

**Look at the photographs of popular places. Which one would you most like to visit and why? Read the description below. Which picture does it describe?**

Visiting this place is a life-changing experience. If you are in this part of the world, you must include it in your itinerary. To get here is difficult, but ultimately rewarding. It involves four days of cold, pain, and exhaustion. But when the mist lifts to reveal the emerald peaks and terraced ruins of this ancient place, I promise you will forget all the hardship. The best time to visit is May through September. Although this is the busiest time, it is also the driest. Believe me, this is not a place you want to visit in the rainy season. You'll need to take strong walking boots and a torch with spare batteries. If you want to join an organized tour, you'll also need to make your reservation many months in advance, as it is a very popular destination.

**Read the paragraph again. Are these sentences true or false?**

- a** The writer thinks this is a good place to visit.
- b** Getting to the place is easy.
- c** May to September is the rainy season.
- d** The busiest time to arrive is also when there is the least rain.
- e** You must book your place on a tour a long time before you arrive.
- f** You'll need smart shoes.

**3 Work with a partner. Complete the two descriptions below using words and expressions in the box.**

contests   spectators   era   **attractions**   damaged   constructed   Italy  
island   sailing   chased   ship   sea   blue

The Colosseum is one of the most famous and popular tourist **(1)** attractions in Rome, **(2)** \_\_\_\_\_. It was **(3)** \_\_\_\_\_ between AD 72 and 80, and is still the largest amphitheater ever built. It could hold between 50,000 and 80,000 **(4)** \_\_\_\_\_, who came to watch the popular gladiator **(5)** \_\_\_\_\_ and other public events. Since the early medieval **(6)** \_\_\_\_\_, the Colosseum has stopped being an entertainment venue. It has been **(7)** \_\_\_\_\_ by earthquakes and stone robbers, but it remains an icon of ancient Rome and its emperors.

This beautiful place is on the northwest coast of the Greek island of Zakynthos. It was named Shipwreck Beach after a container **(8)** \_\_\_\_\_ ended up on the beach here on October 2, 1980. The M V Panagiotis was **(9)** \_\_\_\_\_ from Turkey to Italy with, it is believed, illegal goods on board. It was being **(10)** \_\_\_\_\_ by the Greek navy when stormy weather forced it into the small cove. The crew abandoned ship and ran off. The remains of the ship still lie on the beach. The beach can only be reached from the **(11)** \_\_\_\_\_ and is loved for its white sand and clear **(12)** \_\_\_\_\_ water. There are regular boat tours from other parts of the **(13)** \_\_\_\_\_.