

9

Life experiences

READING

1 Complete the advert with these words.

classic loads original proud put together remind

A holiday with a difference!

Are you looking for somewhere unique and 1 to stay this summer? We have 2 a selection of places to stay which are truly amazing – like this tree house in the Brecon Beacons. The tree house has 3 of modern features, such as a hot tub and wi-fi, combined with the 4 things you expect from a tree house: an artistic structure made from natural materials and amazing views. And what could be better than waking up in the branches of a tree to 5 you of the beauty of the forest?

We are very 6 of our new collection and look forward to welcoming you soon. Book online now!



2 Read the blog post about New York and answer the questions.

- 1 Why was this trip a new experience for Anna and her family?
- 2 Where do Anna and her family live?
.....
- 3 What kind of pet do they have?
.....
- 4 How did Anna feel at first about someone sleeping in her room?
.....
- 5 Which sport did the family watch in New York?
.....
- 6 Does Anna want to have a similar holiday again?
.....



3 4 Read the blog post again. Five sentences have been removed. Complete the blog post with sentences A–H. There are three extra sentences which you do not need to use.

- A First of all, I had a picnic in Central Park.
- B Then we got a taxi to the airport.
- C They are an American family with two children.
- D It wasn't as good as I expected.
- E They said they hoped we had enjoyed our stay in New York.
- F Then we waited to see who would reply.
- G But reading all those instructions, I started to feel a bit worried.
- H We were having an amazing time and wanted to stay there forever.

5 Find words and phrases in the blog post that have these meanings.

- 1 exchanged (para 1)
- 2 contacted (para 3)
- 3 a guide to how something works (para 4)
- 4 be successful (para 4)
- 5 strange (para 4)
- 6 important and useful to spend time on (para 5)
- 7 passed; was over (para 6)
- 8 something amazing that you will remember forever (para 6)

6 Complete the sentences with words from Ex 4 in the correct form.

- 1 Did your cousin with you about coming to stay over the summer?
- 2 The plans for the journey very well. We arrived just before lunch.
- 3 It's to do some research before you visit a new city, so you don't waste time.
- 4 I email addresses with the boys I met on holiday. We're going to write to each other.
- 5 Time always very quickly when you're having a good time, doesn't it?
- 6 Camping in your garden may seem but actually lots of people do it.
- 7 Seeing the Taj Mahal was for me. Just incredible!
- 8 If you don't know how it works, we'd better find the

My week in

NEW YORK



We've just arrived home and I'm really tired from the flight, but I have to share my experience with you all. This trip was different from any holiday we've been on before because we took part in a house swap. Yes, we actually swapped apartments with another family!

A couple of months ago my parents signed up to a house swap website and advertised our apartment. First, they had to post photos and give lots of information about exactly where we live and what we could offer a family who wanted to visit London.¹

Luckily, the Baker family got in touch with us.² We were really happy to find out that they lived in New York because it was one of the places we had hoped to visit.

Before we left, my brother and I tidied our rooms, cleared some space in our wardrobes and helped Mum and Dad get the rest of the house ready. We also had to write a 'home manual' explaining how to use everything and even how to look after our cat, Barney!³ I wondered if it was all going to work out. Also, it was a bit worrying to think that someone else would be sleeping in my room. But by the time the holidays started, I had emailed the girl in the American family a few times, and it felt less weird.

When we arrived in New York, we felt like all the preparations had been worthwhile because the apartment we stayed in was fantastic. The Baker family had filled the fridge with food for us and also recommended what to see and do during our stay. I did so many things I've always dreamed of.⁴ I also saw the New York skyline from the top of the Rockefeller building. And we watched a live baseball game, which was really exciting.

The week went by very quickly. When we got back, the Baker family had left us a note saying what a great week they'd had in London.⁵ It really was the experience of a lifetime, and I hope we'll do another house swap soon. But now I really need to get some sleep!

Night everyone!

Anna