

READING

1 Read the travel blog and tick () A, B, or C.

South America

I hope my short blog helps you plan your travels around this great continent. Here are four of the best places I visited, starting with Venezuela in September.

Canaima, Venezuela

I didn't go to the capital, Caracas, as it isn't the safest place to visit. I only went to Canaima, which is the smallest place in this blog. It's a quiet town in a beautiful national park and people go there because it is the closest place to Angel Falls - the world's highest waterfall. I took a lot of photos but video is better because you can remember the noise of all that water!

Cuzco, Peru

Next, I travelled through Colombia to Peru to see some of the oldest temples in the world, built by the Incas. Cuzco, the nearest city, is very friendly to tourists and I bought a lot of souvenirs. It also has a lot of lovely old buildings and you can learn more about the history of the temples if you visit the museums. Be careful to choose the best time to visit. The busiest months are June and July and Cuzco is full of visitors then. I went in December and it wasn't busy but it rained every day.

Valparaíso, Chile

Valparaíso was more interesting for me than the capital, Santiago. It's a large city, full of colourful houses and a lot of history. I especially wanted to visit the place where the writer Pablo Neruda lived. It's a house with five floors, on top of a hill and you can see the whole city and the sea from up there. It was one of the most expensive tourist sites I visited but I really loved it.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

This busy city has views of the mountains and the most famous beaches in South America. I was in Rio for the biggest, loudest party in the world. Of course I'm talking about the Rio carnival. The date changes each year but it always takes place in late February or early March. It's amazing! Don't miss it!

Enjoy your trip. You're going to have a fantastic time.

Example: The writer didn't visit Caracas.

A True B False

- | | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| 1 There is a national park around Canaima. | A True | B False |
| 2 Canaima is a noisy town. | A True | B False |
| 3 The writer went to Peru before he visited Colombia. | A True | B False |
| 4 Some of the oldest temples in the world are near Cuzco. | A True | B False |
| 5 In Valparaíso, the houses are white. | A True | B False |
| 6 Pablo Neruda's house was a cheap place to visit. | A True | B False |
| 7 The most famous beaches in South America are in Rio. | A True | B False |
| 8 The writer enjoyed the carnival. | A True | B False |

2. Read the internet blog.

Do you have a bucket list?

Today's topic on our message board asks about your hopes and dreams. Add your comments and we'll post the best ones here. Here are some responses from our website team.

Jonah

I'm only 18 so there are a lot of things I would like to do in my life. However, I don't just want to write a list of dreams so I'm thinking about things I can really do. For example, I decided to learn the guitar when I was sixteen and finally last week I booked some lessons. Also, I promised to learn to cook because my mum came to stay in my flat and I could only make toast so she bought me a cookbook! Now once a week I read the cookbook carefully and make a new dish. My mum's really happy and I'm eating more healthily, too.

Diana

My twin sister and I wrote bucket lists last year when we were 30 but not all the things are the same. She would like to be a vegetarian but I don't especially want to stop eating meat. We both plan to go to a big outdoor concert in the next year or two so we can do that together. We also want to travel but she would like to see Africa and I hope to go to India. On my list I wrote 'meet Rihanna' but I don't think that's going to happen so instead I really hope to learn to swim. I'm very frightened of water so it isn't something I can do easily but I want to try.

Liam

My girlfriend, Haruko, is half Japanese and she's teaching me her language. It's a difficult goal for me but I'm taking it seriously. I don't think I'm ever going to speak it fluently but I'm going to try to speak it well by Haruko's 25th birthday. I want to talk to her father then because I hope to make her my wife.

3 Read the text again and write *Jonah*, *Diana*, or *Liam*.

Example: Diana is 31 years old.

- 1 _____ can't swim.
- 2 _____ needs to talk to his girlfriend's father.
- 3 _____ is going to have music lessons.
- 4 _____ has a sister.
- 5 _____ can cook better than before.
- 6 _____ needs to learn another language.