

Reading

1 Read the article about an unusual town. Why is it unusual?

- a There aren't any cars.
- b There isn't a school.
- c Most people live in the same building.
- d People don't live in buildings.

2 Read the article again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Whittier is in Canada. ____
- 2 Around 200 people visit the town in the summer. ____
- 3 The weather is bad in the winter. ____
- 4 Almost everyone in the town lives together. ____
- 5 There's a school in the building. ____
- 6 You can drive to the town. ____

3 Read the article again and choose the correct option, a or b.

- 1 People visit Whittier in the summer ____
a for work. b on holiday.
- 2 In the winter, people live in the same building because it's ____ inside.
a warm b cold
- 3 There ____ a place to send letters in the building.
a is b isn't
- 4 Children ____ go outside in the winter.
a need to b don't need to
- 5 Cars drive ____ through the tunnel to the town.
a one way b both ways

4 Match the words in bold in the article with meanings 1–4.

- 1 This makes you warm inside in winter.

- 2 You can drive your car or walk under the ground through this.

- 3 big ships which take people on holiday, going to different places

- 4 people who live in a building, town, city, etc.

Do you ever look outside your window in the morning, see that the weather's bad and decide to just stay in? There's a town called Whittier in Alaska, in the US, where people do exactly that every winter.

Whittier is a very small town with only around 200 **residents**. In the summer, there are a lot of tourists – around 700,000. During the summer, it is a busy tourist town: **cruise ships** stop there, people visit the countryside and it's all quite beautiful.

However, in the winter, it gets very cold and dark, so nearly all the residents live together in the same building. Because it's just one building, the **heating** is cheap. It's very big and there are lots of floors and apartments for people to stay warm in. But they don't just sleep there. There's also a post office, a doctor's, a police station, and even an inside park for children to play in. There isn't a school inside the building though. But there is an underground **tunnel** that connects the building to the school, so children don't need to go outside when the weather is bad.

The main way to get to the town is through another tunnel which goes through a mountain. It's quite small and cars can only go one way. The direction changes every 30 minutes.

There's something nice about living close to so many people. But it's important to have good neighbours!

The city inside

