Unit 5 Places

ACADEMIC SKILLS PLUS

Urban design: Holiday and city accommodation

Reading: Reading for key information; The writer's point of view

Writing: Description of a neighbourhood; Classifying

1 SPEAKING

a On holiday, where do you usually stay? Do you like this accommodation? Why / Why not?

1 hotel
2 apartment/house
3 hostel
4 camping ground

b What different kinds of holiday accommodation are there in your town/city? Which is the most popular?

2 VOCABULARY Building materials

a Put the words in the box in the gaps.

brick	wood	mud	concrete

1 a house made of _____

2 a house made of _____

3 a house made of _____

4 a house made of _____

b What kind of house / apartment building do you live in? What is it made of? Where is it?

I live in an apartment building made of concrete in the centre of town.

I live in a house made of wood in a small village.

3 READING

a Read the case study and complete the information.

Name of place? _____
Where? _____
Kind of accommodation? _____
Room size? _____
Room made of? _____

Eco-friendly Travel Case Study: El Mandara Eco-Lodge

Many tourists want to have a holiday in a quiet and private place that is close to nature. They also want to stay in a hotel or maybe a house that is good for the environment. These days there are many eco-friendly places to stay.

One example is El Mandara Eco-Lodge in Fayoum, Egypt. Fayoum is about 100 kilometres away from Cairo, the capital. El Mandara sits on Lake Qarun and all the rooms have a view of the lake.

The lodge consists of a group of old houses. In the past, they were in bad condition, but now they are comfortable places to stay. Guests at El Mandara feel they live close to nature and away from the stress of their daily life.

There are seven different places to stay at the lodge. You can have a room that is 29 metres square or you can have a small house that is 100 metres square. The rooms are made of mud and wood and the roof is made of palm leaves. There is no concrete or brick in the rooms at the lodge. However, there are modern facilities to make guests comfortable. Each room includes air conditioning and television.

El Mandara is a very clear example of a different kind of tourism. These days, a lot of people are choosing a holiday that gets them close to nature because it means they get away from their normal, daily lives.

b Read the case study again and answer the questions.

1 Why do some tourists like places such as El Mandara?
2 How do guests feel when they stay at El Mandara?
3 The houses at El Mandara are old. What things are new?

c **CRITICAL THINKING**
THE WRITER'S POINT OF VIEW

Answer the questions.

1 Does the writer say clearly that he/she likes El Mandara?
2 How do you know the writer likes El Mandara? Choose the best answer. The writer …
   a tells people to visit El Mandara.
   b describes El Mandara in a positive way.
   c talks about a recent holiday at El Mandara.

d You win a free holiday. You can choose where you go. Do you want to go to El Mandara or somewhere different? Why? Tell your partner.

4 LANGUAGE FOCUS Classifying

a Answer the questions about the underlined expressions. Does it mean a or b?

1 The lodge consists of a group of old houses.
   a it's a group of old houses
   b it has some old houses and some new ones
2 Each room includes air conditioning and television.
   a it only has air conditioning and a TV
   b it has air conditioning and also other things
3 The rooms are made of mud and wood
   a used to describe the room
   b used to say what's in the room

b Choose the correct form of the verb in *italics*.

1 The house is *made of* / *made on* wood and brick.
2 All the rooms *includes* / *include* a small kitchen.
3 The gym *consists in* / *consists of* many different exercise machines.

c Put a word in the gap if you need to. If you don't, put X.

1 The house consists _____ five rooms.
2 All the furniture is made _____ wood.
3 The apartment building includes _____ a swimming pool and a gym.
4 The apartment building consists _____ 12 small apartments.

STUDY SKILLS: GRAMMAR NOTES

Answer the questions.

1 What kind of word comes after the verbs 'consist' and 'made' in the expressions?
2 Do all verbs have a preposition after them? Give an example.
3 Where can we find out if they do?
4 When you learn a new verb, what do you need to do?

d Complete the paragraph with *is/are made of, consist of, include*. Use the correct form of the verb.

There are a lot of different types of buildings in my neighbourhood. It's an old neighbourhood so many of them are houses. Most of them [1] _____ wood, but some [2] _____ brick and concrete. Most of the buildings [3] _____ homes for one or two families, but there are some larger buildings that are three to six floors high. These buildings [4] _____ 12 to 50 apartments and [5] _____ homes for single people and families. All the apartment buildings are quite new and they [6] _____ facilities such as cars parks, security cameras and a small gym.

5 WRITING

a Make notes about the neighbourhood you live in. Use these headings to help.

kinds of buildings? buildings made of? old/new or both? families / single people? building facilities?

b Write a paragraph about your neighbourhood. Use the example in 4d to help.

c Show your paragraph to a student who lives in a different part of town. Are your neighbourhoods similar or different?