Reading text: *A School Trip to the UK*

Our class is planning a three-day school trip to the United Kingdom, and there are two possible destinations: London and Edinburgh.

London is the capital of England. The trip includes a guided tour of the Tower of London, free time for sightseeing near Big Ben, and a boat trip on the River Thames. Students will stay in a hotel close to the city centre, and the itinerary includes a day trip to Oxford by train. The flight from Alicante takes about two hours forty minutes, and the total price for three nights is 420 euros.

Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland. The trip includes a guided tour of Edinburgh Castle and a walk along the Royal Mile, with free time for sightseeing in the Old Town. Students will stay in a hostel a fifteen-minute walk from the centre. The flight from Alicante takes about three hours, with one stop, and the total price for three nights is 350 euros.

Both trips include breakfast, and the departure date for both is 14 May. Before the school confirms the booking, students must choose a destination.

Exercise 1 — True or False (self-correcting)

- London is the capital of Scotland. [Answer: False]
- The Edinburgh trip includes a guided tour of Edinburgh Castle. [Answer: True]
- The flight to London is longer than the flight to Edinburgh. [Answer: False]
- Both trips depart on the same date. [Answer: True]
- The London trip is cheaper than the Edinburgh trip. [Answer: False]

Exercise 2 — Gap-fill (word bank: flight, destination, booking, train, guided tour, hostel, itinerary, departure, sightseeing, hotel)

Before choosing a (1)_____ for the school trip, students compare two options. The London (2)_____ includes a (3)_____ of the Tower of London and free time for (4)_____ near Big Ben. In London, students will stay in a (5)_____ close to the centre, and there is also a (6)_____ to Oxford for a day trip. In Edinburgh, the group will stay in a (7)_____ near the Old Town and join a guided tour of Edinburgh Castle. The (8)_____ from Alicante to Edinburgh has one stop, so it takes longer than the direct one to London. The (9)_____ date for both trips is 14 May, so the teacher must confirm the (10)_____ of flights and rooms before the end of April.

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Answer key: 1 destination, 2 itinerary, 3 guided tour, 4 sightseeing, 5 hotel, 6 train, 7 hostel, 8 flight, 9 departure, 10 booking.

Exercise 3 — Drag and drop: match the sentence halves (comparatives)

- The Edinburgh trip is... → cheaper than the London trip.
- The flight to London is... → shorter than the flight to Edinburgh.
- The London hotel is... → closer to the centre than the Edinburgh hostel.
- The London itinerary is... → busier than the Edinburgh itinerary (it includes an extra day trip).
- The direct flight to London is... → more convenient than the flight to Edinburgh with a stop.

Exercise 4 — Open-ended writing task (teacher-marked)

Which destination would you choose for the school trip: London or Edinburgh? Write 2–3 sentences explaining your choice. Use at least one comparative form (e.g. cheaper, shorter, closer, more interesting, busier).

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