

READING

- 5  Read the text. Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.

Do something different!

Do you need a change from your boring nine-to-five? Take a look at our exciting range of activity holidays and choose the type of trip you'd like.

- a programme b routine c plan

- 6A Read the blog post. Match the headings (a–d) with the stories (1–3). There is one extra heading.

- a Iain: Cycling the Silk Road
b Chiara: Journey around the coast
c Rafael: A journey along the Indus River
d Onjali: Driving south from the Arctic

A journey to remember

We asked you to tell us about amazing trips you've taken. Here are a selection of your stories.

1

When my husband and I retired, we set off on an amazing journey from Alaska to Argentina.

We had fantastic experiences – too many to list them all. **Highlights** included whale-watching in Alaska, swimming in *cenotes* (cave ponds) in Mexico, staying in a jungle treehouse in Colombia and watching the sun rise over Machu Picchu.

It wasn't all beautiful skies and **breathtaking** views, though. Some roads were challenging to drive on, and our van kept breaking down. My husband and I weren't used to spending so much time together, and we had lots of arguments to begin with! It took a while to get used to life on the road, but it was definitely worth it.

2

The most **memorable** journey I ever made was riding from Istanbul to Beijing. As a child I was **fascinated by** stories of famous travellers and dreamed of escaping my small town to travel the ancient routes they wrote about through China and Central Asia.

I spent a year cycling through some of the wildest parts of the earth and living out of a tiny bag. I loved seeing unfamiliar landscapes and getting to know local people. Every day was different – I rode through freezing rain and the heat and wind of the desert. Some days were so tough that I didn't know if I'd be able to keep going.

I learnt lots about different cultures, history and nature, and about myself and what I'm **capable of**. I can't wait to get back on my bike for another trip!

- B Match the topics (a–h) with the stories (1–3) from Ex 6A.

- a seeing different kinds of animals on the trip
b dealing with completely different weather conditions
c difficulties with another person
d the people that they met on their journey
e travelling light
f places that are difficult to get to from land
g problems with transport
h the reason for their trip

- C Match the words and phrases in bold in the blog post with the meanings (1–8).

- 1 an exciting, unusual or dangerous experience
2 needing a lot of effort and ability
3 able to do
4 extremely interested by something or someone
5 very good and worth remembering
6 impressive or exciting
7 very enjoyable in a strange or special way
8 the most important, interesting or enjoyable parts of something

3

Last year, I spent four months travelling the coast of Great Britain in a small boat called a kayak. It was a **real adventure** – I saw loads of wildlife, camped in the wildest parts of the country and explored areas you can only reach by sea.

It was also challenging. I travelled thirty miles each day, which was physically **demanding**, and every part of my body ached in the evening.

The biggest difficulty was the weather. It was very unpredictable, and the sea conditions changed quickly. Some days the weather was so bad I couldn't risk going in the water.

I would do it again, despite the challenges. There's something **magical** about spending so much time at sea and I'll remember that time forever.

