3rd Year – Reading Practice
Level II

❗ If you have the book, go to pages 54 and 55 and read the text "You are standing in the place where…". Then, do activities N° 1 and N° 2.

❗ If you need a dictionary, click here: Cambridge Dictionary

1) Read the article and complete it with a past participle from the list:

based - designed - inhabited - inspired - ~~owned~~ - photographed - transformed - used
welcomed

You are standing in the place where…

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A) Highclere Castle near Newbury in Berkshire, UK

The castle has been (1)_*owned*_ by the Carnarvon family since 1679, and the Earl and Countess Carnarvon currently live there. In 2010, film director Julian Fellowes, a close friend of the family, was planning a new TV series about an aristocratic family and their servants during the early 20th century. While he was staying at Highclere Castle, he realized that it would be the perfect place to set his historical drama, and the castle was (2)_____ into *Downton Abbey*, the home of the fictional Crawley family. The series was a huge success and it has been sold all over the world. Both the interior and exterior scenes were shot in and around the castle itself. In the second tv series the castle is used as a hospital during the First World War. These scenes are (3)_____ on a real-life event. In 1914, Lady Almina Carnarvon allowed soldiers who had been wounded to be looked after in the castle.

Go there

Highclere Castle and gardens are open to the public during the Easter and summer holidays, and on many Sundays and public holidays from 10.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Visit the Egyptian Gallery which contains many objects brought back from his travels by Lady Almina's husband, the fifth Earl of Carnarvon, who famously discovered the tomb of the young Pharaoh Tutankhamun.

www. highclerecastle.co.uk

B) Cortlandt Alley - New York, USA

In Hollywood's version of New York City, the giant metropolis is full of secret alleys where crimes take place, and criminals are chased by the police. In fact there are hardly any alleys in New York today at all. One of the few remaining ones, Cortlandt Alley, has been (4)_____ for almost all the alley scenes in films and TV series that are set in New York. Films with scenes that were shot there include *Crocodile Dundee* and *Men in Black 3*, and TV series like *Blue Bloods*, *Boardwalk Empire*, *NYPD Blue*, and *Law & Order*.

Go there

Thousands of tourists want to be (5)_____ in Cortlandt Alley. It is on the edge of Chinatown, in Manhattan, between Franklin Street and Canal Street. In fact it is a perfectly safe place to visit. In real life, it is not (6)_____ by gangsters, but is the home for perfectly respectable businesses such as the New York Table Tennis Federation Training Center.

C) Christ Church College - Oxford, UK

This wonderful 16th-century college, with a spectacular tower, which was (7)_____ by the famous architect Sir Christopher Wren, has an important connection with children's literature. It was at Christ Church that Charles Dodgson, professor of mathematics, first met the children of the Dean (the head of the College). He used to tell them stories, and was (8)_____ by one of the girls, Alice, to write *Alice in Wonderland,* in 1865, under the pen -name of Lewis Carroll. Many years later, Christ Church was used as the setting for several film adaptations of some other famous children's books, the Harry Potter novels. The first time Harry and his friends enter Hogwarts, they walk up the Christ Church staircase where Professor McGonagall is waiting for them at the top. The dining room in Hogwarts is the Christ Church Dining Hall. It could not be used for filming, because it was being used by students at the time, so it was recreated in a studio.

Go there

Visitors are (9)_____ throughout the year. However, as the college is a working academic institution, some areas may occasionally be closed to the public. Opening times: Monday to Saturday: 9 a.m.- 5 p.m., Sunday: 2 p.m.- 5 p.m.

www.chch.ox.ac.uk

Glossary

Earl and Countess titles given to British aristocrats (people of a high social position).
Hogwarts the fictional boarding school where Harry Potter goes.

2) Read the article again. Answer the questions with A (Highclere Castle) , B (Cortlandt Alley), or C (Christ Church College).

Which place…?

1. is not really as it seems in films. ____
2. has a permanent exhibition there.____
3. was used for the same thing both in real life and on TV. _____
4. is where a famous author met a person who inspired him. ____
5. is one of the few places of its kind that still exists. _____
6. is only open during holiday periods. ____
7. was built in the 1500s. _____
8. is sometimes not open because people are working there. _____