

15 MYSTERIES IN NATURE



ABOUT YOU

What are your favourite places or things in nature?
What activities do you like doing outside?
Where do you like doing them?

VOCABULARY

AND

READING

Geographical features

- 1 Match photos A-H to the words in the box. Use each word once only.

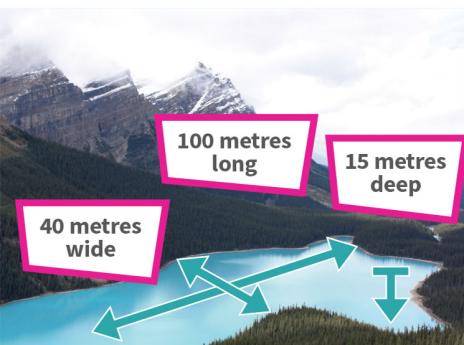
EP

cliff river snow water lake mountain



Listen and check. Then repeat.

- 2 Look at the photos and complete the sentences with *wide*, *high*, *long* and *deep*.



- Mount Everest is 8,848 metres _____.
- The Amazon River is 11 kilometres _____ and 6,400 kilometres _____.
- Lake Titicaca is 107 metres _____.

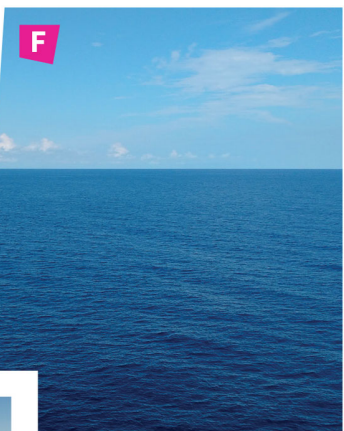
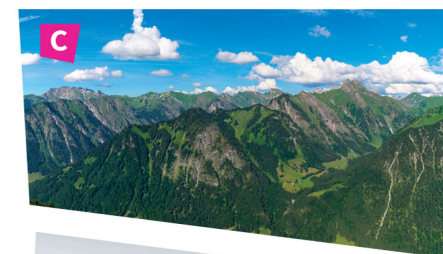
- 3 Match the words in Exercise 1 to the adjectives in the box.

EP

deep high long wide

- 4 Think about your country. Give the names of ...

- two high mountains
- an area of deep water
- a long river
- a wide lake.



- 5 What can you see in the photos on page 91? What do you think this strange story is about?

- 6 Read the article quickly. Check your answers to Exercise 5.

- 7 Read the article again. Complete the text with *wide*, *high*, *long* and *deep*.

- 8 In pairs, discuss these questions.

- Do you think the Yeti is real, or is it just a story?
- What do you think the footprint in the snow belongs to?

Is the story real?



In 1951, a British explorer, Eric Shipton, was climbing in the Himalayas, south of Mount Everest. He wasn't exploring alone. There were several climbers and Sherpas with him. They weren't climbing that day, but they were walking through thick snow on a mountain 6,000 metres ¹ when they saw a line of footprints. They followed the footprints for 500 metres. The footprints were 33 cm ², 20 cm ³ and a few centimetres ⁴ It wasn't a bear. The footprints were much too big. The Sherpas said the animal usually lived in the forests and didn't often come up into the snow. Their name for the animal was the Yeti, or the Wild Man of the Snows. People still come back from the Himalayas today with stories of seeing the Yeti.

GRAMMAR

Past continuous

1 Read the table. Complete sentences 1–4 using the verbs in the article.

Positive	Eric Shipton The climbers	was were	¹ in the mountains. ² through thick snow.
Negative	Eric Shipton The climbers	wasn't weren't	³ alone. ⁴ that day.
Questions	Was Were	I/he/she/it you/we/they	looking for footprints?
Short answers	Yes, No,	I/he/she/it you/we/they	was. wasn't. were. weren't.



GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE PAGE 152

2 What was happening yesterday afternoon? Complete the sentences with the past continuous form of the verbs.

- 'Was Suzie helping (help) her teacher?'
'Yes, she was.'
- The boys (play) football in the park.
They (not run) very fast because the grass was too long.
- you (climb) that tree?'
'No, I'
- My friend (watch) TV. She
(not tidy) her room.
- '..... the students (working) on the computer?' 'Yes,'

3 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- We are playing football in the park yesterday morning.
- I lost it at the party when we are dancing.
- We aren't reading stories about strange animals in class yesterday.
- She isn't thinking and she dropped her bag.



PRONUNCIATION

Rising and falling intonation



4 Listen and repeat.

My brother was riding his bike.
My dad wasn't working in the garden.
Were they climbing in the mountains?
Were you looking for footprints?

5 In pairs, ask and answer the questions.

What were you doing ...
... last Sunday morning at eleven o'clock?
... yesterday at seven o'clock in the morning?
... last Saturday at one o'clock?
... last Monday evening at six o'clock?

What were you doing last Sunday morning at eleven o'clock?

I was at the sports centre.
I was swimming with my mum.

