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It's holiday time!

Reading

Before reading

- 1 Discuss these questions.
 - 1 Have you ever been on holiday away from home? Where did you go? What did you do?
 - 2 If you could have your dream holiday, where would you go? What would you do?
- 2  Read and listen.

Do you wish you were on a beach where the sand is golden and the water is **crystal clear**? Do you wish you could explore the **wonders** of the deep blue sea? Do you dream of camping in the desert under the stars? Imagine a holiday where you could do all of these things, and more ...



Welcome to Sharm el-Sheikh!

Sharm el-Sheikh is one of Egypt's biggest and most popular **resorts**. It lies south of the Sinai Peninsula between the desert and the Red Sea. The climate is hot and sunny all year round and there are lots of exciting **activities** for everyone.

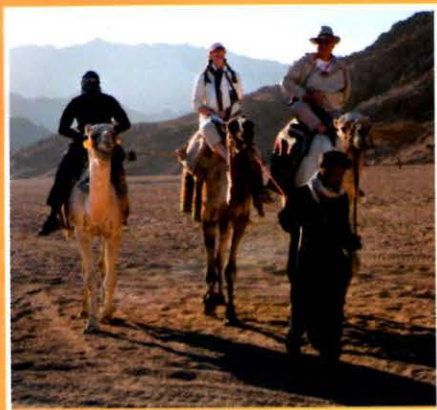


The amazing Red Sea

The Red Sea is famous for its sea life and clear, beautiful water. You can snorkel close to the **shore** in places such as Garden Reef Bay and see colourful, **tropical** fish and other incredible sea **creatures** swimming amongst the coral. There are around 1,500 different types of sea life along the coast and over 400 species of coral.

For the more adventurous visitors, the Red Sea is perfect for scuba diving. Don't worry if it's your first time. You can take a course at a diving school with trained instructors who will teach you everything you need to know. You can then go on a diving trip where you will discover the amazing sights of the deep sea, and may even come across an ancient **shipwreck**.

If you want to see what lies under the surface of the sea, but don't want to go in the water, take an hour-long trip in a glass-bottomed boat instead. See the brightly coloured fish swimming right under your feet.



The spectacular Sinai desert

If you prefer to stay on dry land, the desert offers all kinds of **thrilling** adventures. If excitement is what you want, try quad biking across the **dunes**.

If you're looking for a quieter kind of adventure, go on an organized group safari where you'll spot rare and beautiful birds and have the truly unforgettable experience of a camel ride! At night, you can camp in the open air, under the starry sky. Imagine watching the sun rise over the desert when you wake up.

The treasures of Na'ama Bay

No visit to Sharm el-Sheikh would be complete without finding some fantastic souvenirs to remember your holiday. Na'ama Bay is the place to go for shopping. Here you will find whatever you are looking for, from beautiful silver jewellery in the modern shops, to traditional **handicrafts** like carpets and bags in the busy, colourful markets.

Na'ama Bay is also home to some of the region's most **luxurious** hotels and you will find restaurants offering some of Egypt's most delicious dishes.

So if you're looking for an experience you'll never forget, come to Sharm el-Sheikh on your next holiday. We are waiting to welcome you!

Vocabulary

3 Match the words from the text to the definitions.

- 1 activities (noun) things you do to occupy or enjoy yourself
- 2 _____ (noun) animals, or any living things that aren't plants
- 3 _____ (noun) places people go on holiday with hotels and things to do
- 4 _____ (adjective) coming from a hot part of the earth
- 5 _____ (adjective) very exciting
- 6 _____ (noun) small hills of sand
- 7 _____ (noun) a ship at the bottom of the sea due to an accident
- 8 _____ (noun) useful or decorative objects made by hand
- 9 _____ (noun) surprising or beautiful things
- 10 _____ (adjective) looking like glass, you can see through it
- 11 _____ (noun) the land next to the sea or a lake
- 12 _____ (adjective) very comfortable and usually expensive

Reading comprehension

4 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Sharm el-Sheikh is | a a resort in Egypt. |
| 2 Sharm el-Sheikh is close to | b for about an hour. |
| 3 Garden Reef Bay is a good place | c types of coral. |
| 4 There are more than a thousand | d for shopping. |
| 5 There are around four hundred | e camel rides in the desert. |
| 6 The glass-bottomed boat trips last | f the desert and the sea. |
| 7 You can go on | g for snorkelling. |
| 8 Na'ama Bay is a good place | h types of sealife in the Red Sea. |

5 Write *True* or *False*.

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1 Sharm el-Sheikh is in the north of the Sinai Peninsula. | <u>False</u> |
| 2 The weather often changes in Sharm el-Sheikh. | _____ |
| 3 You can learn to scuba dive in Sharm el-Sheikh. | _____ |
| 4 You can watch the sea life through the bottom of boats. | _____ |
| 5 You can go snorkelling in the desert. | _____ |
| 6 Desert safaris often include horse riding. | _____ |
| 7 It's possible to go on a trip where you sleep in the desert. | _____ |
| 8 You will only find traditional shops in Na'ama Bay. | _____ |

6 Match the words with the pictures.

snorkelling camping souvenirs dunes handicrafts safari coral
rare birds shipwrecks markets diving course luxurious hotels quad biking



7 Discuss these questions with a partner or with your class.

- If you went on holiday to Sharm el-Sheikh, what would you choose to do?
- Do you think resorts like Sharm el-Sheikh offer a good kind of holiday? Why or why not?
- Do you think it's good to have a lot of foreign visitors to a country? Why or why not?

Do you wish you were going to a modern and exciting city?
Do you dream of travelling to the other side of the world?



Welcome to Sydney!

Sydney has everything you need for a fantastic holiday. The climate is warm and sunny, the people are friendly, and there are activities for everyone. Here are just a few:

Sydney Harbour Bridge

One of the best ways to see the world-famous bridge is to take a cruise around the harbour. For the more adventurous, you can climb to the top of the bridge. The views are spectacular!

Taronga Zoo

If you're looking for a family friendly activity, don't miss the zoo, home to more than 2,000 animals. Can you imagine seeing koalas and kangaroos up close? They are unforgettable!

When you write a holiday brochure ...

- Use **questions** to get people's interest:

Do you wish you were ...? Do you dream of ...? Can you imagine ...?

- Write about a **variety of activities** to appeal to different types of people:

If you're looking for ... / For the more adventurous, ...

- Use **extreme adjectives** to persuade people your holiday is the best:

world-famous / unforgettable / spectacular / thrilling / amazing / luxurious

7 Circle the correct words to make sentences.

- 1 Do you wish you were swim / swimming in the clear blue sea?
- 2 Do you wish you could climb / climbing the world's highest mountain?
- 3 Can you imagine stand / standing in front of the Pyramids?
- 4 Do you dream of stay / staying in a four star hotel?

8 Write a holiday brochure for your dream holiday. Don't forget to follow the advice above, and use the plan below to help you.

- Start with questions to make people interested.
- Use a main title that says clearly where your holiday resort is.
- Write a general first paragraph to say why it's a good place to visit.
- Use sub-headings to separate the different activities you choose to write about.
- Think about layout.
- Make big headings and use pictures to illustrate your brochure.