

Score:

Last summer, I *recalled* one of the most unforgettable trips I've ever taken — a journey through the highlands of Peru. It *occurred* just before my final year of university, during a time when I *felt* the need to break free and do something bold. One way to *experience* personal growth is to *step* out of your comfort zone, and that's exactly what I did.

The adventure *began* in Cusco, a vibrant city filled with history and color. I still *remembered* the first day vividly — the streets were buzzing with music and local celebrations. I *noticed* how every corner was *painted* with meaning, from ancient Incan symbols to colonial architecture. The entire city seemed like it was *being transformed* into a living museum.

I *encountered* some culture shock at first. For example, I *had never eaten* guinea pig before, and when a local guide *explained* its cultural significance, I hesitated. Eventually, I tried it — and *realized* how travel teaches you to keep an open mind. Our guide also *shared* fascinating stories about the Inca Trail, and *described* rituals that are still *being practiced* by indigenous communities today.

As we hiked to Machu Picchu, something unexpected *happened*. A sudden storm *struck* the trail, and we *were forced* to take shelter in a tiny hut built by local porters. I *recounted* how we all *were sitting* together, soaked and tired, yet united by the moment. We *talked*, laughed, and *reflected* on what we had just *witnessed* — a wild landscape that seemed untouched by time.

The next morning, the sun *revealed* the mountains in golden light. I *expressed* how breathtaking it was in a journal I kept, something I've *used* ever since to *reminisce* and *detail* my experiences. When we finally *reached* Machu Picchu, I *felt* a rush of awe and pride. I *told* my friend that it was more than just a destination — it was a spiritual journey.

Unfortunately, not everything went smoothly. I *underwent* a minor mishap when my backpack *was stolen* in a market on our way back. I *confessed* later that I had left it unattended for just a few minutes — a rookie mistake. But even then, a kind vendor *mentioned* a nearby police booth and helped me *file* a report. Thanks to her, some of my belongings *were recovered*, and I *realized* that generosity can be found in the most unexpected places.

Looking back, this trip *has been marked* as one of the most *meaningful* experiences of my life. It taught me resilience, open-mindedness, and the importance of human connection. It also *has shown* me that not every journey is perfect — but every twist and turn *can be turned* into a valuable story.

Answer the questions below based on the information given in the text.

1. How did the narrator describe the culture they encountered in Peru? What details stood out to them in places like Cusco, and how did those cultural experiences help shape their perspective?

- The narrator became interested mainly in nightlife events and social activities, which made them believe entertainment was more important than cultural traditions.
- The narrator focused mostly on shopping areas and luxury restaurants, which convinced them that tourism depends heavily on commercial experiences abroad.
- The narrator admired the colorful streets, historical symbols, and local customs, which encouraged them to become more open-minded toward unfamiliar experiences.
- The narrator concentrated on modern attractions and comfortable travel experiences, which persuaded them that convenience was the most important part of tourism.

2. What mishap did the narrator undergo during the trip, and how did it become part of the unforgettable story?

- The narrator missed transportation to the mountains, but the delay allowed them to visit additional tourist attractions and enjoy unexpected sightseeing opportunities.
- The narrator became separated from the hiking group during a storm, although experienced guides eventually helped them return safely to camp.
- The narrator accidentally damaged important travel documents, but airport officials quickly solved the issue before the journey was interrupted.
- The narrator lost their backpack in a crowded market, but a helpful local vendor assisted them in recovering some belongings and appreciating unexpected kindness.

3. The narrator witnessed a powerful moment during a storm on the Inca Trail. What happened, and how did they express their reaction afterward?

- The group took shelter together during the storm, and the narrator later reflected on the emotional experience through conversations and journal entries.
- The group became frustrated because the storm delayed their arrival, and the narrator later described the tension that developed among travelers.
- The group continued hiking despite the dangerous weather conditions, and the narrator later focused on physical endurance and determination.
- The group decided to cancel the remaining journey, and the narrator later wrote mainly about feelings of disappointment and regret afterward.

4. How did keeping a journal help the narrator process the journey, and what parts of the trip did they record in writing?

- The journal encouraged the narrator to compare tourist destinations and evaluate which places offered the most enjoyable recreational experiences.
- The journal helped the narrator organize expenses and schedules while recording practical details about transportation and accommodation arrangements.
- The journal allowed the narrator to preserve emotional memories and describe meaningful experiences, including landscapes, challenges, and personal reflections.
- The journal gave the narrator an opportunity to practice academic writing by focusing mainly on historical information and archaeological discoveries.

5. How did the local guide shape the narrator's understanding of Peruvian culture and history? What explanations did the guide provide, and how did the narrator respond?

- The guide emphasized economic development and political issues, which motivated the narrator to analyze the country from a professional perspective.
- The guide explained indigenous rituals, historical traditions, and local customs, which encouraged the narrator to become more curious and accepting of new ideas.
- The guide described modern architecture and technological progress, which caused the narrator to focus more on urban growth than cultural heritage.
- The guide talked about celebrities and entertainment trends, which inspired the narrator to view Peru mainly as a center for popular culture and media.