1 **SPEAKING** Describe the pictures. Then say which holiday looks more enjoyable, and why.

2 Look through the texts quickly. Match two of the three texts (A–C) with the pictures (1 and 2).

1 ___ 2 ___

3 Read the texts. Match the three writers (Hilary, Kevin and Terry) with the sentences below.

This writer:

1 had an enjoyable experience with a friend. _____
2 had an experience that friends found amusing. _____
3 had an embarrassing experience with an adult. _____

Free at last?

2.26

Have you ever seen travel programmes on TV about teenagers on holiday without parents? They're always having a wild and exciting time. But is it really like that? We asked three writers to tell us their personal experiences ...



2

A *Hilary Bradt: co-founder of a travel guide company*

When I was fifteen, I went to stay with my penfriend in north Germany. It was my first trip abroad and the first without my parents, and I hated every minute of it. The worst moment was probably the time when I was alone in the house and somebody rang the doorbell. They rang it again and again – but I ignored it. Then I saw the visitor walking around the house looking through the windows. Frightened, I hid under the dining-room table. That afternoon, Christina's mother came home from work and said, 'I needed to pick up some papers from the house today and I didn't have my key. I rang the bell. But you didn't hear me.' 'Oh, I was in my room, I expect,' I said. 'Sorry!' My face went red, because she knew I was lying. I'm certain she saw me under the table.

B *Kevin Rushby: writer*

At sixteen, I hitch-hiked down to Cornwall in the south-west of England with a friend. We spent the holiday walking along the coastal path with a tent and a backpack, staying at campsites on the way. The weather was fantastic and the sea was beautiful. We had almost no money and lived on sandwiches and tea. One of the first things I learned was this: a fire and a mug of tea can make the world seem perfect. The second thing: spending more money does not mean having more fun. What really mattered was talking to people. I had to do lots of chatting, negotiating, discussing and questioning. Strangers could be very helpful and interesting, I discovered. They could also be dangerous, boring and stupid. It was up to me to judge them and decide – and that skill has been useful to me many times since then. I wrote it all down, but I've lost the notebook now, unfortunately.

5 Circle the correct answers (a–d).

1 Hilary went red because her penfriend's mother knew
   a that Hilary didn't hear the doorbell.
   b that Hilary was in her bedroom.
   c that Hilary was not telling the truth.
   d why Hilary did not want to open the door.
2 On Kevin's first holiday without his parents, he
   a walked all the way to the south-west of England.
   b decided to hitch-hike around south-west England.
   c spent the holiday at a campsite in Cornwall.
   d camped at various places along the coast.
3 Meeting lots of different people taught Kevin
   a some useful skills that he later lost.
   b that negotiating with strangers can be dangerous.
   c how to decide what strangers are like.
   d that talking to strangers is usually boring.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

C *Terry Alderton: comedian*

My friends and I were nineteen and on holiday in the coolest place in the world: Ibiza. On the first day, I fell asleep on the beach – with no suncream. My friends knew I was getting sunburned, but they didn't wake me up because they thought it was funny. When I woke up, I felt a little sore. Then I took off my sunglasses and my friends all fell on the floor, laughing. I had two clear white rings around my eyes! That night, we all went out dancing and of course I had to keep wearing the same sunglasses because of my sunburn. I wasn't enjoying myself, so I left before my friends. For some reason, I didn't want to wait for a bus back to our hotel, so I walked seven kilometres along busy roads. When I finally arrived, my friends were already there, sitting around the pool. I've never understood how they got there so quickly.

4 Terry had circles around his eyes because
- **a** his friends put lots of suncream on his face.
- **b** the rest of his face was red from the sun.
- **c** his eyes were sore from too much sun.
- **d** he wanted to make his friends laugh.

5 Terry decided to walk back to the hotel because
- **a** he wanted to get back to the hotel before his friends.
- **b** he knew there were no more buses.
- **c** he didn't feel like standing at the bus stop.
- **d** he knew it was not very far.

7 VOCABULARY Form holiday-related compound nouns by matching the words below with words 1–8. All of the compounds are in the texts.

burn cream friend glasses guide pack programme site

1 travel _____ 3 pen_____ 5 camp_____ 7 sun_____
2 travel _____ 4 back_____ 6 sun_____ 8 sun_____

Complete the holiday-related compound nouns. Use the words below. Which of them are written as one word?

back camp pen sun sun sun travel travel

1 _____guide 5 _____pack
2 _____burn 6 _____glasses
3 _____friend 7 _____site
4 _____cream 8 _____programme

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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