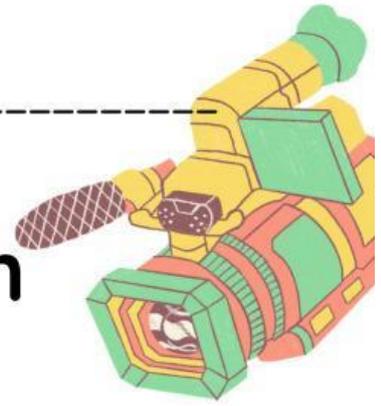


Name: _____ Class: _____



Unit 8: Ecotourism

Reading passage

Ecotourism: Exploring Nature Responsibly

Ecotourism is a way of traveling that allows people to explore nature while protecting the environment. Unlike mass tourism, which often brings large crowds that can damage ecosystems, ecotourism encourages visitors to be aware of their impact on nature and local communities.

Many destinations promote ecotourism by offering activities that respect wildlife and culture. For example, in Thailand, tourists can visit a floating market, where local vendors sell fresh produce and handmade crafts from boats. Instead of buying mass-produced souvenirs, travelers can support local artisans by purchasing unique, handmade items.

A well-planned ecotourism trip often follows a sustainable path. Tourists might explore a national park with a knowledgeable guide who explains the importance of protecting plants and animals. Unlike hunting for fun, which harms wildlife, ecotourism encourages activities like bird-watching or photography.

Eco-friendly accommodations also play an important role. Many eco-lodges are hosted by local families who teach visitors about their culture and traditions. Some provide brochures with information on how to minimize environmental impact. Travelers can also take part in activities like tree planting or beach cleanups to help preserve the natural surroundings.

By choosing ecotourism, travelers contribute to the protection of beautiful destinations while gaining a deeper understanding of the world. It is a responsible way to travel that benefits both nature and people.

Task 1:

Read each statement carefully and decide if it is True or False.
Write T for True and F for False.

Statement	True	False
1. Local families usually host eco-lodges.		
2. A brochure in an eco-lodge might provide information on how to minimize environmental impact.		
3. Ecotourists can help the environment by participating in activities like tree planting and beach cleanups.		
4. Ecotourism does not benefit local communities.		
5. Ecotourism is considered a responsible way to travel because it protects nature and helps people learn about different cultures.		

Task 2: Answer the following questions

1 What is ecotourism?

- a) A type of tourism that focuses on shopping and entertainment
- b) A way of traveling that protects nature and respects local communities
- c) A form of travel that involves hunting and fishing for fun
- d) A type of tourism that brings large crowds to famous landmarks

2 How is ecotourism different from mass tourism?

- a) Ecotourism brings larger crowds than mass tourism
- b) Ecotourism is more expensive than mass tourism
- c) Ecotourism avoids large crowds and prevents environmental damage
- d) Ecotourism focuses only on visiting cities and museums

3 What is a floating market?

- a) A place where people sell goods on boats
- b) A market that moves from one city to another
- c) A type of market located in a shopping mall
- d) A market that sells only handmade crafts

4 Why is buying handmade crafts better than mass-produced souvenirs?

- a) Handmade crafts are cheaper than mass-produced souvenirs
- b) Handmade crafts support local artisans and promote sustainability
- c) Mass-produced souvenirs are not allowed in ecotourism
- d) Handmade crafts are always made from recycled materials

5 How do ecotourism trips help protect wildlife?

- a) By allowing tourists to hunt animals
- b) By following sustainable paths and avoiding harmful activities
- c) By encouraging visitors to collect rare plants and animals
- d) By keeping tourists away from all national parks

Task 3: Match each word to each definition.

Aware

Brochure

Culture

Explore

Local

A small booklet or pamphlet that provides information about a place or service.

To travel around a place to discover new things.

Knowing or understanding something.

A way of life, including traditions, beliefs, and customs of a group of people.

Related to a specific area or community.

A person who is not from the community.

A large group of tourists traveling together.