

## VW Camper Van tent set to be a hit this summer

A tent that looks like a VW Camper Van is set to be a hit at camping sites and music festivals this summer. The life size replica of the original VW Camper Van has been officially licensed by the German car manufacturer for the first time. The pop up tents each contain two zip-separated double sized rooms and provides enough sleeping space for four to five people. The tent, which is available in red, blue or yellow cost £299.99 (€340), which is a tad cheaper than the real VW Camper Van that can still sell for up to £25,000 (€28,000). It measures 398cm long, 187cm high and 155cm deep, so it's easy for most people to stand up in. The fabric roof and sides have a high waterproofing rating, ensuring it will provide an effective shelter if the summer festival season is a washout.

A spokesperson from The Monster Factory, which designed the tent said, "At a recent festival we were struck by the lack of innovation in the tent market. There was row after row of similar tents, so we decided to put our heads together to come up with something truly different. We applied our renowned product twist and the 1965 VW Camper Van was born." The spokesperson added, "Every detail is exact to the original, apart from the small matter of a lack of engine! VW Camper tents are quick to set up. Quite frankly, popping it up is idiot proof. They are incredibly roomy, comfortably sleeping four people within the two inner tents. And the generous height of the tents also makes it possible to stand up inside, which is invaluable when dressing in your festival finest or sheltering from a rainy British summer's day."

John Rawlings from Volkswagen: "The VW Camper Van has become the ultimate style icon and is still highly popular with surfers, festival-goers and adventure lovers. Producing a tent that looks like one is a brilliant idea. It looks as cool as the real thing."

VW Camper Vans ceased being made in Europe in the 70s. However, they are still produced in South America. The camper van remains highly popular across Europe today. Having a new camper van tent is sure to make you the envy of the campsite. You never know, the new VW Camper tents could become as iconic as the van itself!

**Category: VW Camper vans / tents / camping**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate**

This ESL lesson is the copyright of [www.newsflashenglish.com](http://www.newsflashenglish.com)

## EXERCISES

**1. VW Camper Vans:** Briefly, what three things do you know about VW Camper Vans? Go round the room swapping details.

**2. Tents:** Briefly, what three things do you know about tents? Go round the room swapping details.

**3. Dictation:** The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self-correct your work from page one - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty - you need to do some work!

**4. Reading:** The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

**5. Vocabulary:** Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

**6. The article:** Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?

**7. Let's think!** Think of five famous VW vehicles. Then add five camping alternatives to the VW Camper tent that you might find on a campsite. Write them below. Explain to your partner why you chose these.

Five famous VW vehicles	Five camping alternatives to a VW tent
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

**8 . Let's think!** In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with **VW Camper Vans**. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

**9. Let's roleplay 1: Festival FM:** *In pairs*. You are in the *Festival FM* radio studio. One of you is the presenter; the other student is the guest. Today's interview is: *VW Camper Vans and the new VW Camper tent*. *5 minutes*.

VW Camper Van tent set to be a hit this summer – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2011

**10. Let's chat!** *In pairs.* You are in a campsite. One of you is staying in a tent. The other in a caravan. Compare and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each together!

**11. Let's roleplay 2: Camping FM:** In pairs/groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Camping FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *Camping*.

1	A travel journalist	3	A VW spokesperson
2	A festival goer	4	A camper on a family holiday

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

**12. Let's do 'The Article Quiz':** Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

**Student A**

- 1) Name the make and type of vehicle.
- 2) Which company created this new tent?
- 3) How much is the tent?
- 4) Where are VW Camper Vans still produced?
- 5) Where might you see one of these new tents?

**Student B**

- 1) What colours are the new tent?
- 2) How high, deep and wide is the new tent?
- 3) How much might a good VW Camper Van sell for today?
- 4) Who licensed the new tent?
- 5) Who are VW Camper Vans still highly popular with?

**13. Let's think!** Think of five items you use in a tent. Then add five things you might see at a campsite. Write them below. Explain to your partner why you chose these.

Five items you use in a tent	Five things you might see at a campsite
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

**14. Let's write an e-mail:** Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher about: **VW Camper tents**. Your e-mail can be read out in class.

**15. Sentence starters:** Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) VW Camper Vans \_\_\_\_\_
- b) I love VW \_\_\_\_\_
- c) The VW camper tent \_\_\_\_\_

## DISCUSSION

### Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Do you prefer camping in a tent or staying in a caravan?
- 3) Do you prefer to go camping or stay in a hotel? Why?
- 4) Would you buy one of these new tents? Why? Why not?
- 5) Do you think these new tents will be popular?
- 6) Are these new tents too expensive or not? Explain.
- 7) Why do you think VW doesn't reintroduce the VW Camper Van back into production in Europe?
- 8) Do you know of anyone who has imported a VW Camper Van from South America?
- 9) Why are VW Camper Vans so popular?
- 10) Would you buy a new or second hand VW Camper Van? Why? Why not?

### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) Would you like to buy one of these new VW camper tents? Why? Why not?
- 3) Would you like to go camping this year?
- 4) Would you like to go camping using the new VW camper tent? Why? Why not?
- 5) Think of three reasons why you would like this new tent.
- 6) Think of three reasons why you wouldn't want this tent.
- 7) Have you ever been in a VW Camper Van? Explain.
- 8) When was the last time you put up a tent?
- 9) Did you ever go camping with your parents as a child? If yes, where?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

## SPEAKING

### Let's discuss! The best camp sites

*Allow 10-15 minutes – As a class / small groups / pairs / 1 to 1*

Consider the following points to discuss:

Facilities, toilets, water, entertainment, beach, hot weather, campers, food, cooking, take away, shops, first aid, laundry facilities, privacy, tents, caravans, cars, cut grass, noise, clean sea water, safety, – **add more of your own ideas...**

The teacher can moderate the session.

## GAP FILL: READING:

*Put the words into the gaps in the text.*

### VW Camper Van tent set to be a hit this summer

A (1)\_\_\_\_\_ that looks like a VW Camper Van is set to be a hit at camping sites and music (2)\_\_\_\_\_ this summer. The life size (3)\_\_\_\_\_ of the original VW Camper Van has been officially licensed by the German car manufacturer for the first time. The pop up (4)\_\_\_\_\_ each contain two (5)\_\_\_\_\_-separated double sized rooms and provides enough sleeping space for four to five people. The tent, which is available in red, blue or yellow cost £299.99 (€340), which is a (6)\_\_\_\_\_ cheaper than the real VW Camper Van that can still sell for up to £25,000 (€28,000). It measures 398cm long, 187cm high and 155cm deep, so it's easy for most people to stand up in. The (7)\_\_\_\_\_ roof and sides have a high waterproofing rating, ensuring it will provide an effective shelter if the summer festival season is a (8)\_\_\_\_\_.

*tad*

*festivals*

*zip*

*washout*

*tent*

*fabric*

*replica*

*tents*

A spokesperson from The Monster Factory, which designed the tent said, "At a recent festival we were struck by the lack of (1)\_\_\_\_\_ in the tent market. There was row after row of similar tents, so we decided to put our heads together to come up with something (2)\_\_\_\_\_ different. We applied our renowned product (3)\_\_\_\_\_ and the 1965 VW Camper Van was born." The spokesperson added, "Every detail is exact to the original, apart from the small matter of a lack of engine! VW Camper tents are quick to set up. Quite frankly, popping it up is (4)\_\_\_\_\_ proof. They are incredibly (5)\_\_\_\_\_, comfortably sleeping four people within the two inner tents. And the (6)\_\_\_\_\_ height of the tents also makes it possible to stand up inside, which is invaluable when dressing in your festival finest or sheltering from a rainy British summer's day."

*icon*

*idiot*

*innovation*

*surfers*

*roomy*

*truly*

*generous*

*twist*

John Rawlings from Volkswagen: "The VW Camper Van has become the ultimate style (7)\_\_\_\_\_ and is still highly popular with (8)\_\_\_\_\_, festival-goers and adventure lovers. Producing a tent that looks like one is a brilliant idea. It looks as cool as the real thing."

## GAP FILL: LISTENING

*Listen and fill in the spaces.*

### VW Camper Van tent set to be a hit this summer

A \_\_\_\_\_ a VW Camper Van is set to be a hit at camping sites and music festivals this summer. The life size replica of the original VW Camper Van has been officially licensed by the German car manufacturer for the first time. The \_\_\_\_\_ contain two zip-separated double sized rooms and provides enough sleeping space for four to five people. The tent, which is available in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ cost £299.99 (€340), which is a tad cheaper than the real \_\_\_\_\_ can still sell for up to £25,000 (€28,000). It measures 398cm long, 187cm high and 155cm deep, so it's easy for most people to stand up in. The fabric roof and sides have a high waterproofing rating, ensuring it will provide an effective shelter if the \_\_\_\_\_ is a washout.

A spokesperson from The Monster Factory, which designed the tent said, "At a recent festival we were struck by the \_\_\_\_\_ in the tent market. There was row after row of similar tents, so we decided to put our heads together to come up with \_\_\_\_\_. We applied our renowned product twist and the 1965 VW Camper Van was born." The spokesperson added, "Every detail is exact to the original, apart from the small matter of a lack of engine! VW Camper tents are quick to set up. Quite frankly, popping it up is idiot proof. They are incredibly roomy, comfortably sleeping four people within \_\_\_\_\_. And the generous height of the tents also makes it possible to stand up inside, which is invaluable when dressing in your festival finest or sheltering from a rainy \_\_\_\_\_."

John Rawlings from Volkswagen: "The VW Camper Van has become the ultimate style icon and is \_\_\_\_\_ with surfers, \_\_\_\_\_ adventure lovers. Producing a tent that looks like one is a brilliant idea. It looks as \_\_\_\_\_."

