

A- Read Martin's blog. Match the headings with the paragraphs. One is extra.

1. Enjoy the view and the history
2. Rest at a tea house
3. Get ready for the trip
4. Learn the history
5. Choose the perfect time

TRAVEL FAR ENOUGH...

A ____ I went to Beijing four years ago, but couldn't visit the Great Wall. I always wanted to see it but our tour guide didn't take us there because it was winter. Luckily, I visited the Great Wall of China as part of my Asia tour last June.

B ____ I booked a private tour and had a wonderful experience because the tour guide was nice and friendly. He also spoke English well. He picked me up from the hotel at 6 a.m. as I wanted to avoid the tourist traffic. It took us two hours to get to Mutianyu. I was surprised to feel the fresh air after the pollution and the crowds of Beijing.

C ____ There were different ways to get to the Wall. I preferred the cable car and bought a ticket for it. When I got to the top, I was amazed to see the great view of the forests, valley and the river. We went right because the staircases were more difficult to climb on the left. It was summer time and I could take the photos of flowers and trees in various colours from the top. The watchtowers themselves were quite impressive. I listened to my guide carefully, and when I looked out of the watchtower windows, I could imagine the history.

D ____ I read on the history of the Great Wall before I visited there and it made my journey more meaningful. The Chinese protected their country from enemy attacks with this wall. People call it 'the longest cemetery' because a lot of workers died during the construction. At the end of the day, I was dead tired, but I enjoyed every minute of my trip. Put the Great Wall on your list of places to visit!

B-Read the blog again. Fill in the blanks to ask and answer the questions about it.

1. Why couldn't Martin visit the Great Wall 4 years ago?
_____.
2. When _____? Last June.
3. How was Beijing different from Mutianyu?
_____.
4. _____? He took photos and enjoyed the view.
5. _____? To protect their country.
6. Why do the people call it the 'longest cemetery'?
_____.
7. How _____? He felt dead tired but happy.

C- Work in pairs. Match the highlighted words in the blog with their closest meanings.

1. _____ : arrived at a place
2. _____ : had something by paying money
3. _____ : made a reservation
4. _____ : kept themselves safe from others
5. _____ : went somewhere to collect somebody in a car
6. _____ : liked something better