

6

Down to earth

READING

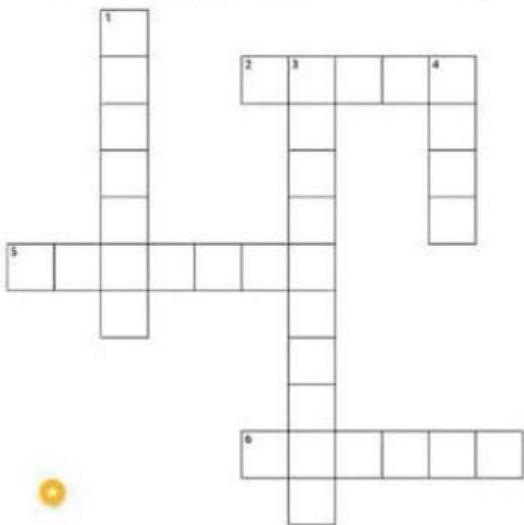
1 Read the clues and complete the crossword.

Across

2 something you can see
5 continue to live after serious problems or a dangerous situation
6 Earth, Mercury, Mars, etc.

Down

1 travel around an area to find out about it
3 great; so good that you can't believe it
4 very small



2 Read the advertisement. What do the pronouns in bold (1-7) refer to? Circle the right part of the text.

Scuba diving lessons

Are you interested in discovering life underwater? Would you like to explore the ocean and see **its** magic for yourself? Take a scuba diving lesson with us and do just **that**.

Our expert instructors will take you to a fantastic spot in the ocean. First, **they'll** teach you about safety as **this** is extremely important to us. Then **they'll** show you some amazing sea life. You'll even be able to photograph **it** with one of our underwater cameras.

Click here to book a lesson. **It's** the experience of a lifetime!

3 Read the blog post on page 49 quickly. Was the writer's experience positive or negative?

.....

4 Find the pronouns in these sentences (A-H). Sometimes there is more than one.

A It was calm and warm.
B They were a real surprise.
C I didn't want to return to land, though.
D I didn't think it would be possible.
E Then we went down further.
F There were four other beginners with me.
G I wasn't quite sure if it was right.
H They were really painful.

5 e Read the blog post again. For each gap, choose the correct sentence from Ex 4. There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use. Use the pronouns you identified in Ex 4 to help you find which sentence fits each gap.

6 Find words in the article that have these meanings.

1 very surprised (para 2)
2 immediately, without delay (para 3)
3 moving in a regular rhythm (para 3)
4 feel so frightened you can't think clearly (para 3)
5 relax (para 3)
6 the top part of an area of water or land (para 5)

7 Choose the right word from Ex 6 to complete the sentences from reviews of a scuba diving trip.

1 You can hear your heart because it's so quiet down there.
2 It's easy to at first, but once you you'll love it.
3 You have to remember not to swim up to the
4 I was at everything we saw – incredible!



My first scuba diving experience

I've wanted to scuba dive since I was little. I saw a documentary about the ocean and I wanted to go underwater and see all those amazing sea creatures myself.¹ However, last week my dream came true and I went scuba diving for the first time.

I was on holiday with my parents on my birthday. My gift was a scuba diving lesson. I was amazed! It wasn't a solo lesson.² They were all as excited as me. Thomas, the instructor, started by teaching us how to breathe with the equipment. He taught us what to do and also what not to do. At that point, I started to get nervous. I realised scuba diving could be dangerous.

A lot of beginners start in the swimming pool but we went straight into the sea. The boat took us to a place about fifteen minutes from the coast. There, we got into the water.³ My body wasn't. My heart was beating fast and I suddenly felt cold. I was starting to panic. I took some deep breaths and tried to calm down.

We were shown some breathing exercises to start, then we went down into the water. We got down to about ten metres. I could only pay attention to my ears at first.⁴ I tried to get the water out of them and after a minute or two, they stopped hurting. I looked around. The sea was a beautiful colour – not the same as it looked from the boat at all. There were fish all around me. They were all different colours. I started to relax.

We spent around forty-five minutes in the sea before the instructor told us to swim slowly up to the surface so we could head back to the coast.⁵ I wanted to stay there longer to enjoy the fascinating sea life but sadly the day had come to an end. If you ever get the chance to dive, you should take it. I loved it and I'm definitely planning on going again next year. I just have to save some money now!



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6 Down to earth

GRAMMAR

the passive

1 Choose the correct verb forms to complete the passive sentences.

- 1 The sand on the beach **is** / **are** cleaned every morning.
- 2 All of the children in this class were **including** / **included** in the documentary.
- 3 This fruit **isn't** / **aren't** used for cooking because it tastes disgusting.
- 4 The waterfall is often **photographed** / **photograph** at night.
- 5 The tickets for the trip **weren't** / **didn't** included in the price of the holiday.
- 6 The soil **hasn't** / **wasn't** prepared for the new plants, so nothing grew well.
- 7 Your help **isn't** **needed** / **doesn't** need at the moment, but thank you for offering.
- 8 The forest plants are **using** / **used** to make medicine.

2 6.1 Complete the news report with these passive verbs. Listen and check your answers.

is often hit is still covered was hit was moved were asked
were given were provided were reported

Resort hit by avalanche

The Mountain View Resort **1** by a small avalanche yesterday. Guests **2** to stay in their rooms for several hours while the emergency services tried to reach them. They **3** food and drinks by hotel staff, and children **4** with games. As this is an area which **5** by avalanches, locals were able to keep guests calm. Everyone in the area **6** out of the resort during the evening and no missing people or serious injuries **7** The area **8** in large amounts of snow, and hotels will remain closed for at least a week.

3 Complete the sentences with the correct passive form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 All tourists (warn) to leave the beach when there's a red flag.
- 2 The children (not teach) in the villages where they live.
- 3 This photo (take) when we were in India.
- 4 More help (need) if we are going to change this situation.
- 5 The rubbish bags (collect) earlier this morning.
- 6 Dangerous animals (not use) in the documentary we saw.
- 7 The river (clean) by volunteers every year.
- 8 Those small houses (build) by our grandparents many years ago.

4 Read the email and complete the sentences (1–5) using the present simple or past simple passive. Look at the verbs in bold to help you.

Hi Charlotte,

I'm staying in an amazing village in Tenerife. Because it's hidden behind some huge mountains, people didn't know about it for years. When tourists finally **discovered** it in the 1960s, locals **built** new houses and cafés there. Unfortunately, young people **don't** need the new houses because they are leaving the village to work in the city. But lots of tourists **visit** the village all the time. A good new road **links** the village to the airport, so it's easy for them to come and go.

See you soon.

Aiden

- 1 It by tourists in the 1960s.
- 2 New houses and cafés there.
- 3 The new houses by young people because they're leaving the village.
- 4 The village by lots of tourists every year.
- 5 The village to the airport by a good new road.

5 Write a short paragraph about a place you know well. If you don't know all of the information, make it up. Make sure you include:

- what it is called.
- where it is located.
- when it was built or discovered and who by.
- who it is visited by.
- what people think of it.