## GRAMMAR

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

### VW Camper Van tent set to be a hit this summer

(1)\_\_\_ tent that looks like a VW Camper Van is set to be a hit at camping sites and music festivals this summer. The life size replica of (2)\_\_\_ original VW Camper Van has been officially licensed by the German car manufacturer (3)\_\_\_ the first time. The pop up tents each contain two zip-separated double sized rooms and provides enough sleeping space for four to five people. The tent, which is available in red, blue (4)\_\_\_ yellow cost £299.99 (€340), which is a tad cheaper than the real VW Camper Van that can still sell for up to £25,000 (€28,000). It measures 398cm long, 187cm high and 155cm deep, (5)\_\_\_ it's easy for most people to stand up in. The fabric roof (6)\_\_\_ sides have a high waterproofing rating, ensuring (7)\_\_\_ will provide an effective shelter (8)\_\_\_ the summer festival season is a washout.

**so**

**or**

**if**

**it**

**a**

**and**

**for**

**the**

A spokesperson (1)\_\_\_ The Monster Factory, (2)\_\_\_ designed the tent said, "At a recent festival we were struck by the lack of innovation in the tent market. There was row after row of similar tents, so we decided to put our heads together to come up with something truly different. We applied our renowned product twist and the 1965 VW Camper Van was born." The spokesperson added, "Every detail is exact to the original, apart from the small matter of a lack of engine! VW Camper tents are quick to set up. Quite frankly, popping it up is idiot proof. (3)\_\_\_ are incredibly roomy, comfortably sleeping four people within the two inner tents. And the generous height of the tents (4)\_\_\_ makes it possible to stand up inside, which is invaluable (5)\_\_\_ dressing in your festival finest or sheltering from a rainy British summer's day."

**with**

**still**

**which**

**when**

**also**

**that**

**from**

**they**

John Rawlings from Volkswagen: "The VW Camper Van has become the ultimate style icon and is (6)\_\_\_ highly popular (7)\_\_\_ surfers, festival-goers and adventure lovers. Producing a tent (8)\_\_\_ looks like one is a brilliant idea. It looks as cool as the real thing."

VW Camper Van tent set to be a hit this summer – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2011

## SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: **Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

1	fabric	11	twist
2	incredibly	12	renowned
3	zip	13	truly
4	campsite	14	manufacturer
5	brilliant	15	replica
6	idiot	16	innovation
7	comfortably	17	officially
8	sheltering	18	available
9	icon	19	similar
10	ultimate	20	spokesperson

### LINKS

[http://www.themonsterfactory.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&products\\_id=525&zenid=n3s60d0gt0qa7hv0g2k1ogpdp4](http://www.themonsterfactory.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=525&zenid=n3s60d0gt0qa7hv0g2k1ogpdp4)

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1390722/The-tent-thinks-campervan-sleep-cloth-Volkswagen.html>

<http://www.getoutdoors.com/goblog/index.php?/archives/4145-Cool-Kid-Camping-VW-Camper-Van-Tent.html>

<http://www.retrotoogo.com/2011/05/vw-camper-van-tent-an-exact-replica-of-a-1960s-van.html>

<http://www.firebox.com/product/3644/VW-Camper-Van-Tent>

### ANSWERS

GAP FILL: VW Camper Van tent set to be a hit this summer: A **tent** that looks like a VW Camper Van is set to be a hit at camping sites and music **festivals** this summer. The life size **replica** of the original VW Camper Van has been officially licensed by the German car manufacturer for the first time. The pop up **tents** each contain two **zip**-separated double sized rooms and provides enough sleeping space for four to five people. The tent, which is available in red, blue or yellow cost £299.99 (€340), which is a **tad** cheaper than the real VW Camper Van that can still sell for up to £25,000 (€28,000). It measures 398cm long, 187cm high and 155cm deep, so it's easy for most people to stand up in. The **fabric** roof and sides have a high waterproofing rating, ensuring it will provide an effective shelter if the summer festival season is a **washout**.

A spokesperson from The Monster Factory, which designed the tent said, "At a recent festival we were struck by the lack of **innovation** in the tent market. There was row after row of similar tents, so we decided to put our heads together to come up with something **truly** different. We applied our renowned product **twist** and the 1965 VW Camper Van was born." The spokesperson added, "Every detail is exact to the original, apart from the small matter of a lack of engine! VW Camper tents are quick to set up. Quite frankly, popping it up is **idiot** proof. They are incredibly **roomy**, comfortably sleeping four people within the two inner tents. And the **generous** height of the tents also makes it possible to stand up inside, which is invaluable when dressing in your festival finest or sheltering from a rainy British summer's day." John Rawlings from Volkswagen: "The VW Camper Van has become the ultimate style **icon** and is still highly popular with **surfers**, festival-goers and adventure lovers. Producing a tent that looks like one is a brilliant idea. It looks as cool as the real thing." (V1)

[www.newsflashenglish.com](http://www.newsflashenglish.com)

Created by **David Robinson**. This ESL lesson is the copyright of [www.newsflashenglish.com](http://www.newsflashenglish.com)