

Midterm exam

READING AND WRITING

READING

Reading La Rambla

1 Read what people say about La Rambla, a famous street in Barcelona. Write the names of the people.

- 1 Everything is new and exciting to _____.
- 2 _____ likes the reaction he gets from people on La Rambla.
- 3 Living on La Rambla has had a positive effect on _____'s art.
- 4 _____ has been there for a long time.
- 5 _____ likes the variety of La Rambla.

2 Read what people say again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)? Or is there not enough information (N) in the text?

- 1 La Rambla attracts entertainers from around the world.
- 2 The performances are free to the public.
- 3 There is always some kind of performance happening on La Rambla.
- 4 It's impossible to sleep if you live near La Rambla.



“There is something very special about Barcelona and especially La Rambla. Every time you leave the house and go onto the street, you find some friends. It's more than a street and it's more than simply performing. It's a way of life. I've known the other performers for a long time now – they're like family. We help each other out.”

Carmen, 'living statue'. Originally from Colombia.

“I haven't lived here long enough yet to really understand it. But it's a fantastic mixture. Even the flower stalls are like art installations. You can see, I don't know, theatre, jugglers, acrobats, living statues, tango dancers from Argentina, musicians from Africa ... performers from all around the world.”

Tara, singer. Originally from London.

“This place is full of life, every hour of every day. I've felt much more alive since I came here. It's really inspiring. My paintings have got so much more adventurous here. You can go out at night and always find something to do. I've never seen La Rambla without people. The place never sleeps.”

Theo, portrait painter. Originally from Amsterdam.

“I've just arrived and I've already heard about twenty different languages! It's awesome! There's so much going on. Everywhere you look there's some kind of performance. I especially like the puppeteers I saw this morning. I've never experienced anything like that before.”

Kristen, language student. Originally from Chicago.

“We've been here for a few months. We adore this street. There's entertainment on every corner. And when we play and maybe ten people start dancing – it's beautiful. It's a great place.”

Alvaro, musician. Originally from Angola.

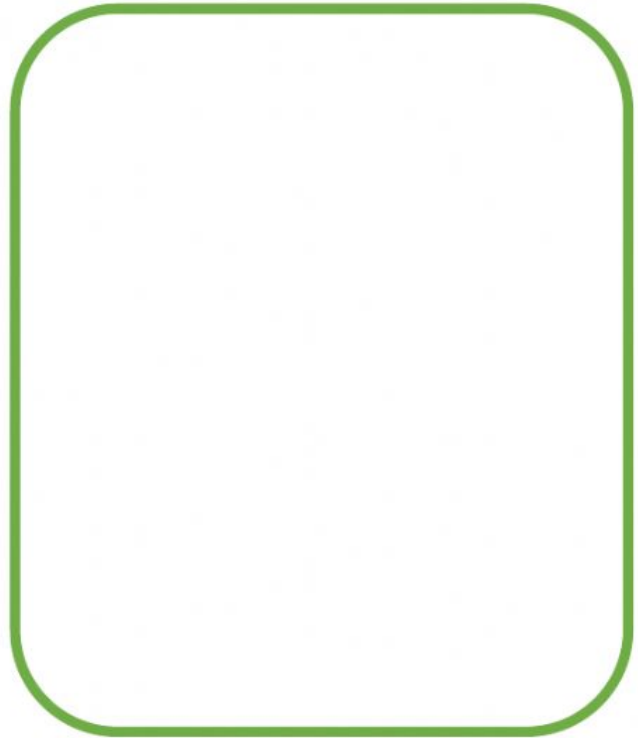
Writing



Welcome to another edition of **I Love My City**. This week we have an insider's tour of **Amsterdam**.

Want to see your city on **Intelligent Travel**? Copy and paste our list of fill-in-the-blank ideas into an e-mail, fill in your answers, and send your responses (with any photos, videos or links) to IntelligentTravel@ngs.org.

- 1 The first place I take a visitor from out of town is ...
- 2 If you come to my city, get your picture taken ...
- 3 In my city, an active day outdoors involves ...
- 4 My city's best museum is ...
- 5 The most unexpected thing about my city is ...
- 6 My city has ...
- 7 My city should be featured on your website because ...



Use the ideas in the article to write about your own town or city. Is your town or city similar to or different from Amsterdam?

Assessment of Writing scale



Band	Content	Organisation	Language
5	All content is relevant to the task. Target reader is fully informed.	Text is connected and coherent, using basic linking words and a limited number of cohesive devices.	Uses everyday vocabulary generally appropriately, while occasionally overusing certain lexis. Uses simple grammatical forms with a good degree of control. While errors are noticeable, meaning can still be determined.
4	<i>Performance shares features of Bands 3 and 5.</i>		
3	Minor irrelevances and/or omissions may be present. Target reader is on the whole informed.	Text is connected using basic, high-frequency linking words.	Uses basic vocabulary reasonably appropriately. Uses simple grammatical forms with some degree of control. Errors may impede meaning at times.
2	<i>Performance shares features of Bands 1 and 3.</i>		
1	Irrelevances and misinterpretation of task may be present. Target reader is minimally informed.	Production unlikely to be connected, though punctuation and simple connectors (i.e. 'and') may on occasion be used.	Produces basic vocabulary of isolated words and phrases. Produces few simple grammatical forms with only limited control.
0	Content is totally irrelevant. Target reader is not informed.	<i>Performance below Band 1.</i>	