

## Reading

1 Read the article about gift experiences. Complete it with headings a–d.

- a Try a new hobby
- b A weekend away
- c Adventure!
- d Try a new sport

2 Read the article again. Choose the correct alternatives.

- 1 It can be *expensive*/*difficult* to buy presents for some people.
- 2 'Gift experiences' are *activities*/*objects*.
- 3 Trying a new sport is a *good*/*bad* way to do exercise.
- 4 You can try a new sport with a special *class*/*person*.
- 5 There are *a few*/*a lot* of different types of hobbies to try.
- 6 You can learn a *new*/*difficult* skill.
- 7 A weekend away is good for someone who *needs to relax*/*likes to travel*.
- 8 Adventure gifts are *safe*/*dangerous*.

3 Read the article again and answer the questions.

1 Why are some people difficult to buy presents for? (two reasons)

2 When do you pay for the activity: *before* or *after* the person does it?

3 What are the advantages of trying a new sport? (two advantages)

4 What two examples of trying a new hobby does the text give?

5 What might the person discover when they learn a new hobby?

6 What's the extra advantage of buying someone a weekend away?

7 What three examples of adventure gifts does the text give?

8 What kind of people would like an adventure gift?

4 Match the words in bold in the article with meanings 1–4.

- 1 something very exciting \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 the first one \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 very good \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 a short holiday \_\_\_\_\_

## A different type of gift

Sometimes it's difficult to buy presents for people on their birthday. Maybe they've got everything they want, or maybe they haven't got any hobbies or interests. In this case *something to do* (not *something to have*) can be a good idea. 'Gift experiences' are popular at the moment.

You buy a 'ticket' which the person can then use for a class or activity. We look at four of the best types.

1

This is a **fantastic** way to do exercise and have fun at the same time. There are lots of wonderful and interesting things to try, from playing tennis to swimming. Most places offer an **introductory** session as a present for someone to try for the first time.



2

For example, you could buy your special person an online guitar course or a sushi-making class. There are hundreds of different ideas out there. It's an awesome way to learn a new skill and discover something new.

3

Does your special person work a lot? Do they need a **break** and some time to relax? Nowadays it's easy to travel to different places quite quickly. So why not buy them a mini-holiday? (You can enjoy it too!)

4

These are really exciting. Examples include a flying lesson, driving fast cars and 'survival' experiences. This type of present is great for people who want something exciting or a **thrill**. They might look dangerous, but they're all very safe.

