

1.3 MY PLACES

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Talk about your favourite places
- Learn to recognize facts and opinions in texts
- Describe places with *there is / there are + a, an, some, any*

OUR HANGOUTS



There are 39 libraries in my city, but the Library of Birmingham is my favourite. There are about a million books here in 50 different languages! I'm into graphic novels and there are lots here.

There are activities here, too. Table tennis is my favourite. And at the top of the library, there's a special Shakespeare room. ¹I think the best thing is the garden on the seventh floor. The views of the city are fantastic!



There's a garden herel



Blue sea and white sand!



Is there a beach near you? There are over 10,000 in Australia and there are three near my home. This is Hyams Beach – my favourite. ²It's 3 km long and the sand is white! I think it's beautiful. There aren't any restaurants, but there's a café with great smoothies! There isn't a lifeguard, but the sea is safe here.



Slides



I think shopping is boring but ³West Edmonton Mall is awesome. There's an amazing waterpark with slides and there's a theme park. There's an ice rink for ice-skating and ice hockey games. Canadians are really into ice hockey. And of course, there are some shops – over 800 – and ⁴there's a cinema with 13 screens!

There's just one problem. With 32 million visitors every year, it's very busy!



The stores!

READING

1 Discuss the questions.

- 1 What's a hangout?
- 2 What are your favourite hangouts?

2 02 Read and listen to Hanif, Emma and Tyler's descriptions. What are their favourite hangouts and which country are they in?

- What do these sentences mean in your language?
I'm into graphic novels.
Canadians are really into ice hockey.

3 Read the descriptions again. Match these numbers with sentences 1–6.

eight hundred fifty seven thirteen
thirty-nine three zero

the number of movie screens at the mall thirteen

- 1 the number of lifeguards on the beach _____
- 2 the floor of the library garden _____
- 3 the number of stores at the mall _____
- 4 the number of libraries in Birmingham _____
- 5 the length of the beach in kilometres _____
- 6 the number of languages of books in the library _____

- 4 Read the *Skill UP!* Then read the underlined sentences 1–4 in the article. Are they facts or opinions?



Descriptions have got a mixture of facts and opinions.

A fact is something that is always true.

There are 39 libraries in my city.

For opinions, look for:

- phrases like *I (don't) think*
- adjectives that are positive or negative
I think it's beautiful.

- 1 _____ 3 _____
2 _____ 4 _____

- 5 Find four adjectives in the article with a similar meaning to *very good*.

- 6 **THINK** Look at the different hangouts again. Which place is your favourite? Why?

- 7 **MEDIATION** Choose one of the places in the text: *The Library of Birmingham, Hyams Beach or West Edmonton Mall*. Look online and find three more facts about the place. Tell the class.

GRAMMAR

there is / there are + a, an, some, any

- 8 Complete the table with *a, an, some* or *any*. Use the descriptions in the article to help you.

	Affirmative	Negative
Singular	There's ¹ _____ special Shakespeare room. There's ² _____ amazing waterpark.	There isn't ³ _____ lifeguard.
Plural	There are three beaches. There are ⁴ _____ stores.	There aren't ⁵ _____ restaurants.
Questions	Short answers	
Is there a beach near your house?	Yes, there is. / No, there isn't.	
Are there any beaches near your house?	Yes, there are. / No, there aren't.	
How many beaches are there in Australia?	There are over 10,000.	

CHECK IT! → MY GRAMMAR REFERENCE & PRACTICE p106

- 9 **03** Read the *Pronunciation*. Then listen and repeat the sentences.

PRONUNCIATION *There, They're, Their*

These three words sound the same.

There are two girls. **They're** in my class. **Their** names are Beth and Lucy.

- 10 Complete the text with the words in the box.

an are isn't some there are
there aren't there's

There ¹ _____ a big park near my home but, near my grandparents' house in London, there's ² _____ amazing park. It's called Hampstead Heath. ³ _____ over five kilometres of paths for walking and cycling. There are ⁴ _____ good cafés in the park and ⁵ _____ a great swimming pool, but ⁶ _____ any slides. From the top of the park, there ⁷ _____ awesome views of London!



- 11 **Match** the beginnings and ends of the questions. Then ask and answer.

- 1 Is there _____
2 Are there any _____
3 Is there an _____
4 Is there a _____
5 How many _____

- A ice cream shop near you?
B swimming pool with slides in your town?
C parks are there near your home?
D beaches near your town?
E a shopping mall near you?

PROJECT BUILDER 3

Describe the important places in your life.

→ Workbook **Project Log** p5



- 12 Make a list of your favourite hangouts.
- 13 **Compare** your lists. Are there any similar places? What are they?
- 14 Write two or three sentences to describe the important places in your life. Use *there is / there are*.
My special place is my local sports centre. There are two swimming pools and there's a great café.
My special place is my bedroom. There's a bed, a desk, ...