

FORM 4

FULL BLAST PLUS

UNIT 5: GLOBETROTTING

Reading 2 : Page 74-75



Upgrade your English With **FULL BLAST PLUS!**

(Illustration)

5b

Read

A. Discuss.

- Have you ever been abroad?
- What do you enjoy doing when you visit new places?

B. Read the text quickly and match the headings a-g with the paragraphs 1-4. There are three extra headings which you do not need to use.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. A natural delight | e. A rough ride |
| b. Things to avoid | f. Living with the Bedouins |
| c. A scary experience | g. Gestures and handwork |
| d. First impressions | |

My trip to Morocco

by Amanda Edmunds

1 

I arrived at Marrakech airport where I met my friend Amelie, who had arrived the previous day. She's been to Morocco many times and I couldn't wait for her to show me around. Amelie is French, which is cool, because they speak Arabic, French and Berber in Morocco. As soon as I'd dumped my bags in the hotel room, we went out to grab a bite. We went to a *souq*, which is an open-air market by day, but at night it turns into a bustling open-air restaurant with loads of food stalls. It was full of life and everything smelt delicious. I was enjoying the sights as we were walking through the crowd eating our kebabs, and I didn't notice a man yelling at me. He was a snake charmer and I almost stepped on his cobra because I wasn't looking where I was going!

2 

I had seen many people the previous night with henna tattoos on their hands, so I asked Amelie where I could get one. So, it was back to the *souq*, where a little old lady turned my hands into a work of art. She explained that the tattoos would go away two weeks later. Afterwards, while walking around the city, I noticed how some people hail taxis. They don't stick out their hand, but they point a finger, or even two fingers. I asked Amelie why they did that and she explained that it was a way to tell the taxi driver how many people need a lift. Later, we needed a taxi to get back to the hotel, so I gave it a try. We found a taxi pretty quickly, so I guess it worked fine.



MY CAMEL, GOOFY



OUTSIDE THE MARRAKECH SOUQ WITH MY HENNA TATTOOS



SAND DUNES IN THE DESERT

3 

I was a bit nervous about our next outing, but as it turned out, I had the time of my life. We went on a 2-day 4x4 excursion to Erg Chebbi. This is a place in the Sahara desert and it took us most of the day to drive there, but it was definitely worth it. We watched the sun setting over the enormous sand dunes. Then the real show started as the stars came out and filled the entire sky. Living in the city, I had never seen so many stars. It was magical. I fell asleep that night imagining how wonderful life as a Bedouin might be: roaming the desert on camels and sleeping in tents under the stars.

4 

A few days later, my dream came true and I got the chance to go camel riding, but it didn't really live up to my expectations. Getting on a camel isn't exactly a piece of cake, but after a bit of a struggle I managed to get up there (I called my camel Goofy because he had huge teeth). We rode off but after a while I felt dizzy and I asked the guide, Moha, if we could stop. Moha told me not to worry as I'd get used to it. He also said that camels are known as 'ships of the desert'. Then it crossed my mind that I was feeling seasick, in the middle of the desert!

C. Read the text again and answer the questions.

1. Why was Amelie a useful person to visit Morocco with?
2. What did Amanda eat on her first night in Marrakech?
3. Why did a man yell at Amanda?
4. Where did Amanda go to get a henna tattoo?
5. How many fingers did Amanda hold up to hail a taxi?
6. How long did it take the girls to get to Erg Chebbi?
7. What impressed Amanda the most on their trip to the desert?
8. Why did Amanda want to get off her camel?

E. Discuss.

- Would you like to try any of the things Amanda did on her trip? Which ones? Why?

D. Find words / phrases in the text and match them with the definitions below.

1. put something somewhere quickly and carelessly (paragraph 1): _____
2. get a small meal (paragraph 1): _____
3. excursion (paragraph 3): _____
4. whole (paragraph 3): _____
5. wander or travel around an area (paragraph 3): _____
6. not being as good as one hoped (paragraph 4): _____
7. very easy (paragraph 4): _____
8. realise (paragraph 4): _____

Project

Make a poster about a trip you enjoyed very much. Make notes and stick pictures from your trip. Then present your poster to the class.