

9.1 Dark days and white nights

Vocabulary different climates and lifestyles

1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in bold.

- 1 It was a magical evening: delicious food, romantic music, and great company. **magic**
- 2 There's no need to be so _____. It isn't a disaster, just a small problem. **drama**
- 3 She is _____ taller than her husband, just a couple of centimetres. **slight**
- 4 It's _____ very simple. You just press this button. **basic**
- 5 I think his family _____ came from Ireland. **origin**
- 6 It's _____ getting warmer, spring should be here soon. **gradual**

2 Complete the definitions. The first letter is given.

- 1 If you are cozy, you are warm, comfortable and safe.
- 2 Something that is d _____ makes you feel sad and unenthusiastic.
- 3 If something happens a _____, it always happens as a result of a particular action.
- 4 Someone who is l _____ is full of life and energy.
- 5 If you say someone is c _____ more attractive than another person, it means they are much more attractive.
- 6 An a _____ flower is a man-made copy of a real one.
- 7 If something has a d _____ effect, the effect is strong and surprising.
- 8 When something happens g _____, it happens slowly over a long period of time.

3 Choose the best options to complete the text.

Summer nights in

St Petersburg

¹*Dramatic* / *Artificial* as St Petersburg is when covered in snow, the best time to visit the city has to be the summer, when the white nights mean that the city ²*considerably* / *basically* never sleeps. Obviously bars, restaurants and clubs are very ³*cozy* / *lively*, but you could also take part in a more traditional, and ⁴*automatically* / *considerably* cheaper, tradition by gathering on the banks of the River Neva to watch the river bridges open at 2 a.m. to let the bigger boats through. It's a ⁵*magical* / *depressing* sight, with the lights of the bridges shining against the still-bright sky.

⁶*Originally* / *Basically*, mid-summer was a quiet time in St Petersburg's theatres and operas, but since 1993, when the Stars of the White Nights Festival was founded, there have ⁷*slightly* / *gradually* been more and more operas, ballets and concerts, and you will now never be short of entertainment, however you decide to spend those long white nights.



Grammar adjectives and adverbs

- 4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.
- The cake was absolutely (absolute) delicious.
 - He was not very _____ (encourage) about my plans.
 - It was a truly _____ (remark) performance.
 - Music was playing _____ (soft) in the background.
 - I can't believe you would behave so _____ (irresponsible).
 - Despite his injury, he continued to climb _____ (determined) up the mountain.
 - The room was lit _____ (artificial) because the windows were very small.
 - The room is small, but very _____ (cosiness).
- 5 Find and correct the mistakes in five of the sentences.
- Think carefully about what you are doing. ✓
 - He seems happily enough about his new job. _____
 - Her manner is very self-confidently, almost arrogant. _____
 - The novel was beautifully written. _____
 - When we had finished, the house looked beautifully. _____
 - I can't honest say that I agree with you. _____
 - It is considerable colder at night than during the day. _____
 - Personally, I think it's a great idea. _____

PRONUNCIATION syllables in adjectives

- 6a Match adjectives 1-4 to adjectives a-d which have the same number of syllables and the same stress pattern.
- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1 magical | a depressing |
| 2 dramatic | b cosy |
| 3 artificial | c beautiful |
| 4 lively | d accidental |
- b 9.1 Listen and check your answers.
- c 9.1 Listen again, pause and repeat.

- 7 Choose the correct options to complete the text.



Light school

➔ Umeå, in Sweden, is only 500 kilometres from the Arctic Circle, which means that from October to February it only gets between 42 and 45 minutes of sunlight every day. And that's only if it isn't raining when, ¹ *depressing* / *depressingly*, it may never get light at all.

But students at Dragonskolan, an upper secondary school in the city, are getting a lot more sunlight than that this year, even if it is ² *artificial* / *artificially* sunlight. They are part of an experiment to discover if ³ *bright* / *brightly* electric light can make a difference to students' well-being and performance.

When we are exposed to light in the morning, the brain takes it as a signal to stop producing melatonin, the hormone that makes you want to sleep. If you don't get any light, the body delays producing the signal that it's time to wake up. Over time, you ⁴ *basic* / *basically* get a kind of 'jet lag' where your body clock is not set ⁵ *correct* / *correctly* for the time of day.

The hope is that by exposing students to a bright light all day, they will be less ⁶ *sleepy* / *sleepily* during the day, and get a better rest at night. They should also be less likely to become depressed. It will be ⁷ *interesting* / *interestingly* to see the results.

■ **jet lag** the sensation of being tired and disorientated after a long aeroplane journey

I can ...

Very well Quite well More practice

talk about different climates and lifestyles.

☐ ☐ ☐

use adjectives and adverbs.

☐ ☐ ☐