

TASK 1

Moving abroad – here's how to do it!

1 _____

There is a common misconception that moving abroad is an escape from work, family and adulthood in general. That's perfectly okay, but know this – living in a new place will not make you a new person. There will be times when you wish you could go back to your old 9 to 5. Sure, moving abroad has a certain glamour to it, but the truth is that it's regular life with a whole lot more paperwork.

2 _____

For expats in most parts of the world, visas are an unfortunate but necessary fact of life. As soon as you decide which country you're moving to, research the relevant visa laws. It's best to do this at least three months prior, as bureaucracy can take quite some time. Obtaining a visa will likely involve contacting the country's consulate in your area and putting down a large administration fee. For countries with particularly complicated visa laws (such as China), you might consider using a visa agency, though this will increase the cost significantly.

3 _____

The only thing worse than getting sick in a foreign country is not having insurance when it happens. Some countries even require that you buy health insurance before they'll issue your visa. If you're lucky, your company will insure you, but don't wait for them. Get traveller's insurance before you leave, and cancel it when your company's health insurance kicks in.

4 _____

Going to a place where you don't speak the local language? Learn it! Learning a foreign language opens more doors than you can possibly imagine, and it also shows respect for your new home. English will help you get by in many places, but don't be the guy who makes no effort because you're lazy. Sign up for night classes, take a free course online or sit down with a language exchange partner a few days a week, and you'll go from "Ni hao" to "Ni chi fan le ma?" in no time.

5 _____

It's hard to hire a van and a team of movers when you're going from London to Buenos Aires. Although it's tempting to bring along that vintage night stand you inherited from Uncle Noel, it's best to stick with items you can easily pack in a suitcase: clothes and toiletries to get you started, a few books, maybe a poster or two. Look up the baggage requirements of the airline you're flying with, and try to stick to that. You won't believe how much of what you own is not truly necessary when it comes down to it.

A	Make sure you take precautions in case you get ill
B	Make sure you don't forget any belongings
C	Make sure you only pack the essentials
D	Make sure you're 100% certain you want to move abroad
E	Make sure you don't need a visa
F	Make sure your money can move abroad with you
G	Make sure you apply for a visa
H	Make sure you know a few basic phrases

Read the texts below. Match choices A-H to the texts 1-6. There are two choices you do not need to use.

TASK 3

The world's hardest countries to visit

1 North Korea

The world's most secretive country welcomes just about 4,000 to 6,000 tourists in a year and deports a fair few for possible offences against the state. In North Korea you're not allowed to travel independently and must be accompanied by a guide from one of Pyongyang's three state-approved tour operators. You may be surprised to hear that acquiring a tourist visa for North Korea isn't too tricky (although it does take six to eight weeks to arrive), but you're limited to a pre-planned itinerary once you're there.

2 Bhutan

Before 1974, people were unable to visit the Kingdom of Bhutan. Mountainous Tibet to the north and the dense jungles of West Bengal to the south made it very inaccessible. Today there are two airlines that fly to and from Bhutan (Drukair and Bhutan Airlines) and the roads have been drastically improved if you're travelling by car. However, you will need to pay for your trip in advance – not just the plane ticket but an all-inclusive package through a Bhutanese travel agent.

3 Kiribati

In order to reach the unspoiled beauty of Kiribati you have to make a series of connections through other equally remote Pacific islands. According to seasoned travellers you have to begin your journey from either Fiji, Honolulu, Brisbane, Manila or Taipei and hop across a number of islands in progressively smaller planes and airports until you reach Kiribati. Entering Kiribati isn't easy either unless you're from one of the 60 countries that are allowed to pay for a visa on arrival, otherwise you'll have to apply for a tourist visa at one of Kiribati's few foreign consulates. The UK consulate is conveniently located in the small village of Llanddewi Rhydderch in Wales.

4 Libya

Most foreign offices warn against travelling to Libya, but it is not impossible to visit. Libya's land borders with Algeria, Niger, Sudan and Chad are closed to non-Africans so you'll need to enter via Egypt. There are no direct flights to Libya from either the UK or US, but Afriqiyah Airways flies from Istanbul to Tripoli or you could take a connecting flight through Tunis. The ancient Roman ruins of Leptis Magna (approximately 80 miles east of Tripoli) are meant to be stunning.

