

5b A good vacation

Vocabulary and reading vacation destinations



1 Which of these words describe the photos (A–D)?

busy street
crowded market
exotic scenery
peaceful setting
relaxing surroundings

remote village
safe resort
tropical beach
unspoiled coastline
vibrant city

2 Work in pairs. Match the features in Exercise 1 with the vacation destinations shown on the map.

3 Read about vacationers. Complete the table with the kinds of vacations for each place.

4 Have you been on any of these kinds of vacations? What is popular in your country?

G E O G R A P H Y

Once, a typical vacation was a week at the beach or a lake—near home or somewhere with more reliable weather. But recently, vacationers have been looking for a different vacation experience. Perhaps inspired by wildlife documentaries on television, tourists have been flocking to places like Kenya and South Africa for safaris and bush camps. Interest in China has been growing too. Large numbers of tourists have visited China on cultural tours since the 2008 Olympic Games. Meanwhile, travel companies have been promoting the traditional vacation package with a new twist to attract more customers: spa vacations in Spain and luxury historical tours in Egypt.

One of the most notable changes is that the older generation of vacationers has been traveling like never before. The number of vacationers over 60 has been growing. Cruise destinations in the Caribbean or even to Antarctica are no longer just for young adventurers.



TRAVEL DESTINATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Caribbean and Antarctica	1 _____
Kenya and South Africa	2 _____, 3 _____
Spain and Egypt	vacation packages
China	4 _____
US, Australia, and New Zealand	independent travelers, backpackers

Grammar present perfect continuous and present perfect

- 5 Look at the example. Underline four other present perfect continuous sentences in the text.

But recently, vacationers have been looking for a different vacation experience.

- 6 Answer the questions.

- Which verbs are used to make the present perfect continuous?
- Do the main verbs describe states or actions?
- Do the sentences refer to activities that have finished or that are continuing, or both?

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

subject + *have/has (not) been + -ing*

have/has + subject + been + -ing?

For more information and practice, see page 162.

- 7 Compare the present perfect with the present perfect continuous tenses.

- Which tense emphasizes a completed action?
- Which tense emphasizes the duration of an activity?
- Which tense expresses the result of an activity?

- 8 Match the activities (1–6) with the results (a–f). Then write sentences as in the example.

Example:

1 *We've been tracking elephants today—we've taken some amazing photos.*

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 track elephants | a finish my book |
| 2 lie by the pool | b not find one |
| 3 look for a cheap deal | c see dozens of churches |
| 4 tour European cities | d spend a fortune |
| 5 follow the coastal path | e take amazing photos |
| 6 visit local markets | f walk ten miles |

Listening

- 9 18 Listen to three conversations that Matt has during his vacation. Choose the correct name.

- Matt / Li has been coming here for four years.
- Matt / Li thinks the nightlife is awesome.
- Matt / Li thinks good weather is what you need on vacation.
- Matt / Rosa recommends the food at the SeaView.
- Matt / Rosa wants a relaxing break this year.
- Matt / Ping has good memories of his vacations.
- Matt / Ping has been sky-diving for a long time.
- Matt / Ping spends his vacations with friends.

- 10 18 Listen again and complete Matt's questions.

- How long _____ here?
About six years.
- How long _____ here?
We just got in yesterday.
- So, how long _____ sky-diving?
For quite a few years now.
- How long _____ you?
It took a while!

Grammar How long... ?

▶ HOW LONG... ?

We use *How long... ?* with the present perfect, present perfect continuous, and simple past to ask about the duration of an activity. Verbs like *be*, *have*, *know*, and *like* are not usually used in the continuous form.

For more information and practice, see page 162.

- 11 Look at the exchanges in Exercise 10. Which tense is used in the questions—and why?

- 12 Write questions with *How long... ?* for these sentences. Then work in pairs and continue the conversations.

- I went to Thailand last year.
- I'm waiting for the bus to the beach.
- We're backpacking around India.
- I'm doing a diving course.
- We've finally made it home!

Speaking

- 13 What do you think makes a good vacation? Look at the list and add three ideas of your own.

- getting there: journey time, transportation, _____
- at your destination: things to do, nightlife, beaches, weather, food, friends, _____
- afterwards: good memories, _____

- 14 Work in pairs. Decide which five things are the most important for a good vacation. Explain your choices with examples from your own vacation experiences.

- 15 Work with another pair. Compare your ideas. Try to agree on the three most important things. Tell the class.

We all agree that good weather is important.