1 Read the text and match headings A–F with paragraphs 1–5. There is one extra heading.

A Can we join you?
B You haven't got a ticket
C An unexpected stopover
D We've arrived – but in the wrong country
E Right name, wrong place
F You haven't gone far enough!

Travel PROBLEMS

Travelling should be an exciting, relaxing, pleasant activity but sometimes, it is none of these things. Here are some true travel horror stories.

1
A few years ago, a couple from England booked a bargain flight to the Caribbean online. It was from the local airport in Birmingham to the island of Trinidad. At the airport, there was no information about the flight on any of the <u>departure boards</u>, so they went to ask at the <u>information desk</u>. That's when they discovered why the flight was so cheap. It was from Birmingham, Alabama in the USA, which is much closer to the Caribbean than Birmingham, UK.

2
The moment you are up in the air, you can relax – yes? Not always. On a flight from Newark to Denver, one passenger decided to relax and tried to use her <u>reclining seat</u>. **Unfortunately**, the man in the seat behind her wanted to work on his laptop and he used a special gadget called a 'knee defender' to stop the seat from moving down. The woman asked him to remove it. He refused. She threw a cup of water over him. The plane stopped in Chicago, left the two passengers there and continued its journey.

3
If travelling by plane is too stressful, why not take the train? A man from Darlington, in England, read that it was cheaper to buy a ticket to Durham than Darlington. **Strangely**, Durham was farther away. He thought it was OK, so, he bought a ticket and got off one stop early. When <u>station staff</u> checked his ticket, they said it was for the wrong station, and asked him to pay £155 extra!

4
For sure, the Eurostar train from London to Paris or Brussels is a nice way to travel? Not always. In December 2009, several trains stopped in the tunnel. One family said that there were no lights, no air conditioning, no food and no water on their train. After several hours, they got off and walked through the tunnel to find another train which was warmer. **Fortunately**, no-one told them they had the wrong ticket.

5
Finally, a story about ferry travel. During a bad storm one winter, the ferry from Portsmouth to Bilbao spent 36 hours at sea. **Eventually**, it came into a harbour – in Brest, northern France. Unfortunately, it was also Christmas Eve and there were no ferries back to the UK until after the holidays. Passengers were left in Brest, 1000 km from Bilbao. Their only choices were to find a local hotel, rent a car and drive all night or try to get to an airport and a very expensive, <u>last-minute</u> flight. Happy Christmas!

✈ DEPARTURES

TIME	DESTINATION	FLIGHT	GATE	REMARKS
12:39	LONDON	BA 903	31	CANCELLED
12:57	SYDNEY	QF5723	27	CANCELLED
13:08	TORONTO	ACS984	22	CANCELLED
13:21	TOKYO	JL 60B	41	DELAYED
13:37	HONG KONG	CX5471	29	CANCELLED

Of course, events like these don't happen very often. For most of us, journeys are still relaxing – except for queues, delays, <u>security checks</u>, strikes and Icelandic volcanoes, of course.

GLOSSARY

remove (v) – to take something away from, out of, or off the place where it is
stressful (adj) – something that makes you worry a lot

harbour (n) – an area of water next to the land where the water is calm, so that ships are safe when they are inside it

delay (n) – a period of time when something happens more slowly than you expected, or the length

2 **Read the text again. Choose the correct answers A–C.**

1 The couple in the first paragraph had a problem because
   A the flight they booked didn't go to the place they thought.
   B the flight didn't leave from Birmingham.
   C they didn't check where the flight left from.

2 The man on the flight to Denver
   A asked the woman not to use her reclining seat.
   B had something that stopped the seat in front of him from reclining.
   C was angry because he couldn't use his reclining seat.

3 The man travelling to Darlington
   A was on the wrong train.
   B went past the station on his ticket.
   C didn't know that he couldn't travel to Darlington with the ticket he bought.

4 When the trains got stuck in the Eurostar tunnel,
   A some passengers moved from one train to another.
   B only people with the correct tickets could change trains.
   C passengers got out and walked to the end of the tunnel.

5 The passengers going to Bilbao definitely did not spend Christmas Day
   A in England.   B in Bilbao.

3 **Match the underlined words in the text with the definitions below.**

People who work at a railway station. *station staff*

1 Checks before you get on a plane to make sure you aren't carrying anything dangerous. _____

2 A seat on a plane or a bus which can be moved back so that you can sleep. _____

3 An adjective meaning something which is booked (a hotel, flight, etc.) very near to the time the person needs them. _____

4 A place you can go to ask for help or information.

_____

5 Television screens or electronic screens in airports or railway stations which show when flights or trains leave and where passengers should go.

4 Complete the text with one word in each gap.

○○○

17/7 Holiday Day 1 (and 2)

I was very happy when I booked a *last-minute* flight to Turkey. It was a great deal – £150 cheaper than the normal price. But the journey was terrible! What a nightmare! I got to the airport early and, of course, went to look at the departure [1]_____ to see where to check in. Next to my flight number, it said: *Please go to the information* [2]_____. So, I went and asked what was wrong. They said: *The flight is leaving tomorrow at 5 a.m.!* I decided to go home but the ticket office at the railway station was closed. The station [3]_____ didn't know why. I bought a ticket on the train – it cost £10 extra. The next day, I got to the airport at 3 a.m. There were lots of security [4]_____. *Take your boots off, take your belt off.* You know the sort of thing. At last I got on the plane. I sat down with a cup of coffee from the airport. I put it on the tray and then the person in front of me suddenly put her [5]_____ seat down. My coffee fell onto my jeans and I couldn't move.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE | Adjectives

5 **Look at the vocabulary in lesson 7.4 in the Students'
Book. Complete the dialogues with one word in each
gap. The first and last letters of the words are given.**

Ava: Welcome back! How was your holiday in Greece?

Nick: It was great! The islands were amazing and
the beaches were i*ncredibl*e!

Conversation 1

Gina: What did you like the most in Morocco?

Sia: I really loved the markets with the c_____l
clothes and jewellery – I bought a red and
gold scarf there.

Conversation 2

Mario: The Coliseum in Rome is really impressive.

Helen: Yes, it's s_____r! It's my favourite sight.

Conversation 3

Karl: Where did you stay in Switzerland?

Julie: We stayed at a c_____g hotel with a view
of Lake Genev

6 Complete the dialogues with the words from the box.

destination   explored   highlight   monument
population   tourists

Fran: What did you do in Paris?
Leah: I _explored_ the city. It was amazing!

1 Wayne: The _____ of Australia is 25 million.
    Jade: Really? I thought it was more!

2 Ruth: How many _____ visit France
              every year?
    Ian: Oh, more than 80 million!

3 Joe: Alan is going to Antarctica for his holiday.
    Rick: That's an unusual _____ !

4 Lisa: What was the _____ of your trip
              to America?
    Kelly: It was definitely New York. We loved it!

5 Dave: Which is the most famous _____
              in China?
    Alice: It's the Great Wall – millions of people visit
              it every year.