

3

A small world

Reading

Living Abroad

Over five million British people live abroad. That is about one in ten British citizens! The most popular country worldwide is Australia, with 1.3 million British residents, but in Europe, Spain has the most. In a recent survey, just over 20 per cent of young people aged between eighteen and 25 said they would like to move to another country. We spoke to two teenagers about their lives abroad.



Josh

My dad was offered a job in Sydney. He wasn't sure what to do, but my mum encouraged him to take it. My only knowledge of Australia was from films. I used to think Australia

was full of crocodiles and everyone had a barbecue every day. Now, two years later, I still haven't seen a crocodile, but I have had a lot of barbecues!

Sydney is much more multicultural than the village where I used to live in England. I've got friends from all over the world now. It's also by the sea, so water sports are very popular. I've learned to dive, which is incredible. I do miss a few things, like seeing my grandparents. But they have visited us twice. I keep up with old friends using social media. We also speak over the internet - I just have to check the time in England first!

Rachel



My parents have always liked Spain. We often came on holiday here when my brother and I were young. And four years ago, they decided to set up a small hotel near Valencia.

My brother and I went to the local school, which was, of course, Spanish-speaking. At first, the language was a problem. Our northern English accents didn't help, either! We had Spanish classes every day with some other British children. Now we have a lot of Spanish friends, and our only problem is when England plays Spain at football! England isn't far and we go back about twice a year to visit relatives. Nowadays, I can't get used to visiting England in summer because of the weather. Summer in Spain is never cold, but that is what it's like in England sometimes!

1 Who mentions the following topics? Write J (Josh), R (Rachel) or B (Both).

- 1 communication problems ___ 3 family in England ___
2 sport ___ 4 wild animals ___

2 Choose the correct answers.

- 1 The percentage of British people that live abroad is ...
A 8%. B 10%. C 25%.
2 Josh's dad finally accepted the job because ...
A it was a lot of money.
B his mum thought it was a good idea.
C it was in Australia.
3 Josh says that Sydney ...
A is more multicultural than England.
B is cold in summer.
C is a good place for water sports.
4 Before Rachel went to live in Spain, she ...
A had not been there before.
B had visited the country several times.
C had not been to the country for four years.
5 Rachel now finds it difficult to ...
A speak Spanish.
B go to England in summer.
C play football with Spanish friends.

SKILLS REVIEW

Understanding references

3 What do the following pronouns refer to? Read the article again and choose the correct answers.

- 1 it (line 12): the job / Sydney
2 they (line 30): Rachel's brothers / Rachel's parents
3 which (line 33): the hotel / the local school
4 that (line 42): hot / cold

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4 Write definitions to show that you understand the meaning of the following words from the article.

- 1 residents (line 4) _____
2 knowledge (line 13) _____
3 multicultural (line 18) _____
4 accent (line 35) _____