

READING

Task 1 (12 points)

Read the interview with a travel blogger and do the task. Match the questions with the answers.

Write the letter (A-N) of the appropriate question in the gap (1-12). Use each question only once.

There is one extra question that you do not need to use. An example (0) has been given.

THE BACKPACKING GURU

Leah Davis is a travel blogger, entrepreneur, and digital nomad. She encourages others to grow and create sustainable nomadic lives for themselves through her blog.

0. _____ J _____

I think I really knew I wanted to travel by the time I reached my late teens. I had keenly studied the Spanish language throughout high school, so I looked forward to the day I could study abroad in Spain and put my skills to use.

1. _____

While traveling on a long-term solo backpacking trip through South America in 2013, I became friends with a travel blogger who was making the digital nomad lifestyle work by freelancing and monetizing her blog. I thought it was so inspirational, and it solidified in my mind that I wanted that lifestyle, too.

2. _____

I knew a blog could help me create a location independent lifestyle at some point in the future, but at the time, it was simply a way to document my travels and write about what I thought my friends and family would find interesting.

3. _____

Probably Thailand where I worked as an English teacher for three years. My mom wasn't too keen on the idea when I first left, but I made sure to Skype with her regularly and did my best to paint her a vivid picture of what my life was like so she could rest a little easier. With time, she became more comfortable with my life abroad and stopped worrying so much.

4. _____

It must have been trying to stay in contact with friends and family back home (the time difference was about 12 hours) and simply figuring out what I wanted to do with my life after this era came to an end. I had to devise a new plan that didn't involve moving back to the US permanently, because I was far from done with living abroad.

5. _____

I met a fantastic group of people while living in Thailand, and we had some amazing adventures together. Weekend trips to beautiful lakes and waterfalls and attending local music festivals and dancing until the wee hours of the morning are just a few to mention. I will always treasure those memories.

6. _____

The five-year-old children I taught in a kindergarten class. They were so clever and so loving, I literally burst into tears on the last day of school when I realized I had to leave those precious babies. It was a tough year but ultimately so rewarding.

7. _____

When I set out on this blogging adventure, I didn't have any sort of plan to blog for profit. In fact, for the first two years I was blogging pretty aimlessly. It was only after my rebrand one year ago that I really put my foot down and decided I wanted to make an impact in people's lives, and that's the moment my blog truly started to feel like a business.

8. _____

My site is all about helping people create their own ideal lifestyle of freedom, whether that means freelancing, working remotely, or starting their own online business. I serve people who love to travel and want their job to accommodate this passion rather than having to squeeze travel into the cracks that are leftover after working 50 hours at some office job they dislike.

9. _____

Consistency! And not just with regard to how often you post, but with regard to the message you are sending. Figure out what it is you are good at delivering and what you want your blog to be known for, and bring that to each and every post you write.

10. _____

A clear plan. Without clear goals and a plan of action from the beginning, you may end up working aimlessly like I did. A component of that strategy will be the specific problem you will be helping people to solve, and another will be your ideal client. Without these things in place, it will be hard to move steadily in one direction.

11. _____

I haven't done much traveling around the United States yet, so I'm actually currently thinking of traveling to some of our gorgeous national parks like Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, and Joshua Tree. Hopefully I'll get to do a bit of roadtripping this winter in our new camper!

12. _____

If you've always wanted to experience travel, just go. Don't wait for someone else's permission or until you have a travel buddy to go with. You'll never regret making it a priority in your life

Interview Questions	
A	What got you into blogging?
B	What was your longest trip away from home and how did your family feel about it?
C	Who are you specifically addressing with your blog?
D	Were you inspired by anyone?
E	Do you have any social media tips and tricks?
F	Where is your next dream destination?
G	When did you start thinking of a blog as a way of earning money?
H	What were your biggest challenges?
I	What is the best advice you can give for someone who is trying to start a business?
J	<i>How old were you when you got the first itch for travel?</i>
K	What were your favourite moments there?
L	What would you suggest to those still hesitating to pack up for their journey?
M	Is there anything or anyone that you will miss from your job in Thailand?
N	Have all of your trips been safe?