

Part 3

Questions 11–15

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Being a volunteer in Thailand

My name's Ella, and I'm 22. Last year I went to Thailand for two weeks with my sister Josie. Despite her being five years younger than me, our relationship isn't too bad. We went to help as part of a group of volunteers at an elephant sanctuary – a place where people look after sick and rescued elephants. To be honest, I wasn't sure at first if we would have much in common with the rest of the group because they were all much older than us. We were also nervous because it was the first time we'd done anything like that. In the end, though, there was no need to worry.

One of our main jobs at the sanctuary was to collect the elephants' food. Elephants eat huge amounts of grass and banana plants, so collecting this took most of the day. Josie found it really hard work, but to see the elephants enjoying their meal meant that, for me, it was worth it. We also helped wash the elephants in the river using big brushes and soap. I found that so much fun, even if I got wetter than the elephants did! The part of the day I most looked forward to was the evening. By the light of the moon, we led the elephants on foot into the forest area where they spent the night.

All the volunteers stayed in the same house. Josie and I shared a bedroom, so we didn't have much space. That was our decision, though, as Josie didn't want to be on her own. It was hot and humid, especially at night, but we'd expected that. The meals were delicious – and didn't include meat or fish, which neither of us is keen on. After dinner, all the volunteers and staff spent the evenings talking and playing games.

Now that we're back in the UK, Josie doesn't often talk about Thailand. But if anyone asks her if she enjoyed her time at the sanctuary, she says she loved it. However, I'm not sure she's being completely honest. I think she's probably a bit annoyed with herself now that she didn't take full advantage of her time there because she was missing her friends too much. But when she looks back, she can see how lucky she was to go there. Maybe she'll go back one day – I certainly will!

11 To begin with, Ella wondered whether she and Josie would

- A get on well with the other volunteers.
- B be scared of the elephants.
- C argue with each other sometimes.
- D find two weeks looking after elephants too long.

12 What was Ella's favourite activity?

- A cleaning the elephants
- B feeding the elephants
- C walking with the elephants
- D preparing food for the elephants

13 Ella says she was happy that

- A the bedroom was big enough for them.
- B the games they played were fun.
- C the food they ate was vegetarian.
- D the weather was generally good.

14 Ella thinks that Josie now

- A enjoys telling people about their trip.
- B realises that the trip was a great opportunity.
- C misses everyone she met in Thailand.
- D feels excited that she might go back to Thailand.

15 What would Ella write in a blog about her time in Thailand?

A

We had a wonderful time – we relaxed, ate tasty meals and went for exciting elephant rides.

B

We visited all the main tourist attractions and saw elephants and other wild animals in the beautiful forests.

C

We visited a place where we could watch as elephants were fed. We were surprised how much food they needed.

D

We had a great time taking care of some elephants. It was fantastic to be so close to them in the water.