

READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

Complete the gaps in the text with one word only.

Exploring Fiji

The republic of Fiji is an island nation _____ the south Pacific. It is a top destination for young backpackers on a round-the-world tour, as it is the perfect place to relax and re-fuel between leaving Australia and arriving in America.

Fiji is famous _____ its stunning volcanic islands, white beaches and crystal clear seas. But if you are after something a little more energetic _____ simply lying in the sun all day, you can take a boat trip or _____ snorkeling on one of Fiji's many coral reefs.

_____ the larger islands, if you venture inland, you will find mountains, canyons,

waterfalls and lush rainforest, _____ are best

explored by riverboat. You may come _____ villages in



the forest and the local people will always greet you

_____ a smile and a show of that famous Fijian hospitality.

For the most adventurous, there _____ opportunities for white-water rafting and kayaking on some of the rivers, and the Namosi highlands provide the perfect setting for a _____ days hiking. Back on the beach, those _____ wish can learn scuba dive. Just remember to take an underwater camera with you, as you will see sights you will not want to miss!

Polyglot

Alex Rawlings is twenty years old and he is a university student. But _____ is something special about Alex; he can speak 11 languages.

As a small child, Alex learned Greek, English and French _____ his parents, but the value of language really

became clear to Alex _____ the family moved to Japan for four years _____ a result of his father's job.

Being in a place where you do not understand the language _____ make you feel lonely and insecure and Alex always felt frustrated _____ he couldn't speak Japanese to the other children.

After they moved back to England, Alex's family visited Holland _____ a holiday. Alex decided that, unlike in Japan, next time they went to that country he would be able to communicate _____ people. He taught himself Dutch using books and CDs and when he returned to Holland he could speak the language.

German, Spanish, Afrikaans, Hebrew, Catalan and Italian followed, and Alex is now learning Russian. Learning languages makes Alex happy because, _____ only is it an important skill, but it is _____ a hobby he enjoys, as well as the subject he studies and it will eventually be part of _____ job.