Unit 10: Ecotourism

Reading skill

Ex.1. Match these words with their meanings.

Words	Meanings
1. discharge	a. all the plants of a particular area
2. fauna	b. exciting and unusual
3. flora	c. all the animals living in an area
4. exotic	d. change in order to be suitable for the new situations
5. adapt	e. release

Ex. 2. Read two opinions about ecotourism. Choose the best title for them.

a. Sustainable Ecotourism and Jobs

b. Pros and Cons of Ecotourism

c. Ecotourism - A Solution to Environmental Problems

Marco, an environmentalist from Costa Rica: People travel a lot more nowadays. Mass tourism has contributed to the destruction of the environment. More and more hotels are built while forests and beaches are destroyed. A lot of waste from hotels and vehicles is also discharged into the water and air. I think ecotourism can help to solve this problem because it is sustainable and done for the purpose of enjoying nature. Although relatively new, ecotourism is growing rapidly. The money from ecotourism goes back to nature. How does this happen? Local governments use the money for the preservation of their national parks, and the different species of fauna and flora found there. Tour guides and travel brochures educate tourists about the protection of the environment. Tourists enjoy the beauty of wildlife without harming it. They stay with local families instead of hotels and get to know their culture and lifestyle.

Pablo, a farmer from Costa Rica: Costa Rica is one of the world's best ecotourism destinations. We have beautiful beaches, thick rain forests, exciting volcanoes, and exotic

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wildlife. The local government and tour guides tell us that ecotourism is good for us, but the fact is, I don't really know what it is. But I do know that when tourists come here, there are more jobs for us, and I can earn more. However, there are bad things as well. We have to change our way of life. To entertain tourists, we have to change our usual foods to suit their tastes or adapt dances and traditions to suit their needs.

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