

Reading Comprehension Gold Experience B2 workbook page 14
(answer sheet)

2 Read the article on page 15 quickly. Which would be the best category for it?

- A** travel tips
- B** true-life stories
- C** family and lifestyle

3 **e** Read the article again. Match the questions (1–10) with the teenagers (A–D).

Which teenager:

- 1** hasn't told their parents that they don't want to go on the family holiday?
- 2** complains of being bored during recent holidays?
- 3** mentions a difficult relationship with someone near their age?
- 4** received a very strong negative reaction to the idea of missing the family holiday?
- 5** asks if they can stay with a relative over the summer?
- 6** suggests their parents don't have confidence in their behaviour?
- 7** refers to activities done to please others?
- 8** wanted to earn some money during their holiday?
- 9** mentions using technology to contact people when away from home?
- 10** states that their parents haven't agreed on whether to accept their holiday plans.

Do I have to come with you?

Summer holidays are all about family time and sharing experiences. But what happens when one child in the family doesn't want to join in? We hear from four young people with different ideas for the perfect summer break.

A Michelle, 16, USA

My parents own a small summer house on the New Jersey coast. We've been going there since I was a kid. I have amazing memories of swimming, fishing and camping on the beach there. But that's been my vacation: the same two weeks in August, the same destination. So this year, I thought to myself, 'Is there any way I can opt out of this?' In the last couple of years, the trip has been pretty tedious because it's tough finding fun things to do. So I took a deep breath and said to my mom, 'I was thinking of working over the summer, just to top up my allowance. So maybe count me out for the vacation.' I had no idea what was coming next. My mom freaked out. Her final words were, 'No way!' So, New Jersey here I come.



B Lily, 17, UK

In our house, planning the family holiday is a two-person project. My dad sorts out the travel and accommodation, and mum plans the day-to-day activities. She tries to come up with things that will appeal to everyone but that's tricky. I'm the eldest at seventeen, but there's quite a gap between me and my sister, who's thirteen, and my brother, who's just seven. Last year, I found myself at a space museum to keep my brother smiling and a farm for my animal-mad sister! This year I'm hoping to be in for a treat. My best friend has invited me to spend a fortnight in Greece with her parents. She's an only child and so needs someone of her own age to go away with. The only problem is I haven't checked it out with my family yet. I'm trying to pick the right moment ...



C Ritchie, 15, USA

Usually, it's just mom, dad, my sister and me on vacation together, and that's always worked pretty well. This year, my aunt Ellen and her family are joining us from Canada. The plan is to rent a place for both families to chill out together. The problem is that time with Ellen is anything but relaxing. She's competitive and bossy. She's always comparing my sister and me with her kids. And I have never gotten along too well with my cousins, even though we're all in our teens. Today Ellen emailed over a list of chores for the rented house. Week one, I do the dishes and take out the garbage. When I saw the list, I said to dad, 'You call this a vacation? Can I please go to grandma's instead?' Dad said yes and mom said maybe so things are still up in the air.



D Ed, 13, UK

I get on well with my family when we're away, but I miss my friends. We message each other all the time but it's not the same. Last year my friend, Adam, went to an activity camp. He posted all the different things he was getting up to. Cool stuff like kite-surfing and canoeing, as well as team sports and days out. I showed mum and dad all his posts in the hope they would let me go too. All they said was, 'Maybe when you're older.' I mentioned it again last week, but I'm still not allowed to go. My parents are convinced I'm too young to be away without them. Maybe they think I'll do something stupid. So now Adam is off to the camp again. It's so unfair.

