

Neil:

Hello. Welcome to 6 Minute English, I'm Neil.

Sam

And I'm Sam.

Neil

And we are sitting here in New Broadcasting House, in the middle of London. Would you say, Sam, that this is **isolated** place?

Sam

Oh no, not at all. **Isolated** means away from other places and people.

Neil

Does that mean then, do you think, that you can't be lonely, with all these people around and all these things to do?

Sam

Ah, question. Can you be lonely in a crowd? Yes, of course, I think you can be because being lonely isn't about physical **isolation**. I think you can be lonely anywhere if you feel that you are disconnected from the around you, if you feel that no one understands you. If you are living happily in **isolation** in The Scottish Highlands, for example, I'm sure you could feel lonely if you here to London.

Neil

Well, loneliness is's topic. The BBC has just completed a big survey about it which we will learn more about shortly. But first, of course, a question: Where is the most isolated inhabited place on the planet - by which I mean the place furthest away anywhere else with the fewest people living there. Is it:

- a) McMurdo Station in Antarctica
- b) Siwa Oasis in Egypt's Western Desert, or is it
- c) the island of Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic

What do you, Sam?

Sam

I've got absolutely no, so this is just a guess - I think it's the one in Antarctica. I'm to go with that.