5 Equatorial Guinea

This is a country many avoid because of state-oppression and a terrible record of human rights abuses. The hostility towards its own people extends to visitors and as a result Equatorial Guinea is a very difficult place to enter, unless you're American. Bizarrely, United States citizens are the only foreigners in the world who don't require a visa. Once there, getting around can be hard and the hotels are expensive when compared to neighbouring countries.

6 Angola

The visa process for Angola can take several weeks so apply with plenty of time to spare before you visit. Many seasoned travellers are drawn to Angola simply because it's so hard to get to. You'll need a formal letter of invitation and proof of a prepaid hotel – and that's before you even know whether or not you're allowed to visit.

Which country can you _____?

A	enter from only one neighbouring country, unless you are from the same continent
B	visit only if travelling with a certified local
C	never be deported from
D	visit if you pay for the hotel before you apply for a visa
E	get to after a number of flights
F	get into only driving a car
G	visit if you pay for all your expenses in advance
H	visit without a visa if you are from one particular country

TASK 6

Why the Dutch are so good at English

They're incredibly tall. They ride their bikes everywhere (without helmets). They're winning the battle against rising sea levels. And now, they're ranked Number 1 in English. In the most recent EF English Proficiency Index (EF EPI) ranking, the Netherlands came in 1st out of 72 countries in English skills. 90 percent of respondents in the Netherlands claim to know English. These results beg the question: Why are the Dutch so unbelievably good at English?

This tiny country of 17 million people punches well above its weight with the 17th largest Gross Domestic Product in the world, and the 5th largest in the EU, according to the IMF. While South America or the Middle East can rely on a sizable Spanish-speaking or Arabic-speaking market to drive growth, there are only 27 million Dutch speakers – and 2 billion English speakers. And so the Dutch have needed to learn English to enter the global market.

Perhaps as a consequence of this, the Netherlands don't dub foreign language TV and movies. As a result, Dutch children grow up hearing English in popular culture from a very early age. Countries with a large enough audience for dubbed TV shows and movies, like France or Germany, dub everything, and as a result, have much less success in integrating English into their cultural life. Dubbing seems to make people less linguistically receptive to foreign languages, a condition the Dutch have successfully avoided.

The Dutch love to travel. Since EF's Amsterdam office opened in 1970, EF Education First has witnessed steady growth in the number of students from the Netherlands who are travelling abroad and taking gap years. English opens doors not just economically, but also for the average Dutch tourist, and so it's no wonder there's interest in this global language.

And finally, before any English test, the Dutch can thank their linguistic ancestors. Dutch is a Germanic language, just like English, and so they share many roots and characteristics. De? The. Bier? Beer. Wafel? Waffle. While many language families don't talk at the dinner table, cross-language similarities give the Dutch something to say when it comes to learning English.

The Dutch have an embarrassment of riches when it comes to English skills – and benefit from it enormously. Anyone who remembers that New York was once New Amsterdam will know that the adventurous Dutch have always been a country with global ambitions. The Netherlands is a great example of how a country's English proficiency can make it globally competitive and future-friendly. Adds a whole new meaning to the phrase "going Dutch", doesn't it?

- 1 According to survey, how many people in the Netherlands do **NOT** know English?
 - A every tenth citizen
 - B 90 percent
 - C 72 percent
 - D half of the population
- 2 What market does the Dutch economy rely on?
 - A South American and Middle East
 - B Spanish- and Arab-speaking
 - C Dutch-speaking
 - D English-speaking
- 3 Why do Dutch children have more opportunities to integrate into an English-speaking environment, than children from France or Germany?
 - A They hear only English at home and school.
 - B They watch English films and programmes in the original format.
 - C There are only English programs on TV in the Netherlands.
 - D All shows and movies on TV are translated into English.
- 4 Why is English helpful for the Dutch?
 - A There are a lot of tourists in the Netherlands.
 - B They often visit other countries.
 - C They need the language to study in Amsterdam.
 - D After 1970 it became impossible to enter university, unless you spoke English.
- 5 Why is it rather easy for the Dutch to learn English?
 - A Learning English is easier after having learnt German.
 - B Their language has a lot in common with English.
 - C The Dutch practice English when having family meals.
 - D The Dutch have a lot of English tests at school.

TASK 5

Read the text below. For questions 1-10 choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

What's under the Black Sea?

