

Passage 4

Mark Harris is a research scientist at Rothera Research Station, on Adelaide Island in the Antarctic. We asked Mark what were the best and the worst things about living in the Antarctic.

‘The best thing about being here is the wonderful view,’ Mark said. ‘On first day, I was unlucky because I was ill and had to spend a few days in bed. The station’s doctor thought I’d eaten something bad at home, or in the station canteen, but I didn’t even go to the canteen. I think it was the meal I had on the journey across – it didn’t taste right to me. And so I was pretty miserable at the beginning. But then I lay in bed during those first days and watched icebergs drifting past window. It was amazing! In summer, I like to be outside as much as possible. One of jobs is to fly around with other scientists in a helicopter making observations and checking on experiments. We fly over the most fantastic places. Our pilots are really skilled. They can land anywhere – even on glaciers!’

'I try not to think about the bad things, but there are some, of course. I like the food – it's actually really good – but we don't have fresh fruit and vegetables. I often think about the countryside: the green grass, the trees, and the flowers. I always look forward to seeing it again. But Rothera is great because there's always someone to talk to if you're feeling unhappy, and someone will always help you with a difficult task. But at the same time people understand when you want to be alone.'

'There's always plenty to do as well. You might think that living in the middle of so much snow is boring, but it isn't at all. On good days I like to ski and snowboard and watch the wildlife. I play badminton and table tennis at the station, and some nights I go to the gym, so fitness isn't a problem. We have video nights and games nights, and we even have cookery and woodwork lessons. I've actually learned some great new skills since I've been here. I've also had two holidays, camping. Of course, I'd like to have my friends and family with me, and I always think about that, but that can't happen for a while. I have to be patient. All in all, being at Rothera is a great experience.'

Adapted from <https://english-practice.net>

1. Mark thinks he ate something bad ____.
 - A. a few days after he arrived at the station
 - B. during his trip to the station
 - C. before he left home.
 - D. on the day he arrived at the station
2. During the summer months, Mark ____.
 - A. flies a small plane
 - B. travels across the island
 - C. works alone
 - D. spends his time inside the station
3. Mark sometimes feels bad because he ____.
 - A. dislikes the meals at the station
 - B. never has time alone
 - C. misses the countryside
 - D. finds the work difficult

4. Mark would like to ____.

- A. see his family more often
- B. have a holiday on the island
- C. learn some new skills
- D. have more opportunity to get fit

5. The purpose of the article is to ____.

- A. advertise jobs for scientists in the Antarctic quảng cáo
- B. make people aware of the problems in the Antarctic có ý thức
- C. explain how to become a scientist in the Antarctic giải thích
- D. describe everyday life for a scientist in the Antarctic mô tả