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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 25/09/15

An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit in the world

Recently travel website *Lonely Planet* revealed the top 500 places to visit. The list, compiled by travel experts and writers, includes the world's top sights. Today though, I thought we'd focus on some of the more unusual and alternative places to visit in the world. Surprisingly there are quite a few of them to consider visiting.

What about a visit to Silfra in Iceland? Here, divers can see where two continents meet. Alternatively there is Jellyfish Lake in Palau. You can actually swim with millions of huge jellyfish. In the Cayman Islands there is Stingray City. This place is a haven for tourists wanting to get up close to the many different types of Stingray.

An interesting place to visit is the P re Lachaise Cemetery in Paris. It is the world's most visited cemetery. Here you can see the resting places of Oscar Wilde, 60s rock star Jim Morrison and Chopin. In Poland, you could visit The Wolf's Lair that is located in the Masurian Woods. This is where Hitler used to meet his generals.

What about a visit to Chernobyl in Ukraine? About 10,000 visitors a year visit the place where the nuclear explosion happened. Visitors though are not allowed to touch anything.

Kolmanskop in Namibia, Africa, is definitely worth a visit. This old, once thriving, German diamond mining town is now gradually sinking into the sand. Staying in Africa what about a visit to Ghana's Slave Forts? Cape Coast Castle was one of the largest slave holding forts exporting slaves to America from the Cape Coast in Ghana.

Finally what about a visit the Cu Chi tunnels in Vietnam or a holiday to North Korea? If not, perhaps a visit to the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) on the border of South Korea and North Korea.

SPEAKING – WARM UP

What does 'alternative' mean? What does 'unusual' mean? What is a bucket list? Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) What is Lonely Planet?
- 2) How many places were on the list?
- 3) Name three countries.
- 4) What is a cemetery?
- 5) Who was Hitler?

Student B questions

- 1) Where is Kolmanskop?
- 2) What is a slave?
- 3) What does 'DMZ' mean?
- 4) Where is North Korea?
- 5) What is a jellyfish?

Category: Bucket List / Alternative Holidays / Places to Visit
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit-25th September 2015

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can about '**Alternative Bucket List**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Think of three alternative places in the article you might like to visit. Write them below. Discuss!

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Add the three more alternative like places you would like to visit in the future. Why? Discuss!

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

SPEAKING 3 – GAME

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

The A-Z 'alternative' places in the world to visit. Think of 26 of them starting with the letter A and ending 26 destinations or places later with the letter Z.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Would you like to visit Chernobyl in Ukraine? Explain.
- 3) Would you like to go to Namibia?
- 4) Why do these alternative places to visit interest us as much as the normal places to visit?
- 5) Would you like to visit a slave fort?
- 6) What was the last tunnel you went in?
- 7) Would you like to have lived in the Cu Chi tunnels in Vietnam?
- 8) Describe what life must be like for those people living either side of the DMZ in North Korea and South Korea.
- 9) Why did Hitler like using what we call the Wolf's Lair?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

SPEAKING 1 – ROLEPLAY

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the Discussion FM radio studio. Today's interview is about: *An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit in the world.*

- 1) A backpacker
- 2) A millionaire
- 3) A travel writer
- 4) A spokesperson from *Lonely Planet*

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING 2 - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class. *Allow 10 minutes* – As a class.

Discuss the following...
An alternative 'bucket List' of unusual places to visit in the world.
Write them on the board!

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) What is a nuclear explosion?
- 3) What was the last cemetery you visited? Why?
- 4) Why is the P ere Lachaise cemetery in Paris so popular to visit?
- 5) Would you like to swim among Stingray?
- 6) Would you like to swim among millions of jellyfish in the Cayman Islands?
- 7) Why are old abandoned mining towns such fascinating places to visit?
- 8) Can you think of two such alternative places in your country that might be worth visiting?
- 9) Would you like to scuba dive between two continents? Explain.
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit in the world

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What about a visit to Silfra in Iceland? Here, divers can see where two continents meet. Alternatively there is Jellyfish Lake in Palau. You can (5)___ swim with millions of huge (6)___. In the Cayman Islands there is Stingray City. This place is a (7)___ for tourists wanting to get up close to the many different types of Stingray. An interesting place to visit is the P re Lachaise Cemetery in Paris. It is the world's most visited (8)___. Here you can see the resting places of Oscar Wilde, 60s rock star Jim Morrison and Chopin.

cemetery / haven / actually / alternative / jellyfish / focus / unusual / consider

In Poland, you could visit The Wolf's Lair that is located in the Masurinan Woods. This is where Hitler used to meet his generals. What about a visit to Chernobyl in Ukraine? About 10,000 visitors a year visit the place where the nuclear explosion happened. Visitors (1)___ are not allowed to (2)___ anything.

