because the government ..... (build) more roads.
- 5 People in my area ..... (do) a lot of sport in their free time because they ..... (like) to keep fit.

4 IELTS candidates often make mistakes with the present simple and present continuous. Find and correct the mistakes in these sentences.

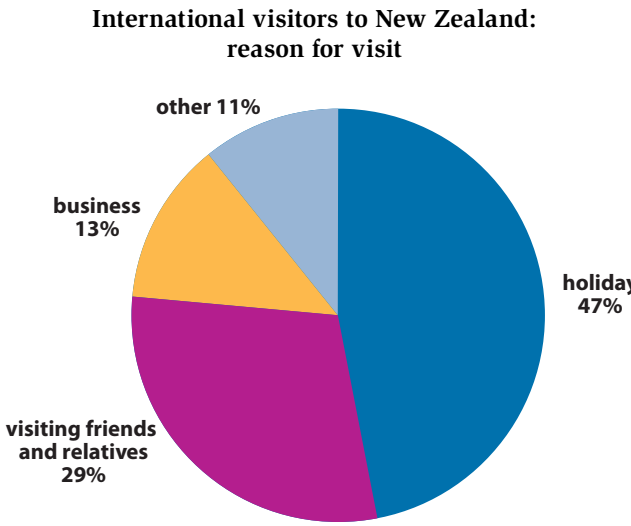
- 1 At the present time, most people ~~are thinking~~ money is important for their lifestyle. *think*
- 2 I think most children are influenced by their parents while they grow up.
- 3 Lots of people argue that international tourism bringing us advantages.
- 4 Most countries are encourage tourism.
- 5 Nowadays, more and more cities around the world become bigger and bigger.
- 6 People in most cities are believing that traffic is one of the most important problems.

Writing Task 1

Exam information

For Writing Task 1, you write a summary of information from graphs, tables, charts or diagrams. You should spend about 20 minutes on this task.

1 Work in pairs. Look at this pie chart and answer the questions below.



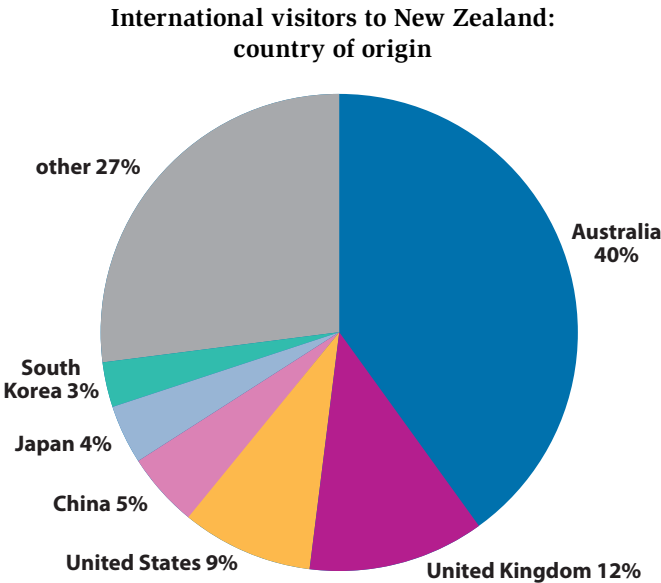
- 1 What is the main reason for visiting New Zealand?
- 2 What percentage of visitors go to New Zealand to see friends and family?
- 3 What does the figure 13% refer to?
- 4 What is meant by *other* on the chart?
- 5 In general, do more people visit New Zealand for work or pleasure?

2 Complete the short summary below with phrases from the box.

thirteen percent    go to New Zealand  
other reasons    see friends and family  
the largest percentage    for pleasure

The chart shows why people from other countries  
1 .....  
2 ..... , 47 percent, go there on holiday.  
Twenty-nine percent visit New Zealand in order to  
3 ..... 4 ..... go there on business, and just  
11 percent visit for 5 .....  
Overall, the majority of visitors go 6 ..... , not  
for work.

3 Work in pairs. Look at this pie chart and discuss the questions below.



- 1 What does the chart give information about?
- 2 What nationality is the largest group of visitors?
- 3 What percentage of visitors come from the United Kingdom, and what percentage from the United States?
- 4 What percentage of visitors comes from the three countries in East Asia which are mentioned?
- 5 Are there visitors from countries not mentioned on the chart?
- 6 What do visitors from Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States have in common?

4 Read this summary of the pie chart in Exercise 3. It contains five false facts. Rewrite the summary to correct the information.

The chart gives information about ~~the number of people travelling to New Zealand~~. *where people who travel to New Zealand come from*  
The percentage of visitors from Australia is the highest, at 40 percent. The third largest group, 12 percent, comes from the United Kingdom, and 9 percent go to the United States. The East Asian countries, China, Japan and South Korea, send 5 percent, 4 percent and 3 percent each. However, 27 percent come from other European countries. Overall, more than 70 percent of visitors come from English-speaking countries.

