

Part 3

Questions 11–15

For each question, choose the correct answer.

My Canadian trip

by Louise Walton

Last year I went on an amazing trip – travelling by boat on a guided group tour along the west coast of Canada. It was my brother Harry's idea. He's a journalist, like me, and he wanted to write articles about the trip. He's also a great fan of boats, although that's one interest we definitely don't share. But I'd dreamt of visiting the area ever since seeing it on TV as a child, especially as I knew it was where our great-grandparents had lived before moving to Europe. So I kept asking Harry if I could go too – until he finally agreed!

A few weeks before we left home, there were storms in the area we were going to. But luckily the forecast for the time we intended to be there was for calm seas. Although there was plenty to arrange, I was busy at work so didn't have much time to think about what needed doing. But Harry promised he'd taken care of everything, so I knew everything would be all right.

After arriving in Canada, we joined the group, packed our limited supplies into small boats and set off. The guide had mentioned that very few people now lived along that coast, and sure enough, the only other living creatures we saw for the first few days were dolphins and birds. We knew there were islands in the distance, but the early-morning fog made it hard to see very far, so I just focussed on the beautiful patterns our boat made in the water.

We often stopped for hours to explore the rock pools on the beaches. They were full of amazing coloured fish, many of which I didn't recognise. And it was great to be able to stop caring about how quickly or slowly the day was passing. We never forgot lunch or dinner, though, which we all made together over camp fires. When we finally fell asleep on the boats each evening, even though the beds were hard, it really felt like stress-free living!

When the time came to leave, I was sad. How could I return to normal life again? But I knew if I stayed, I'd miss family and friends. I was also looking forward to telling everyone at home about our adventures!

11 Why was Louise keen to go on the trip to Canada?

- A She liked the idea of spending time in a boat.
- B She knew her brother wanted her to accompany him.
- C She had wanted to travel there for a long time.
- D She had heard from some relatives who lived there.

12 Just before their departure, Louise

- A began to wonder how they would deal with bad weather.
- B was confident that they were fully prepared for the trip.
- C wished she could help her brother more.
- D felt she was better organised than usual.

13 On the first morning of the trip, Louise says she admired

- A the way the sea around them looked.
- B the wildlife which their boats attracted.
- C the homes that people had built in the area.
- D the views of islands they were passing.

14 During the trip, Louise enjoyed

- A learning the names of the fish she saw.
- B not having to cook regular meals.
- C spending the nights in comfort.
- D not having to worry about time.

15 What would Louise write in her diary during the trip?

A	There are wonderful pools along the coast, left behind by the sea. I wish we had the time to look at them more carefully.	B	I can't believe I'm in the same place I saw on that programme ages ago. Our great-grandparents would be amazed!
C	We've brought a lot of stuff with us in the boats – I'm sure it's not all necessary. It's surprising they don't sink!	D	It'll be hard to say goodbye to the place at the end, but I can't wait to get back to work – I've really missed it.