




Extensive reading: non-fiction

1 Look at the pictures. Which country do you think this is?

2 Listen and read.  58

Diaries from Delhi

My name's Suzie. I'm eighteen years old and I'm a student from London. Three weeks ago, I was teaching English in a language school in Tokyo. The job ended, and I decided to take a holiday! I wanted to travel around the world. I put some clothes in a backpack, found my passport, bought a new pair of trainers and said goodbye to my friends. I was sad to go, but I was looking forward to my new adventure.

I've always wanted to go to India, so I bought a ticket to Delhi. I caught a taxi to the airport. I remember feeling really nervous. Was I doing the right thing? Should I stay in Tokyo? Or maybe I should go back home to London? I phoned my mum from the airport and she told me not to worry. If I wasn't happy, she said, I could give it up and come home. I sat on the aeroplane feeling a bit happier. I watched a few films and the time passed quickly. I chatted to the people around me and, by the time we arrived, I'd made some new friends. One of them was from Delhi. She gave me the address of a hotel and that's where I spent my first night.

The next day, I explored Old Delhi, which is the traditional part of the city. Chandni Chowk is the main street. It's very busy, full of cars, cycle rickshaws, hand-pulled carts, people and animals. You can find the oldest and busiest markets in India here, selling all kinds of things, including jewellery, material, perfume and, of course, street food. I love *golgappa* which is a kind of bread filled with chickpeas and spicy potatoes. Indian sweets are delicious, too.

One of the most interesting places I've visited in Delhi is Humayun's Tomb. This monument looks a bit like the famous Taj Mahal in Agra, but it's older. The tomb was built in 1570. It's a very beautiful building and is surrounded by beautiful gardens. Another great place to go is the Red Fort, which was built in 1638. You can see a sound and light show in the evening, which is really amazing.

I'm going to spend a few more days in Delhi because I love it so much. Tomorrow, I'm planning to visit the National Museum because I've heard that the art is fantastic. After that, I'll be back on the road! I'll let you know where I decide to go.

Bye for now!

Suzie





I'm Joe and I'm nineteen. I'm from New York, but I've been living in Australia. Two days ago, I was working as a waiter in a restaurant in Sydney. I was having a great time, the weather was amazing and the people were really friendly. It was more like a vacation than a job! Then I decided to give it all up and leave! Why? Because I wanted to see the world! I bought a new backpack, some jeans, T-shirts and a pair of sneakers. I bought a ticket to Delhi, took some money out the bank and said goodbye to my friends. And then I was ready to go. I caught a cab to the airport. I was really excited, but I was nervous, too. I phoned my mom back home in New York and told her my plans. She said I was doing the right thing and I felt better! I fell asleep on the airplane, so I didn't talk to anyone. I didn't even see any of the movies. When I arrived in Delhi, I found a place to stay and then I slept again. I was very tired!

At last, I was ready to see the city. Wow! Delhi is amazing! It's crowded and noisy, but there's so much to see and do. They've got some great stores. I spent hours shopping around. The food is great, too! I bought some *papdi chaat* in one of the street bazaars. It's a kind of bread with potatoes, chickpeas, yogurt and chilli. Delicious! I found some amazing Indian candy, too. It's so sweet!

I've already been to some of the temples, the tombs, the gardens and the mosques. Jama Masjid is the largest mosque in India. It's really amazing! It took 13 years to build, and was completed in 1656. It's opposite Chandni Chowk in Old Delhi. If you climb to the top of the southern tower, you'll get an amazing view of the city.

They have all kinds of festivals here in Delhi and, next week, it's the start of Holi. This is a Hindu festival, but lots of people celebrate. For two days, people light bonfires and throw colorful paint at each other. I don't want to miss that!

Next week, I'll probably leave Delhi. Where will I go? I don't know yet. I think I'll stay in India for a couple of months, though. I'm loving it here!

Bye!

