

State Parks, freeways, and other things I love about the US

Jenny Clark, an Australian mom and college student who lives in California, says the US isn't just OK—it's paradise. These are some of her reasons...

Coffee

American cups of coffee are very big! A small cup of coffee in the US is like a large cup of coffee in Australia. If you're in a hurry, you go to a drive-through and buy coffee from your car. It's so easy!

State Parks

California has 278 state parks, and they are beautiful. On the weekends, I bring my family to a state park in my area. We explore the forest, find small animals, and enjoy the tall redwood trees.

Malls

I love shopping, and in the US, the malls are very big. People walk around and shop for hours. US malls have many different stores, and the salespeople are friendly and help you find things.

Fall

I love the fall weather in the US. A good fall day in California is cool, but not too cold. I also love the trees. They change from green to yellow, red, and brown.

Freeways

I prefer the roads in the US. The freeways are very fast, and in California they have a lot of car lanes. It's really easy to drive from one place to another.

Theme Parks

Theme parks are very popular in the US, and we live near the Great America Theme Park. My children like the rides and water slides. Sometimes the lines for the rides are long, but that's OK. We need rest!

Red Robin

Red Robin is a restaurant that has great hamburgers. I don't eat meat, but I like the french fries and lemonade at Red Robin. I think the fried cheese sticks are fantastic, but sometimes they aren't on the menu. Maybe that's because they aren't very healthy!



4 READING & SPEAKING

a Look at the photos. In which one can you see...?

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ a drive-through | ☐ a ride | ☐ a theme park |
| ☐ a car lane | ☐ a redwood forest | ☐ a hamburger |
| ☐ a cup of coffee | ☐ a driver | |

b (27) Read and listen to the article. Mark the sentence T (true) or F (false). Say why the F ones are false.

- A large cup of coffee in Australia is the same as a small cup of coffee in the US.
- California doesn't have a lot of state parks.
- Jenny doesn't like the salespeople in shopping malls.
- The fall is very cold in California.
- It's easy to drive in the US.
- Jenny doesn't like the long lines for rides at theme parks.
- Jenny eats hamburgers and French fries at Red Robin.

c Underline these verbs in the text. What do they mean? Compare your ideas with a partner.

buy bring explore find enjoy walk
help prefer drive need think

d Look at each paragraph again. Say if it's the same or different in your country or city.

The coffee in Brazil is very good. We have drive-throughs and good coffee shops.



Useful words: Why? and because

Use *because* to answer the question *Why?*

Why are the freeways good?

Because they are very fast.