HOLIDAY SURPRISES

You are going to read a text about four people who had unexpected experiences while they were on holiday.

A. Anna Jones – Sicily

I travelled to Sicily and had arranged to meet my host family at the airport in Palermo at 8 pm. The flight was fine and I had nearly finished my book when the pilot announced that we would be delayed because of a storm in Palermo. I felt a bit anxious at this point, but the flight continued without any problems. Then, as we were approaching Palermo, we hit the storm and the pilot announced that the flight had been redirected to another city in Sicily. We landed there, and then an hour or so later the plane took off again for Palermo. By the time we finally landed in Palermo it was almost midnight. My host family had been worried about me. They were very kind to me and we had a delicious late-night dinner as soon as we got to their house.

B. Callum McKinnon – Japan

I went on a trip to Japan to visit my uncle, who was working in Tokyo. While we were there, we all decided to visit a famous site called the Inari Shrine in Kyoto. Unfortunately, we hadn't arranged any accommodation, and when we arrived, we realised that most of the hotels were fully booked because it was a national holiday. We decided to visit the shrine anyway and find accommodation later. However, as we were walking back through the woods, we realised we had got lost. We were worried that we would have to sleep in the woods, but then we met an American who had a map and helped us to get back onto the path and to find our way back to the entrance. He told us that he was staying in a guest house that might have some rooms available. We received a warm welcome there and a met a lot of nice people.

C. Lucy Parker – Morocco

Last winter I went on an amazing trip with my family. We spent two days in Spain before taking the ferry to Morocco to visit my aunt and uncle. We had a brilliant time exploring the markets, and tasting incredible food. We had planned to take the ferry back to Spain on Thursday evening, but we decided to stay an extra night and leave early the next morning. On our final day in Morocco, we got up early to catch the train from Fez to Tangier, where we would get the ferry back to Spain and our flight back to London. Unfortunately, because it was the New Year holiday, there was a reduced ferry service that day. We managed to catch a much later ferry, but by the time we arrived in Spain, we had already missed our connection. There were no flights with seats available for two days, but at least we got to spend longer in Spain.

D. Ian Roberts – Iceland

I travelled to the USA with my family last summer, and we chose a flight that had a stopover in Iceland. We decided to stay there for three nights as we had never been there before and it was a good opportunity to visit. Because it was summer, we thought that our light waterproof jackets would be warm enough for our time there. But when we arrived in Reykjavik, it was pouring with rain and very cold. We met a local woman when we were waiting for the bus who kindly gave us her umbrella and told us where we could buy warm clothes. We eventually found an outdoor clothing shop and bought warm coats, hats and gloves. We put our new clothes to good use by doing plenty of activities, including walking, snowmobiling and whale watching. The stopover really cost us a lot, but it was worth it. Our warm clothes stayed in the suitcase for the rest of the trip though.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

For questions 1-10, choose from the people (A-D). Each person may be chosen more than once.

Which person…

1. was not prepared for the weather? ☐
2. had transport difficulties because of the time of year? ☐
3. visited somewhere at a popular time of year? ☐
4. had an unexpected expense? ☐
5. had to wait a long time to arrive at his/her destination? ☐
6. changed their travel plans while on holiday? ☐
7. received assistant from a local person? ☐
8. received assistance from another tourist? ☐
9. had people waiting for him/her? ☐
10. was unable to leave on the day they had planned? ☐

Source: *Cambridge Complete First for Schools. Second Edition*

LIVEWORKSHEETS