

# 8B

## A 'must-see' attraction

The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page.  
Augustine of Hippo,  
early Christian theologian

**G** expressing future plans and arrangements **V** travel and tourism **P** homophones

### 1 LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT Is that it?

Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

jaw-dropping let-down sheer perfection so-average  
underwhelmed vastly overrated

- 1 It's supposed to be one of the best beaches in the world, but I don't know why. It was so average.
- 2 We didn't think much of the exhibition. In my opinion, the artist is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 This restaurant thoroughly deserves its five-star reviews – the food is \_\_\_\_\_!
- 4 We were \_\_\_\_\_ by our hotel; we'd booked a superior room, but it was no more luxurious than a normal hotel room.
- 5 The concert was such a \_\_\_\_\_. There was so much smoke on the stage that we couldn't see the band, and all the songs sounded the same.
- 6 What impressed us most was the \_\_\_\_\_ height of the waterfall – it's over 900 m!

### 2 VOCABULARY travel and tourism

#### a Cross out the adjective that is **NOT** possible in the sentences.

- 1 The vibrant city centre was a complete contrast to the *dull* / *imposing* / *soulless* suburb where our hotel was.
- 2 The Eastern Cape in South Africa has one of the most *breathtaking* / *overrated* / *unspoilt* coastlines in the world. The views are absolutely spectacular!
- 3 I wouldn't recommend the resort we stayed at – it was a bit *iconic* / *overcrowded* / *touristy*.
- 4 Rather than getting *lively* / *pricey* / *tacky* souvenirs from a gift shop, we bought some beautiful handicrafts at the open-air market.
- 5 My ideal holiday is somewhere *off the beaten track* / *remote* / *spoilt* where I can escape the modern world.
- 6 Our guest house was a rather *picturesque* / *run-down* / *unimposing* building on the outskirts of the town – I wouldn't stay there again.

#### b Complete the crossword.



#### DOWN ↓

- 1 very exciting or impressive
- 2 beautiful because it has not been changed or built on
- 4 interesting and exciting
- 6 acting as a symbol of somewhere
- 7 in very bad condition

#### ACROSS →

- 3 lacking any attractive or interesting qualities that make people happy
- 5 far from places where other people live
- 8 expensive
- 9 impressive to look at

c Replace the **bold** words and phrases in the sentences with words and phrases from a.

- 1 You won't find many locals there during the summer because the area is too **focused on attracting visitors**.  
*touristy*
- 2 The town hall is **not grand or impressive** compared to the other buildings in the main square.
- 3 Don't bother going into that shop; all of the souvenirs are very **cheap and badly made**.
- 4 We stayed in a small town that was incredibly **boring** – there was absolutely nothing to do.
- 5 Some of our coastal areas have been **changed for the worse** by over-development.
- 6 I think the Seaview Hotel is **not nearly as good as the reviews said** – we were very disappointed.
- 7 Torremolinos in southern Spain is no longer the **old-fashioned, pretty** little fishing village it was in the 1950s.
- 8 We wanted to rent a quiet cottage **away from where people normally go**.
- 9 We rarely go to the beach in August because it's always **too full of people**.



d Complete the sentences with a verb from the list.

chill out   extend   get away   go   go on   hit  
postpone   recharge   sample   set off   soak up  
wander round



- 1 You need to spend at least a week in Venice to really *soak up* the atmosphere.
- 2 We're broke this year, so we're going to \_\_\_\_\_ camping instead of staying in a hotel.
- 3 We're going to the mountains for the weekend to \_\_\_\_\_ from it all.
- 4 They're going to \_\_\_\_\_ their honeymoon until after Julia's mother has had the operation.
- 5 I prefer to \_\_\_\_\_ museums on my own rather than listening to a tour guide.
- 6 We decided to \_\_\_\_\_ our stay by two nights because we were having such a good time.
- 7 We \_\_\_\_\_ early in the hope that we would arrive in time for lunch.
- 8 While we're in Kenya, we'd like to \_\_\_\_\_ a safari.
- 9 As soon as we'd checked into the hotel, we made for the city centre to \_\_\_\_\_ the shops.
- 10 If you're feeling tired, perhaps you should take a few weeks off to \_\_\_\_\_ your batteries.
- 11 When we're abroad, we rarely cook for ourselves because we'd rather \_\_\_\_\_ the local cuisine.
- 12 For me, the main aim of a holiday is to \_\_\_\_\_ and forget about work for a while.



### 3 GRAMMAR expressing future plans and arrangements

a Circle the correct answer.



- 1 \_\_\_\_ in the hotel restaurant tonight, madam?  
a Do you eat    **b** Will you be eating
- 2 Our plane \_\_\_\_ in three quarters of an hour.  
a is to take off    **b** takes off
- 3 It is thought that management and employees are \_\_\_\_ an agreement that would prevent a strike.  
a on the point of reaching    **b** due to reach
- 4 From now on, I'm \_\_\_\_ my money instead of spending it all on clothes.  
a about to save    **b** going to save
- 5 Our new fridge \_\_\_\_ arrive tomorrow. Will you be at home in the morning?  
a is due to    **b** is about to
- 6 \_\_\_\_ to work next week because my car will be at the garage.  
a I won't be driving    **b** I don't drive
- 7 The neighbours have invited us round tonight because \_\_\_\_ a party.  
a they have    **b** they're having
- 8 The royal family are \_\_\_\_ Australia and New Zealand next month.  
a to visit    **b** on the point of visiting
- 9 Sorry, but \_\_\_\_ into a meeting. Can I call you back in half an hour?  
a I'm about to go    **b** I'm to go
- 10 \_\_\_\_ wash my car this morning, but it's raining, so I won't bother.  
a I'm going to    **b** I was going to

b Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first sentence. Write 2–5 words. Use the word in brackets.

- 1 Anna intends to have an early night tonight. (is)  
Anna is going to have an early night tonight.
- 2 It's been arranged that the man will appear in court again in two weeks' time. (due)  
The man \_\_\_\_\_ in court again in two weeks' time.
- 3 Who's picking me up from the station? (be)  
Who \_\_\_\_\_ from the station?
- 4 I was about to look for a new job when I got promoted to head of department. (point)  
I was \_\_\_\_\_ for a new job when I got promoted to head of department.
- 5 I'm catching the 12.15 bus to Seville tomorrow. (at)  
My bus to Seville \_\_\_\_\_ 12.15 tomorrow.
- 6 They are going to hold the general election on 3rd March. (to)  
The general election \_\_\_\_\_ on 3rd March.
- 7 I have arranged to take my husband for a surprise weekend to London in May. (taking)  
I \_\_\_\_\_ for a surprise weekend to London in May.
- 8 The play is going to start very soon. (about)  
The play \_\_\_\_\_.

c Use eight of the time expressions from the list to write sentences about your own future plans and arrangements.

in five years' time    in two months' time    next month  
next summer    next week    next weekend    next year  
the day after tomorrow    the week after next  
tomorrow    tonight

### 4 PRONUNCIATION homophones

8.2 Listen and circle the correct spelling of the word you hear in the sentences.

- 1 **a** board    b bored
- 2 a caught    b court
- 3 a fair    b fare
- 4 a threw    b through
- 5 a wait    b weight
- 6 a brake    b break
- 7 a sight    b site
- 8 a peace    b piece
- 9 a suite    b sweet
- 10 a plain    b plane