5 IELTS candidates often confuse *percent* and *percentage*. Look at this sentence from Exercise 4 and answer the questions below.

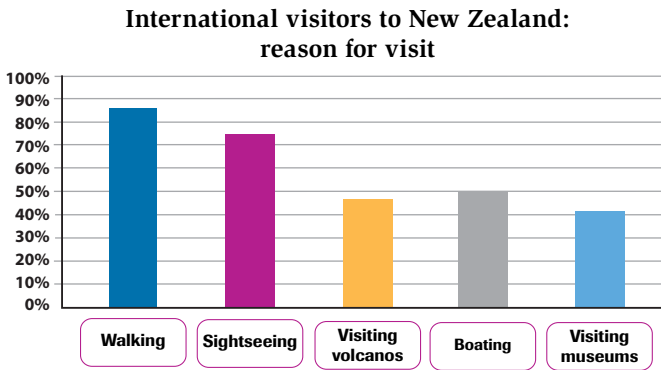
*The percentage of visitors from Australia is the highest, at 40 percent.*

- 1 Which word (*percent* or *percentage*) is used with a number?
- 2 Which word is used with *the*?

6 Each of these sentences contains one mistake made by IELTS candidates. Find and correct the mistakes.

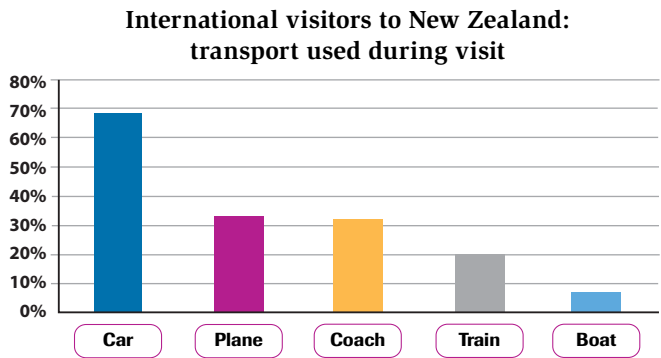
- 1 The ~~percent~~ of teenagers who ride bicycles is higher than for any other age group. *percentage*
- 2 In the cities, the number of people living alone is 28 percentage.
- 3 The percent of people over 50 is the lowest in this group.
- 4 Just over 50 percentage of the city's inhabitants are female.
- 5 The ten percent of females have a university qualification.
- 6 As can be seen from the table, 60 percent population live in cities.
- 7 Australia's share of the Japanese tourist market has increased from 2 percentage to nearly 5 percentage.
- 8 This chart shows the percent people attending the cinema in Australia.

7 Work alone. Look at this bar chart and complete the summary below by writing your own words in the gaps. When you finish, compare your ideas with your partner's.



The chart shows 1 ..... .  
The most popular activity is walking, which 2 ..... of people on holiday do. Seventy-five percent of visitors 3 ..... and 4 ..... go to see volcanoes. Another popular activity is boating, which 5 ..... of holidaymakers do. Just over 6 ..... of visitors also like 7 ..... .  
Overall, 8 ..... enjoy doing outdoor activities more than indoor activities.

8 Work in pairs. Look at this chart and discuss the questions below.



- 1 What does the chart provide information about?
- 2 What is the commonest means of transport? What percentage of visitors use it?
- 3 Which two means of transport are used almost the same amount? What percentage of visitors use them?
- 4 What is the fourth most popular means of transport? What percentage of visitors use it?
- 5 Which means of transport is used least? What percentage of visitors use it?
- 6 Overall, which is more popular: private transport or public transport?



9 Now work alone and write a summary of the information in the chart in Exercise 8.

- When you write:
- include all the information you used to answer the questions in Exercise 8;
  - use language from the summaries in Exercises 2, 4 and 7 to help you.

Exam advice Chart summary

- Study the chart(s) carefully and look for the most important features.
- Write an introductory sentence which says what the chart(s) show(s).
- Make sure the facts you write are correct.

Spelling  
Making nouns plural

1 IELTS candidates often make spelling mistakes when writing nouns in the plural. Write the plural form of these words. Then check your answers by reading the Language reference (page 120).

- |           |          |         |
|-----------|----------|---------|
| 1 visitor | visitors | 5 man   |
| 2 boss    |          | 6 match |
| 3 boy     |          | 7 party |
| 4 foot    |          | 8 wife  |

▶ page 120 Spelling changes when we make nouns plural

2 Write the plural form of each of these words.

- |           |        |            |
|-----------|--------|------------|
| 1 person  | people | 6 family   |
| 2 child   |        | 7 watch    |
| 3 country |        | 8 potato   |
| 4 city    |        | 9 activity |
| 5 life    |        | 10 crash   |