The best cities in the world

In a recent internet survey, tourists and business travellers were asked to rate 50 cities around the world, from the best to the worst. Of the top three cities, two were in Europe and one was in Australia.

In third place was London, scoring highly mainly because it was the most famous city on the list of 50 surveyed. It was also seen as a very good place to do business, and was an important cultural centre. However, it lost points because people believed it was an extremely expensive place to live.

Sydney was also a very popular destination, achieving second place on the list because people believed it had the friendliest inhabitants, as well as the best standard of living and the nicest climate. It failed to make the top spot, however, because people thought there were very few things to see there, and many also thought it was too far away from other business and cultural centres.

At the top of the list was Paris. Despite problems such as the large amount of traffic, it beat other cities to first place because people considered it to be the most interesting city, with more museums, art galleries and places of interest than anywhere else. People also thought it was the best city to take a holiday in.

Exercise 1: You are going to read a passage about some of the cities above. Read the passage quickly and answer these questions:

1. Who were asked in the recent internet survey?
➔ ………………………………………………………………………………………

2. Which were three cities the most well-known in the recent internet survey?
➔ ………………………………………………………………………………………

3. How many cities were there in the internet survey?
➔ ………………………………………………………………………………………

4. Which city did people want to take a holiday in?
➔ ………………………………………………………………………………………

Exercise 2: Read the passage again. Decide the following sentence whether it is TRUE (T) or FALSE (F)

1. London was seen as a good destination to do business, and was an important cultural centre.

2. London was believed that it was an hardly expensive place to live.

3. Sydney had the best standard of living and the nicest climate.

4. Paris was the top due to its large amount of traffic.

5. People considered Paris to be the most interesting city.