Level: B1 Intermediate

Skill: Reading

Good & Bad Hotels

In the last five years I've stayed in many hotels, some good and some bad. Here are my top three best and worst hotels.

The best

Number 3 is the Hotel del Mar in Barcelona. The location is fantastic - right on the beach. The rooms are big and very comfortable with great views of the sea. The staff are friendly and helpful. The only problem is the restaurant - it's not very good.

Number 2 is the Grand Hotel in Florence. It's a beautiful old hotel in the centre of the city. The rooms are quite small but they're very elegant with lovely furniture. The breakfast is excellent - there's a huge choice of food. The staff can be a bit unfriendly sometimes.

My number 1 hotel is the Peninsula in Hong Kong. The rooms are amazing - very big and luxurious with fantastic views of the city. There are also lots of great facilities like the swimming pool and the spa. The service is exceptional - the staff are always ready to help you. The only negative point is the price - it's very expensive!

The worst

Number 3 is the Hotel Metropole in Paris. The location is good but that's the only positive thing about this hotel. The rooms are old and dirty with uncomfortable beds. The service is terrible - the staff are rude and unhelpful. The breakfast is awful - the coffee is cold and the croissants are stale.

Number 2 is the Ocean View Hotel in Sydney. The name is a joke because there's no view of the ocean! The rooms are small and noisy with old-fashioned furniture. The bathroom is dirty and there's no hot water. The only good thing is the restaurant - the food is quite nice.

My number 1 worst hotel is the New York Inn in New York. The location is OK but that's all. The rooms are tiny and very dirty with broken furniture. The bathroom is disgusting - there's no toilet paper and the shower doesn't work. The service is terrible - the staff are very impolite. And the breakfast is a joke - there's nothing to eat!

In general, I think that good hotels have three important things: comfortable rooms, friendly staff and good food. On the other hand, bad hotels have small, dirty rooms, rude staff and awful food. But it's difficult to find a hotel that has everything you want at a reasonable price.

I've stayed in many hotels in my life, but I've never stayed in a five-star hotel. I think it would be a fantastic experience, but I don't know if it's worth the money. Sometimes cheap hotels can be just as good as expensive ones. For example, last year I stayed in a small, family-run hotel in Italy and it was wonderful. The rooms were basic but clean, and the owners were really friendly. They didn't speak much English, but we had a great time together. Sometimes it's not the hotel that makes a holiday special, it's the people who work there.

Answer the questions with your own ideas.

How does the author describe the rooms and facilities at the Peninsula Hotel in Hong Kong?

Why does the author consider the Grand Hotel in Florence as one of the best hotels despite some drawbacks?

According to the text, what are the key factors that differentiate good hotels from bad ones?

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