

WHAT IS ECOTOURISM?

- I. **Watch** the video: subject knowledge animation: what is ecotourism? (2'24)
- II. **Answer** the questions: write **T** for True or **F** for False for each statement.
- III. **Listen** again to check your answers and **fill in** the blanks in the transcript.

1. Ecotourism is a term only used to describe a touristic activity that preserves the environment.
2. Ecotourism can be found worldwide.
3. Ecotourism is linked to natural environments, not man-made areas.
4. Local communities should be in charge of their land as far as tourism is concerned.
5. The money invested in tourism projects should benefit local communities as well.
6. Being an « ecotourist » does not imply any particular behavior.
7. Ecotourism revolves around nature and environmental concerns, not customs and culture.

What is ecotourism?

Ecotourism is a term used to describe to areas where active steps are taken to conserve and the environment and improve the economic and social of local people. Ecotourism can be found in many different parts of the world. This term is often used in relation to tourist visits to natural environments such as rain It can also be applied to managed or man-made environments such as areas.

There are 3 key principles to ecotourism:

- The first key principle is to involve local communities in the development of ecotourism. It is important that communities maintain control of the level and kind of tourism they want in their land. Money from tourism projects should be invested in the communities who are tourists rather than just to who are based outside the area.

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Infrastructure projects that are built to serve and encourage tourism such as new, accommodation, roads or electricity should also be built to local communities as well as visitors.

- The second principle is to the negative impact on the environment. Ecotourism often involves visits to environmentally sensitive natural areas such as forest use of special areas. Visitors undertaking these trips should try to make sure that they any rules regarding litter and wildlife disturbance and ensure that personal use of resources such as water is Then use that host ecotourism activities such as hotels and restaurants should ensure sustainable practices such as energy and minimising
- The third principle is to respect the rights of local people. Many tourists visit a in order to learn about local cultures and traditions. The people with the greatest about a destination are the people who actually live there and ecotourism should be managed by local communities using their experiences and to promote local cultures and traditions.

Notice the use of the passive voice: **BE + past participle** (i.e: BVED or 3rd column)

- ... active steps **are taken** (= people take active steps)
- Ecotourism **can be found** (= you can find ecotourism)
- This term **is** often **used** (=we often use the term)
- Money from tourism projects **should be invested** (= we should invest money)
- Infrastructure projects that **are built** (people build infrastructure projects)
- ecotourism ventures **should be managed by** local communities = local communities should manage ecotourism ventures.

The passive voice is used because the subject is totally impersonal and has no relevance (people, we, you). That's how we can translate our impersonal French « ON » . Only the last sentence has a relevant subject, « local communities », introduced by « **BY** » . The passive voice is preferred because the topic of the video is ecotourism, so the word comes first in the sentence to highlight it.

Use this space to take notes: useful vocabulary, unknown words, recap on ideas.....