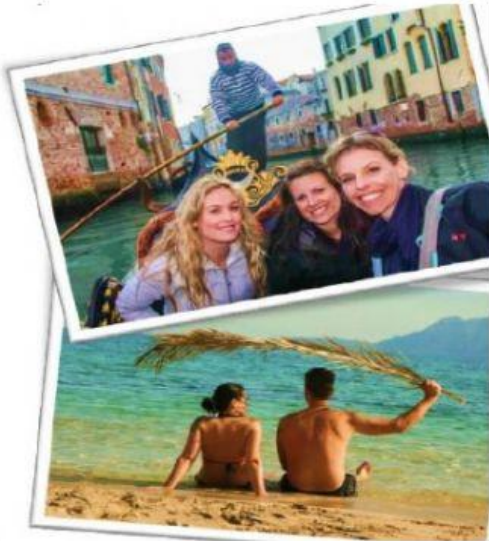


The place is perfect, the weather is wonderful,

but if you're with the wrong person , a holiday can be a disaster...



1. Read the first text and answer the questions about Joe:

- Where did he go?
- Who did he go with?
- Where did he stay?
- What was the weather like?
- Why didn't he enjoy the holiday?

Joe

Last October I went on holiday to Thailand for two weeks with my girlfriend, Mia.

The holiday began well. We spent two days in Bangkok and saw the Floating Market and the Royal Palace. But things went wrong when we left Bangkok. I wanted to stay in hostels, which were basic but clean, but Mia said they were too uncomfortable and so we stayed in quite expensive hotels.

I wanted to experience the local atmosphere but Mia just wanted to go shopping. I thought I knew Mia very well, but you don't know a person until you travel with them. It was awful! We **argued*** about everything.

For our last four days we went to Ko Chang, a beautiful island. It was like being a paradise. The weather was lovely and the beaches were wonderful, but we just **sunbathed*** without speaking. We spent our last night back in Bangkok and we went for a drink with some Australians. They were really friendly and Mia started **flirting*** with one of the boys. That was the end. When we arrived at Heathrow airport the next day we decided to **break up***.

I took hundreds of photos, but when I got home I didn't show them to anyone.

'You don't know a person until you travel with them.'

To argue – to have a discussion with someone

To sunbathe – to get a tan

To flirt – to behave as you are attracted by someone, but for amusement rather than with serious intentions.

To break up – to end a relationship

2. Read the second text and answer the questions about Emily:

- a. Where did Laura go on holiday?
- b. Who did she go with?
- c. Where did she stay?
- d. What was the weather like?
- e. Why didn't she enjoy the holiday?

Emily

Last spring my best friend Isabelle and I booked a holiday in Venice. We rented a small apartment for a week with a fantastic view of the **canals***. At the last moment another friend, Linda, asked if she could come too. We **felt sorry*** for her because she had problems with her boyfriend, so we said yes.

Venice was magical and the weather was perfect, but the holiday was a disaster for one simple reason: Linda was so **mean***! She has a good job so she's not poor, but she just didn't want to pay for anything.

When we went sightseeing she didn't want to go to any museums or galleries that cost money. When we went on a gondola she complained that it was very expensive. When we went to have lunch or dinner she always wanted to go to cheap restaurants or she bought pizzas and ate them in the flat.

But the night I invited her and Isabelle out on my birthday she chose the most expensive things on the menu! The worst thing was that **although*** Isabelle and I paid for the apartment, Linda never once bought us a coffee or a drink.

I'd love to go back to Venice one day...but without Linda.

Canals - an artificial waterway constructed to allow the passage of boats or ships

To be sorry for someone – to feel pity for someone because something bad happened to them

Mean (person) - ungenerous

Although - in spite of the fact that; even though.

3. True or false

- a) Emily and Isabelle invited Linda to a holiday in Venice.
- b) They stayed in an apartment for seven days.
- c) Linda had a lot of money problems.
- d) Emily, Sue and Linda shared all their holiday expenses.
- e) Emily and Sue want to go back to Venice with Linda.

4. Grammar

What is the past simple of these verbs? Are they regular or irregular? Check your answers in the two texts.

go _____
spend _____
want _____
stay _____
know _____
sunbathe _____
begin _____
leave _____
be _____
think _____
argue _____
take _____
eat _____
pay _____
buy _____
invite _____