Spotlight 9

Reading
Task 9314

Read the text and mark the statements
True (1), False (2), Not Stated (3).

1. The Insect Tribe of Papua are very hospitable.
2. The trip to the village was very long.
3. Swagup is often visited by people.
4. The tribe adjusted to the new way of life.
5. They enjoyed using escalators.
6. They carried their weapons in London.
7. The chief was impressed by the London Eye.
8. The underground trip was very expensive.
9. The tribe respects old people deeply,
10. The air in London is not clean.
11. The tribe was happy to go back home.

The Ultimate Culture Clash

I first met the Insect Tribe of Papua New Guinea as I travelled the world to observe how ancient cultures and tribes were **adapting** to the modern world. I lived in their **secluded** village, Swagup, ate their food and shared their wooden shelters. I knew my stay was a **rare** exception to their rules and wanted to return the overwhelming hospitality that they had shown me, so I invited the chief and his family to experience my everyday life in South London.

Before I knew it, we were making the 12,000-mile trip back to my home. Being two days' trip by boat from the nearest road, Swagup is completely isolated so naturally I was a little nervous about taking six stone age travellers into my world. However, on arrival, my doubts eased as I watched them getting used to modern technology. At first, every escalator was met with terror and every lift with **suspicion**. A revolving door created gasps of wonder. "It is an invisible hand that moves this. I can't believe it!" exclaimed the chief.

Over the next few days, with spears on their backs and bows over their shoulders, they explored our world. They were fascinated by everyday scenes and situations that we would not give a second thought to.

Some of the capital's tourist spots proved a challenge. At the London Eye, the tribe stopped in the shadow of the huge wheel. "It is not meant for humans," they said. Eventually the chief decided that they should try it. "I couldn't believe I was so high above the land. There's no end, no mountain, only buildings. I was wondering how the wheel goes round, what makes this turn," he said. The underground was another great source of delight. The tribe was fascinated by the size of the underground network. The chief was **convinced** the underground was built first and the rest of London was built on top later! It wasn't all fun and games, though. When they visited an apartment block built for the elderly, they were shocked that their children didn't **look after** their 'elders'. "It is not right," the chief said, shaking his head. "They brought you up, they cared for you and when they are old you must care for them."

The goodbyes at Heathrow were **emotional**. Much of what the tribespeople said made me pause for thought. I don't think they would swap our world for their own, a world where everything they need is free and plentiful, a world where everything is shared and where the only things **treasured** are family values and community.