# 4 Cities

## 4A Our trip to London

### Comprehension

**1 a** Look at the photographs from Layla's holiday in London. Do you know any of the places?

**b** 2.18 Read and listen. What does Layla want to do next time? Why?

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In our half-term holiday, I went to London with my parents. We were there for three days. On the first day, we went on a sightseeing tour. I wanted to go shopping in Oxford Street, but Dad said, 'You can go shopping when you're at home.' Huh, parents!

**1**

This is Buckingham Palace. The Queen lives here, but she isn't here all the time. When the Queen isn't there, the flag on the top of the palace is the Union Jack. But when the Queen is there, you will see the Queen's own flag on the flag pole.



**2**

In this photo you can see the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. It's the most famous clock in Britain, but Big Ben is really the name of the bell inside the tower.
We saw lots of interesting places on our tour, but at the end of the day my feet were really sore.



**3**

On the second day, we took the Underground to the Olympic Park. The Olympics were in London in 2012. The stadium and the other buildings are amazing. This is the Velodrome. It's for cycling.
In the afternoon, we went on a boat trip along the River Thames. There are lots of interesting things next to the river.



**4**



The London Eye is the biggest wheel of its kind in the world. It takes 30 minutes to go round, and you can see all of London's famous sights from the top. At New Year, there's a big firework display here. Thousands of people come to watch it. It's on TV too.

**5**

And this is the Tower of London. It's the oldest building in London. A lot of people lost their heads here. Next to the Tower is Tower Bridge, over the river Thames. In the evening, we went to see *Billy Elliot* at the Victoria Palace Theatre. What a day!



**6**

On the last day, we went to the Natural History Museum in the morning, and we saw the dinosaurs there. After that, we had lunch in Hyde Park and then we came home. It was a great trip, but we never got to the shops. Ah well, maybe next time!







**2** Read the text in exercise 1 again. Match the things to the places.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Tower Bridge | a Hyde Park |
| 2 The Velodrome | b the London Eye |
| 3 lunch | c the River Thames |
| 4 fireworks | d the Houses of Parliament |
| 5 Big Ben | e the Victoria Palace Theatre |
| 6 the Queen | f Oxford Street |
| 7 dinosaurs | g Buckingham Palace |
| 8 *Billy Elliot* | h the Natural History Museum |
| 9 shops | i the Olympic Park |

### Vocabulary

#### Places in a city

**3 a** Which of these things does Layla mention?


a fountain


a clock


a bridge


a stadium


a statue


a palace


a river


a tower


a theatre


a square


a museum


a park

**b** What other things can you see in a city?

### Grammar

#### The definite article: *the*

**4 a** Find the sentences with these words in the text.

oldest biggest first second last

**b** Do we need *the* with these words?

#### *the* with place names

**5 a** Find examples in the text of the places in exercise 3a that Layla mentions.

*a clock – Big Ben*

**b** Do the names of the places take *the*?

**c** Complete these names from the text. Do we need *the* when the name contains *of*?

1 _____ Tower _____ London
2 _____ Houses _____ Parliament

**6 a** Put in *the* where necessary.

We stayed in a hotel near [1]_____ Hyde Park. I think it's [2]_____ tallest hotel in London. We were on [3]_____ fifteenth floor, so we could see lots of famous places, like [4]_____ Buckingham Palace and [5]_____ Houses of Parliament. We couldn't see [6]_____ Tower of London or [7]_____ Tower Bridge, because they were too far away, but we saw them when we went on a boat trip along [8]_____ River Thames. I think [9]_____ best part of our trip was a visit to [10]_____ Dominion Theatre to see *We Will Rock You*, but I also enjoyed our visit to [11]_____ British Museum to see the mummies from Egypt.

**b** 2.19 Listen and check.

### Listening and writing

**7 a** 2.20 Listen to two dialogues in a tourist office. Which of these things do the people want to do? Why?

• go shopping • go on a sightseeing tour • eat
• visit the Olympic Park • see a show • visit a museum


1


2

**b** 2.20 Listen again. What do they decide to do? Why? How much is it going to cost?

**8 a** Work in a group. Decide what you want to do for a day in London. Put your ideas in a chart like this:

| | What? | Where? | Cost? |
|---|---|---|---|
| morning | | | |
| afternoon | | | |
| evening | | | |

**b** Make a dialogue at the tourist office.



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