

SEMESTER CONTROL WORK

in Reading

1 Read the article and choose the correct answer a, b, c, or d.

Happy holidays?

My name's Tony Law, and I'm a travel journalist. In the last few months I've been looking at changes in the industry, and how different holiday destinations are dealing with those changes. As we live in tougher economic times, people try to save money as much as possible. This is definitely true when it comes to travelling abroad. Rather than stay in expensive hotels, many of us now use the services of companies such as Airbnb to rent a room in a private home, which allows us to reduce the cost of travel. However, more and more popular tourist destinations are changing their laws about short-term lets – to make sure that people can only allow tourists to stay in their homes for a limited time. So, how is this going to affect travel and tourism? Here are two views on this kind of tourism and its impact:

Miriam, backpacker I can see that a lot of people would find it frustrating to have loads of tourists taking over a town, but you have to be realistic, don't you? As long as tourists respect your country, you should respect them. Tourism really contributes to a city's economy. For example, I read that in Scotland's capital city, Edinburgh, flat owners earn about £4,000 for renting out their apartments for 40 days of the year. And that's just for accommodation. Think about the tourist spending that goes into the local economy – money spent on entertainment, local restaurants, and public transport. That all raises funds for local governments. And tourists love to go off the beaten track, too. When they feel welcome, they are likely to grab the opportunity to escape the crowds and visit other smaller places that are within easy reach. That means it's not just big businesses that make money, everyone benefits – people living in the countryside as well as popular cities. On top of that, cheaper accommodation helps young people to travel – we can't afford to stay in hotels which charge a fortune each night. Destinations should try to encourage more young people to come, they are the future of your tourist industry.

Charles, resident of Barcelona So, sometimes tourists can be a bit of a pain – stopping you to ask the way, taking up seats with backpacks on public transport. But to be honest, most of them are polite and show a real interest in our city and its culture. What annoys me is the way that so many apartments have become places to stay on holiday, instead of family homes. Property prices have gone up and locals can't afford to live in the city centre anymore. What are the young people going to do? Look at neighbourhoods like the Old Town. In 2015, 9.6% of all homes there were listed as holiday apartments – and in the historical Gothic Quarter section of the Old Town this proportion jumped to 16.8%. There's the issue of noise pollution, too. I can remember being young, and wanting to have a good time, but you can't do whatever you want just because you're on holiday. Tourists should realize that they are in a living city, not just a tourist destination. They should keep it quiet late at night.

1 Tony points out that

- a fewer people take holidays than in the past.
- b holidays are cheaper than they used to be.
- c people try to spend less when on holiday.
- d people are choosing not to holiday abroad.

2 Miriam suggests that people should welcome tourists

- a as they usually respect their hosts.
- b as they bring money to communities.
- c as they add to the sense of community.
- d as they only stay for short periods of time.

3 Miriam highlights the fact that many tourists

- a only stay in hotels and use bigger businesses.
- b tend to stay in one location.

c visit and spend money in a range of places.

d choose not to return to unfriendly destinations.

4 What does Charles say about the tourist areas of Barcelona?

- a They are hard to find a home in.
- b They attract more investment.
- c They attract older rather than young people.
- d They are always very busy.

5 What is Charles' overall opinion about tourism?

- a He finds tourists annoying.
- b He welcomes tourists to his home.
- c He believes tourists need to be controlled.
- d He is angry that tourism affects local people.

2 The people below are all interested in one aspect of fashion. On the right there are descriptions of seven places associated with fashion. Read the texts and match people 1–5 with the most suitable place A–G. There are two extra places.

1 ___ Chloe is a design student; she is researching different kinds of old-fashioned shoes for a project about clothes people wore in the past. She works part-time in a clothes shop at the weekend, but is free most evenings.

2 ___ Tom is middle-aged and has just become interested in making his own clothes. He would like to take a course once a week. He doesn't have any of his own equipment, but wants to learn to sew using a machine.

3 ___ Anja is a high-school student who is interested in fashion, design and clothes which don't have a harmful impact on the environment. She wants to learn how to make her own clothes, without spending a lot of money. She is busy on Friday nights, and at the weekend.

4 ___ Ben is a drama student. He wants to find some old-fashioned clothes for a play. He needs some advice on costume design. He doesn't have much money, but wants good quality clothes.

5 ___ Celine is a high-school student who is preparing for her prom. She wants to wear something unusual, but elegant and trendy. She's already chosen a pair of high-heels, but needs a stylish dress to go with them. She doesn't have much time or money though.

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B The Broadburn Visit our award-winning fashion museum with its displays of clothing, footwear and accessories from throughout the ages. Come and see clothes worn by both style icons and ordinary people. Monday–Friday, 11 a.m.–7 p.m.

C Needles A course for able fashion designers. We specialize in machine sewing and can teach you advanced skills. We guarantee that after a few sessions with us your clothes will be catwalk ready. Every Friday night, Langley Community Centre.

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Task 3

Read the texts below. Match choices (A–H) to (17–21). There are three choices you do not need to use. Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

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