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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 10/08/15

Scotland's Answer to Route 66

Today, we are going to talk about epic road trips. Probably the most famous one to travel along is Route 66 in America. Now there is a new route for you to consider – in Scotland.

North Coast 500 or NC500 is a brilliant new route to journey along. It takes you right around the northern coast of Scotland. It has already been named one of the top coastal routes in the world.

The new Scottish route covers more than 500 miles. Along the way it takes in some breathtaking scenery. NC500 aims to open up fresh tourist markets in the far north of Scotland. It is targeting motorbike enthusiasts, cyclists, walkers, and motorists. The venture is the brainchild of the North Highland Initiative (NHI) that was set up by Prince Charles to showcase the area.

The *Now Travel* magazine has placed the new North Coast 500 route in fifth place in 'a list of six' of the best coast road trips on the planet. It describes the route as 'rugged romance.'

Top of the list was Cape Overberg in South Africa followed by the Amalfi Coast in Italy. Third place went to The Atlantic Road in Norway followed by The Pacific Coast Highway in the US. Sixth place went to the Coral Coast in Australia.

NC500 starts in Inverness. It takes you over to the Kyle of Lochalsh on the West Coast. The route then heads along the rugged north coast of Scotland to John o' Groats before heading back along the magnificent east coast towards Inverness.

The route offers travellers 500 places to stop off at, including some secret places to see. You can also try a lot of great Scottish food and meet many wonderful people along the way. NC500 is an experience not to be missed!

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Have you ever been on an epic road journey? If no, would you like to? Think of a famous road route. Would you like to go along it? 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) Name the countries.
- 2) Where is John o' Groats?
- 3) What and where is Route 66?
- 4) Name the magazine.
- 5) What position did the new route gain in the magazine?

Student B questions

- 1) Name the prince.
- 2) What is the nickname of the route?
- 3) Describe the route.
- 4) Name two other famous coastal routes in the world.
- 5) Who might the new route appeal to?

Category: Scotland / Road Trips / New Coast 500
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

Scotland's Answer to Route 66 – 10th August 2015

WRITING / SPEAKING

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

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. Think of three things you might see on Route NC500.

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

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Next weekend you are both going to travel along Route NC500 in Scotland. How? Write down some of the places you might visit and stay at. Add some of the things that you might need to take with you.

The teacher can select students to add some of their suggestions on the board.

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Route 66 – Map out the route. (Google Map it) What might you see along it?
What cities are along Route 66?

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Have you ever been on an epic road journey? If yes, where and when?
- 3) Would you like to go on route NC500?
- 4) Would you like to go on Route 66?
- 5) The article mentions several other world famous epic road journey routes. Which of these might interest you to travel along?
- 6) Have you been to Scotland? If yes, when? Where?
- 7) How would you describe the Scottish Highlands?
- 8) What is the weather like in Scotland?
- 9) Have you learnt anything today?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *Scotland's Answer to Route 66.*

- 1) Prince Charles.
- 2) A motorbike rider who has completed Route NC500.
- 3) A bed and breakfast owner on Route NC500.
- 4) A tourist spokesperson from NHI.

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

SPEAKING 1

In pairs. *Student A* is a journalist. *Student B* is on a motorbike holiday in the Scottish Highlands. *Student A* is interviewing *Student B* about their epic journey so far on Route NC500. Where are you both now? *3-5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Scotland's Answer to Route 66
Route NC500 – Map out the route. (Google Map it) What might you see along it?
What else might you see in the Scottish Highlands?

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) What do Scottish people like to eat and drink?
- 3) What makes Scotland so attractive to visitors?
- 4) If you were going to go along Route NC500 what method of transport would you take?
- 5) Would you consider hiking along Route NC500?
- 6) Would you like to live in the Scottish Highlands?
- 7) Is the creation of Route NC500 a good idea? Explain.
- 8) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Scotland's Answer to Route 66

Today, we are going to talk about epic road trips. Probably the most famous one to travel along is Route 66 in America. Now there is a new (1)___ for you to consider – in Scotland.

North Coast 500 or NC500 is a (2)___ new route to journey along. It takes you right around the northern coast of Scotland. It has already been named one of the top coastal routes in the world.

The new Scottish route covers more than 500 miles. Along the way it takes in some breath-taking (3)___ . NC500 aims to open up fresh tourist markets in the far north of (4)___ . It is targeting motorbike (5)___ , cyclists, walkers, and motorists. The venture is the (6)___ of the North Highland (7)___ (NHI) that was set up by Prince Charles to (8)___ the area.

brainchild / route / Scotland / scenery / enthusiasts / initiative / showcase / brilliant

The *Now Travel* magazine has placed the new North Coast 500 route in fifth place in 'a list of six' of the best (1)___ road trips on the planet. It describes the route as 'rugged (2)___.'

Top of the (3)___ was Cape Overberg in South Africa followed by the Amalfi Coast in Italy. Third place went to The Atlantic Road in Norway followed by The Pacific Coast Highway in the US. Sixth place went to the Coral Coast in Australia.

NC500 starts in Inverness. It takes you over to the Kyle of Lochalsh on the West Coast. The route then heads along the (4)___ north coast of Scotland to John o' Groats before heading back along the (5)___ east coast towards Inverness.

The route offers (6)___ 500 places to stop off at, including some secret places to see. You can also try a lot of great Scottish food and meet many (7)___ people along the way. NC500 is an (8)___ not to be missed!

wonderful / rugged / romance / magnificent / experience / coast / travellers / list

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Scotland's Answer to Route 66

Today, (1)___ are going to talk about epic road trips. Probably the most famous one to travel along is Route 66 in America. Now there is a new route (2)___ you to consider – in Scotland.

North Coast 500 or NC500 is a brilliant new route to journey along. It takes (3)___ right around the northern coast (4)___ Scotland. (5)___ has already been named one of the top coastal routes in the world.

(6)___ new Scottish route covers more (7)___ 500 miles. Along the way it takes in some breath-taking scenery. NC500 aims to open up fresh tourist markets in the far north of Scotland. It is targeting motorbike enthusiasts, cyclists, walkers, and motorists. The venture is the brainchild of the North Highland Initiative (NHI) (8)___ was set up by Prince Charles to showcase the area.

it / we / of / the / you / for / that / than /

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some / then / many / also / in / by / of / as

Scotland's Answer to Route 66 – 10th August 2015



GAP FILL: LISTENING

Scotland's Answer to Route 66

Today, we are going to talk _____. Probably the most famous one to travel along is _____. Now there is a new route for you to consider – in Scotland.

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - *In pairs/As a class*, list 20 things to do or see in the Scottish Highlands (Imagine!). *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) NC500 _____
- 2) Route 66 _____
- 3) Motorbike enthusiasts _____

3) On the board - You have just got back from having been along Route NC500. Write down 50 words about it. **The teacher can select some students to hear their adventure!**

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Scotland's answer to Route 66**. 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) route
- 2) Scottish
- 3) breath-taking
- 4) venture
- 5) enthusiasts
- 6) cyclists
- 7) tourist
- 8) motorbike
- 9) showcase
- 10) magazine

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

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

- 11) romance
- 12) highway
- 13) magnificent
- 14) wonderful
- 15) experience
- 16) epic
- 17) probably
- 18) consider
- 19) brilliant
- 20) journey

Scotland's Answer to Route 66 – *10th August 2015*