As bizarre as it may sound, scientists **1**_____ an enormous underwater river flowing along the bottom of **2**_____ Black Sea. As if that wasn't enough, this mind-blowing undersea river comes with **3**_____ own waterfalls!

The underwater river is so large that if it were terrestrial, it would be **4**_____ largest in the world in terms of the volume of water flowing through it. It is about 350 times **5**_____ than the River Thames and 10 times greater than Europe's biggest river, the Rhine. It was discovered by a team led by **6**_____ Dr. Dan Parsons from the University of Leeds in 2010. Believed to be more than a hundred feet deep at certain places, this river can **7**_____ at a velocity of four miles per hour and carry about 22,000 cubic metres of water through its channel.

These findings have made scientists all over the world **8**_____ the possibility that other underwater rivers like this may exist on other ocean beds. What was once considered to be **9**_____ miracle or maybe an instance of paranormal activity, has now got a clear **10**_____ explanation.

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|----|-------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1 | A have discovered | B discovered | C discover | D had discovered |
| 2 | A the | B a | C an | D - |
| 3 | A it's | B its | C it | D its' |
| 4 | A six | B sixth | C the six | D the sixth |
| 5 | A the greater | B more greater | C great | D greater |
| 6 | A the | B - | C a | D an |
| 7 | A flow | B flowed | C flowing | D flows |
| 8 | A considered | B considering | C to consider | D consider |
| 9 | A - | B the | C a | D an |
| 10 | A scientific | B scientifically | C science | D scientifical |

TASK 5

Read the text below. For questions 1-10 choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

Coffee Eyewear

We live in a world which is **1**_____ packed with all sorts of plastic. And, as we know, not only do these materials take years to degrade when thrown away, but they also harm plants, animals, people, and the planet in general. Now we're one step closer to solving this big problem as company 'Ochis' has the first eyewear made of coffee which is completely plastic-free. Another step towards replacing something which has become so **2**_____ in the world.

'Ochis' is the first fully eco-friendly eyewear made of coffee that combines high quality, great design, and the best eye protection, with advanced eco-technology for reduced environmental **3**_____. Their eyewear is made from a biodegradable compound consisting of natural coffee, flax, and natural oils; that makes your frame **4**_____ safe for you and for the environment.

They are lightweight, water-resistant, **5**_____ and they also have sun protection thanks to the innovative lenses. The frame weight has been **6**_____ reduced and it is now lighter than an **7**_____ plastic one, so you'll be completely comfortable wearing your 'Ochis' even at the end of the day. The lightweight design and custom nose bridge will make you forget that you're wearing glasses at all!

It takes 39 steps for each frame to be made using high-precision digital equipment and then refined to an ideal **8**_____ by the hands of the company's experts. The innovative technology **9**_____ 'Ochis' to reduce stress on your eyes wherever you may go. With their **10**_____ in Kyiv, 'Ochis' is surely on the way to conquering the world with this eco-friendly material and stylish designs.

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|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | A lethargically | B gloomily | C tediously | D densely |
| 2 | A everywhere | B ever-present | C all-over | D ubiquitous |
| 3 | A power | B impact | C contact | D burden |
| 4 | A altogether | B thoroughly | C completely | D conclusively |
| 5 | A durable | B strong | C constant | D lasting |
| 6 | A exceedingly | B mightily | C vastly | D more |
| 7 | A everyday | B natural | C familiar | D ordinary |
| 8 | A outlook | B state | C pass | D character |
| 9 | A licenses | B accredits | C enables | D implements |
| 10 | A headquarters | B command post | C high command | D nerve centre |

TASK 4



Telephone and mobile phones

"Mr Watson, come here, I want you." **1**_____ 10 March 1876, these were the first words **2**_____ by Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, to his assistant Thomas Watson, using his new device. It is conceivable that the history of the telephone **3**_____ as a result of our desire to communicate far and wide. This incredible invention and the creation of the cellular network supported the revolution **4**_____ the telephone industry. From bulky mobile phones to ultrathin handsets, mobile phones **5**_____ a long way so far. Even now, scientists continue to create new ideas that will further enhance users' experience.

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 A At | B On | C In | D Since |
| 2 A have been spoken | B spoken | C spoke | D speak |
| 3 A will start | B been started | C started | D was starting |
| 4 A of | B by | C from | D off |
| 5 A have come | B had come | C came | D will have come |