Kolmanskop in Namibia, Africa, is (3)___ worth a visit. This old, once thriving, German diamond mining town is now (4)___ sinking into the sand. Staying in Africa what about a visit to Ghana's Slave Forts? Cape Coast Castle was one of the largest slave holding forts exporting (5)___ to America from the Cape Coast in Ghana. (6)___ what about a visit the Cu Chi tunnels in Vietnam or a holiday to North Korea? If not, perhaps a (7)___ to the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) on the (8)___ of South Korea and North Korea.

slaves / gradually / visit / though / definitely / touch / border / finally /

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

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(4)___ about a visit to Silfra in Iceland? Here, divers can see (5)___ two continents meet. Alternatively there is Jellyfish Lake in Palau. You can actually swim with millions of huge jellyfish. In the Cayman Islands there is Stingray City. (6)___ place is a haven for tourists wanting to get up close to the (7)___ different types of Stingray. An interesting place to visit is the P re Lachaise Cemetery in Paris. It is the world's (8)___ visited cemetery. Here you can see the resting places of Oscar Wilde, 60s rock star Jim Morrison and Chopin.

most / them / quite / though / this / where / what / many

In Poland, (1)___ could visit The Wolf's Lair that is located in the Masurinan Woods. This is where Hitler used to meet (2)___ generals. What about a visit to Chernobyl in Ukraine? About 10,000 visitors a year visit the place where the nuclear explosion happened. Visitors though are not allowed to touch anything.

Kolmanskop in Namibia, Africa, is definitely worth a visit. This old, once thriving, German diamond mining town is now gradually sinking into the sand. Staying (3)___ Africa what about a visit to Ghana's Slave Forts? Cape Coast Castle was one (4)___ the largest slave holding forts exporting slaves to America from the Cape Coast in Ghana. Finally what about (5)___ visit the Cu Chi tunnels in Vietnam (6)___ a holiday to North Korea? (7)___ not, perhaps a visit to the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) (8)___ the border of South Korea and North Korea.

of / on / you / his / if / in / or / a

An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit-25th September 2015



GAP FILL: LISTENING

An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit in the world

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What about a visit to Silfra in Iceland? Here, divers can see where two continents meet. Alternatively there is Jellyfish Lake in Palau. You can actually swim with millions of huge jellyfish. In the Cayman Islands there is _____. This place is a _____ wanting to get up close to the many different types of Stingray.

An interesting place to visit is the P re Lachaise Cemetery in Paris. It is the world's _____. Here you can see the resting places of Oscar Wilde, 60s rock star Jim Morrison and Chopin. In Poland, you could visit _____ is located in the Masurinan Woods. This is where Hitler used to meet his generals.

What about a visit to Chernobyl in Ukraine? About 10,000 visitors a year visit the place where the nuclear explosion happened. Visitors though are not allowed to touch anything.

_____, Africa, is definitely worth a visit. This old, once thriving, _____ town is now gradually sinking into the sand. Staying in Africa what about a visit to Ghana's Slave Forts? Cape Coast Castle was one of the largest slave holding _____ to America from the Cape Coast in Ghana. Finally what about a visit the Cu Chi tunnels in Vietnam or a holiday to North Korea? If not, perhaps a visit to the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) _____ South Korea and North Korea.

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - *In pairs/As a class*, list 20 things you can put in a bucket. *One-two minutes. Talk about each of them.*

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) An unusual _____
- 2) An alternative _____
- 3) A bucket _____

3) Write down 50 words about: *An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit in the world.* Your words can be read out in class.

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: *An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit in the world.* Your email can be read out in class.

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) alternative
- 2) bucket
- 3) lonely
- 4) planet
- 5) writers
- 6) though
- 7) thought
- 8) surprisingly
- 9) unusual
- 10) consider

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

- Pass = 12**
- Good = 15**
- Very good = 18**
- Excellent = 20**

- 11) continents
- 12) cemetery
- 13) Chernobyl
- 14) Ukraine
- 15) explosion
- 16) Kolmanskop
- 17) Namibia
- 18) gradually
- 19) finally
- 20) tunnels

An alternative 'Bucket List' of unusual places to visit-25th *September 2015*