

People who don't live in traditional houses

1. Read the texts 1-4 and match them to the pictures.



2. Read the texts again and answer the questions:

- Why do the Korowai Tribe build their houses in trees?
- Why do people in Coober Pedy prefer living underground?
- Why do people on Aogashima want to live in a volcano?
- Why have most people recently moved from Petra to a nearby village?

3. Which place seems to be the best for living? Which one is the worst? Why?

1. Living in trees

The Korowai Tribe of Papua New Guinea are strong and good at climbing. They have to be! They live in treehouses, sometimes forty- five metres above the ground. The dense rainforest is hot and humid: there are insects and dangerous animals. Treehouses protect the tribe from these dangers on the ground. They use material from the forest to build the houses. They cut off the top of a tree and build the floor first. It has to be strong, because sometimes a family of twelve people live there. They use a ladder to get up and down. Imagine the breathtaking views from one of these treehouses!



2. Living underground

In the desert of Southeast Australia, 500 miles away from the nearest city, is a mining town called Coober Pedy. On the sandy surface, there isn't much to see. Almost all 15 of the 3,500 residents live underground and work in the opal mines. To escape from scorching temperatures, they have created an impressive underground world where you'll find everything from a bookstore to a church, and even a hotel.



4. Living in volcano

Aogashima is a Japanese island in the Philippine Sea. Over 230 years ago, a volcanic eruption killed a half of its population. Now about 200 people live in the old volcanic crater. They try not to worry too much about another eruption. They love living on the island – there are no traffic jams or crowds of people. Fishing, hiking, camping and swimming are popular activities. Aogashima's natural hot springs and lush vegetation attract a lot of visitors, but the island is not so easy to reach. You can take a fourteen-hour boat trip from Tokyo. Alternatively, you can take a helicopter and it only takes two hours.



3. Living in caves

The ancient city of Petra is a popular tourist destination. It is located in the rose-coloured mountains of south-western Jordan and was once a busy trading centre. Then, its residents abandoned the city and for thousands of years only the Bedouin, a nomadic tribe, lived in caves among the spectacular historic ruins. However, the government has recently decided to move them to a nearby village to protect Petra. But the Bedouins' way of life has not changed much. In fact, income from tourists help them to keep their traditions alive. Some of them work in Petra, selling souvenirs or transporting tourists on horses, camels and donkeys around the historic monuments.

