



The Floating Islands of Lake Titicaca

What is it like having a different view from your window every day? Well, it's just like this for the Uros people of Lake Titicaca in Peru. There are over forty 'floating' islands here. Every day they are in a different place on the lake which is 3,812 metres above sea level.

These floating islands are home to about 300 people. Their surface is very soft and wet because they make the islands with totora reeds. There are small villages with three to ten families on each island.

Uros homes are small reed huts with one room. There is only one bed for the whole family. There isn't any heating and it is sometimes very cold on the lake.

Life on the islands is very simple. The men are fishermen on the lake. They have reed boats with amazing animal faces to go fishing. The women are at home with the children. There's one school for the children but there isn't a hospital or doctors nearby.

These days, the islands are very popular with tourists. It's only a 30-minute motor boat ride from the city of Puno to the islands. Everyone is welcome to experience this unique way of life!

a) Read again and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false). Correct the false ones.

1 The Uros people live on a lake.	4 Uros men make boats out of wood.
2 The islands of the Uros are man-made.	5 Uros children don't go to school.
3 Uros homes have only two rooms.	6 Tourists travel to the islands by car.

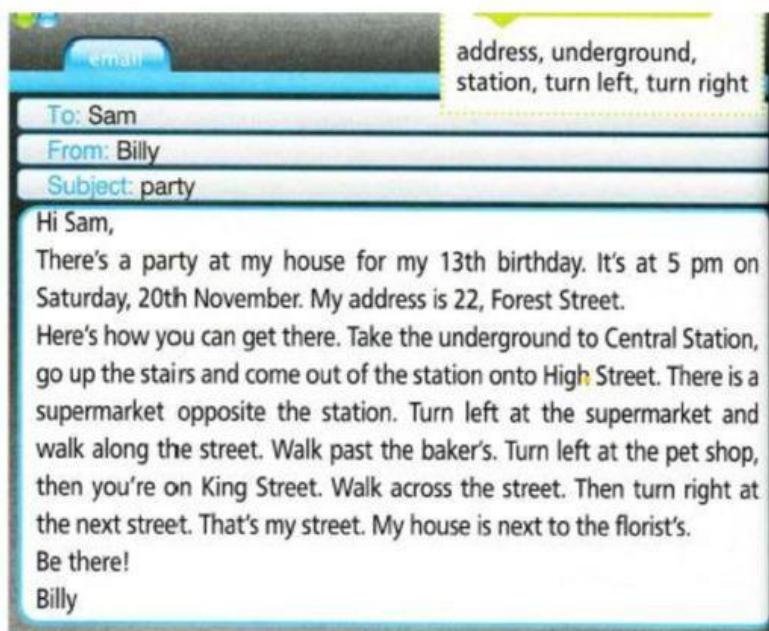
Use the words in the list to complete the sentences.

• welcome • different • popular • simple

- 1 People on the island have a life.
- 2 Tourists are on the islands.
- 3 The islands are in a place every day.
- 4 The islands are with tourists.

3 Read the email and answer the questions.

- 1 When is Billy's birthday?
- 2 What time is the party?
- 3 How can Sam get to Billy's house?





6 Read the theory. Find examples in the text.

We use **a/an** before countable nouns (nouns we can count, e.g. one iron, two irons) in the singular when we talk about something for the first time.

There's a cup on the table.

We use **the** to talk about something specific.

The cup is green. (Which cup? The cup on the table.)

We don't use **the**:

- a) before proper nouns. *John's here.*
- b) with the words *this/that/these/those*. *This cup is blue.*
- c) with possessive adjectives. *It is my cup.*
- d) names of countries (*Spain*), cities (*Madrid*), continents (*Europe*).

7 Fill in *a/an*, *the* or *-*.

- 1 There is table in the dining room. table is brown.
- 2 There's florist's in my neighbourhood. florist's is next to a baker's.
- 3 Have you got washing machine?
- 4 their house is in Cracow.
- 5 view from my balcony is great!
- 6 my house is next to baker's.
- 7 this desk is green.
- 8 Jason has got big room.
- 9 carpet in my room is red.
- 10 There's vase on table. vase is green.