Joe



Delhi traffic



Holi color festival

3 Read again and complete the chart. All the words are in the diaries.

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| British English | holiday | 1 _____ | taxi | 2 _____ | aeroplane | 3 _____ | sweets |
| American English | <u>vacation</u> | sneakers | 4 _____ | mom | 5 _____ | movies | 6 _____ |

4 Discuss.

- 1 What do you think you would like best about Delhi? Why?
- 2 What are the best things about where you live?



Extensive reading: fiction

1 Look at the pictures. What do you think the story is about?

2 Listen and read.  59

3 Read again and answer the questions.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Where does Black Beauty go when he leaves the farm? | 2 What is his life like in his new home? |
| 3 Why does Black Beauty refuse to cross the bridge? | 4 What does Mr Gordon say about animals? |



Black Beauty is a beautiful horse. He has a fine black coat, one white foot and a white star on his forehead. He is also hardworking and clever. He is patient and easy to train. For the first four years of his life, he lives with his mother on a farm. His master is good and kind but, at last, it is time for him to be sold. He is bought by Mr Gordon, who lives in a place called Birtwick Park. He is looked after there by a groom called John. Mr Gordon and John are both kind men. Black Beauty has a good life and is treated well. Black Beauty pulls Mr Gordon's carriage and gives children rides on his back. Everyone loves Black Beauty, and then he shows how clever he really is ...

One day, in the autumn, Mr Gordon had to go to a distant town on business. John harnessed Black Beauty to the carriage and the three of them went off. There had been a lot of rain, and the wind was very strong. When they came to the river, the water was so high it nearly reached the wooden bridge, and many of the fields were under water. In one low part of the road, the water was half way up to Black Beauty's knees.

They got to the town, and the master's business took a long time. It was late in the afternoon when they started back for home. The wind was much stronger and, as they drove through a wood, Mr Gordon said, "I've never been out in a storm as bad as this, John. I wish we were out of this wood."

"Yes, sir," agreed John. "We don't want one of those branches coming down on top of us."

But just as he finished speaking, there was a great noise of wood breaking, and a big tree came crashing down through the other smaller trees and fell across the road right in front of them! Black Beauty was frightened and stopped immediately, but he didn't turn round or try to run away. John jumped out and quickly ran to his side.

"What can we do now, John?" said Mr Gordon.

"We can't drive over the tree or get round it, sir," said John. "We'll have to go back to the crossroads and take the longer road round to the wooden bridge. It will make us late, but the horse isn't tired."

4 Discuss.

- 1 Did you enjoy the story? Why (not)?
- 2 Do you think Black Beauty has a happy life? Why (not)?
- 3 Do you think Black Beauty is a clever animal? Why (not)?

It was nearly dark when they got to the wooden bridge. They could see water over the middle of it, but this often happened when the river was high. But the moment Black Beauty's feet touched the first part of the bridge, he stopped suddenly.

"Go on, Beauty," said Mr Gordon, but Black Beauty didn't move.

"There's something wrong," said John, and he jumped from the carriage and began to look round. He tried to lead the horse forward. "Come on, Beauty, what's the matter?" Of course, the horse couldn't tell him.

Just then, a man ran out of the house on the other side of the bridge. "Stop! Stop!" he cried.

"What's the matter?" shouted Mr Gordon.

"The bridge is broken in the middle," said the man. "And part of it was carried away. If you come across, you'll fall in the river!"

The two men couldn't believe it. "Thank you, Beauty!" said John. He turned the horse gently round and they took the other way.

It got darker and the wind got quieter as Black Beauty trotted towards home by another, much longer road. The men were quiet for some time, but then Mr Gordon spoke. "We were very close to drowning in that river, John," he said. "Men may be clever enough to think of things for themselves, but animals know things without thinking. Black Beauty saved our lives tonight. People don't realize how wonderful their animals are." John agreed and they drove on in silence.

When they arrived back at Birtwick Park, Mr Gordon's son ran out to meet them. "We've been so worried," he said. "Are you all right? Did you have an accident?" "We nearly did," said Mr Gordon. "But Black Beauty was cleverer than we were, and saved us all from drowning!"

(From *Black Beauty*, Oxford Bookworms Library, by Anna Sewell; retold by John Escott.

© Oxford University Press 2008)

