G *be going to* (plans), future time expressions
V vacations
P sentence stress

10B CouchSurf around the world!

What are you going to do?

I'm going to travel around the US.

1 LISTENING

a Read the dictionary definition for *couch*, and look at the CouchSurfing website. What do you think CouchSurfing is?

couch /kaʊtʃ/ *noun* **1** a long comfortable seat for two or more people to sit on (= a sofa) **2** the bed in a doctor's room for a patient to lie on

b 5 8 Listen to part of a radio travel program. Were you right? How does CouchSurfing work?

c 5 9 Now listen to the speaker give more details about CouchSurfing. Mark the sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false).

1 ☐ CouchSurfers usually pay their host a little money.
2 ☐ You need to create a profile on the website.
3 ☐ When you find a person with a bed, you call them to agree on the days you want to stay.
4 ☐ You have to offer other people a bed in your house or apartment.
5 ☐ CouchSurfing is safe because you can read what other travelers say about the host.
6 ☐ The host always shows their guests their city.
7 ☐ You can CouchSurf all over the world.

d Would you like to go CouchSurfing? Why (not)? Would you like to have a stranger stay in *your* house? Why (not)?

2 GRAMMAR *be going to* (plans)

5 10 Iria González Liaño, a teacher from Spain, is going to CouchSurf through all 50 states in the US. Cover the dialogue and listen to the interview. What are her plans?

Listen again and fill in the blanks with a verb.

Host Tell me about your plans, Iria.
Iria I'm going to [1] *travel* around the US – to all 50 states.
Host Wow! That's amazing! How long are you going to [2] _____ in each state?
Iria I'm not sure, but I think maybe three nights in each state—maybe more in big states like California and Texas.
Host Who are you going to [3] _____ with?
Iria I'm going to stay with all kinds of people. I want to make new friends across the US!
Host Are you going to [4] _____ on a couch?
Iria Yes, I'm going to sleep on a lot of couches!
Host How are you going to [5] _____?
Iria I'm going to [6] _____ mostly by bus.
Host What are you going to [7] _____ in each state?
Iria I don't just want to see the typical tourist sights. I hope I'm going to [8] _____ things that aren't in a guide book.
Host Well, have a good trip and good luck!

Look at the highlighted sentences in the dialogue. Then answer the questions.

1 What form is the verb after *going to*?
2 Do we use *going to* to talk about the past, the present, or the future?

Number the future time expressions 1–8.

☐ tonight
☐ next year
☐ tomorrow morning
☐ next month
☐ tomorrow night
[1] today
☐ next week
☐ tomorrow afternoon

5 12 Listen and check. Then listen again and repeat. Make four true sentences about your plans.

Source: *American English File*
LIVEWORKSHEETS