READING

- 1 Look at the photos. What do you know about Loch Ness and the Loch Ness Monster?
- 2 Read the article quickly and match the pictures A–C to the paragraphs 1–3.



A

- 3 Read the article again and answer the questions.

- 1 When do people think they see things on the loch?
- 2 What does 'loch' mean?
- 3 How big is Loch Ness?
- 4 Which has more water: the lakes of Wales and England or Loch Ness?
- 5 When did people first see a monster?

LOCH NESS

1

Loch is the Scottish Gaelic word for 'lake'. Loch Ness is in the north of Scotland not far from Inverness. The loch is 230 m deep – it's the second deepest loch in Scotland – 36 km long and nearly 3 km wide. There's more water in Loch Ness than all the water in all the lakes in England and Wales. That's a lot of water for something to hide in!

2

The weather around the loch changes quickly. One minute it's sunny, the next it's cloudy, the next there's a bit of rain, and then it's sunny again. It can be a windy place, too. Clouds move quickly through the sky and on sunny days the clouds make shadows on the water. It's easy to think you see something in the water. When it's foggy, the fog sits on the loch and it's possible to think you see things then too.

3

The story of the Loch Ness Monster, or 'Nessie', started about 1,500 years ago. Then people called it a giant water animal. In the 1930s, a new road beside the loch brought more people to the area and more people started to see more strange things. In fact, over 1,000 people think they saw a strange animal in the loch.

There are several photos of some of the strange animals. Could any of them be Nessie?



TALKING POINTS

Do you think there is a monster living in Loch Ness?
If not, why do so many people think they see something?

VOCABULARY

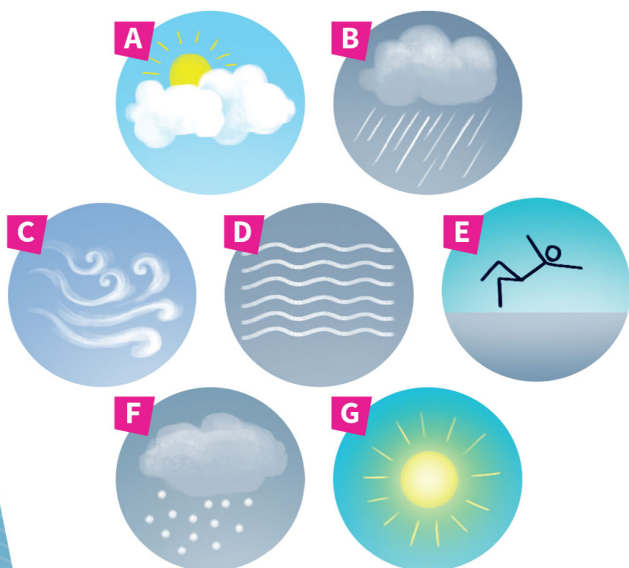
The weather

1 Complete the table with the adjectives.

EP

Nouns	Adjectives
cloud	<i>cloudy</i>
fog	
ice	
rain	
snow	
sun	
wind	

2 Now match the adjectives to the symbols.



3 Complete the facts using the words in Exercise 1.

- Wellington in New Zealand is a very _____ city. The _____ blows at more than 50 km an hour for more than half the year.
- New York can be very _____ in winter. In some years, the _____ is more than 50 cm deep.
- Valletta, the capital of Malta, has more _____ days than other cities in Europe. On most days there are no clouds in the sky.
- Mawsynram in India is the wettest place in the world. There is _____ most days of the year and people always carry an umbrella.

4 How would you describe your town or city? Use the word from Exercise 1.

In winter, Moscow is a very snowy city. There is deep snow everywhere from November to March.

LISTENING



- 1 Peter was on holiday with a friend in Scotland last summer. They were looking for the Loch Ness monster. Listen and answer the question.

What was the weather like?



- 2 Listen again and answer the questions.

- What day of the week was it?
- What did Peter do after he woke up?
- What could Peter see on the other side of the loch?
- What did Peter think he could see in the water?
- Why did Peter wait before he took the photo?
- What did his friend see in the water?

SPEAKING

- 1 What other stories about strange animals do you know? Do you know the names of any mythological animals?

Use the questions to help you with your ideas.

Where does the animal live?
In which country?
In the forest / water / mountains?
What does it look like?
Is it big / small?
Does it fly?
Is it friendly / shy?
What is it called?
Are there any pictures or photos of it?
Is it real or just a story?

In pairs, tell your partner about your strange animal.

GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE

UNIT 15

PAST CONTINUOUS

Positive	I/He/She/It was eating dinner. You/We/They were playing football.
Negative	I/He/She/It wasn't (was not) sleeping . You/We/They weren't (were not) helping .
Questions	What was I/he/she/it doing at 8 am? What were you/we/they watching on TV? Was I/he/she/it playing computer games? Were you/we/they listening to music?
Short answers	Yes, I/he/she/it was . No, he/she/it wasn't . Yes, you/we/they were . No, you/we/they weren't .

We use the **past continuous** to talk about activities happening at a moment in the past.

I was watching TV, my parents were working and my brother was playing football yesterday afternoon.

SEE GRAMMAR REFERENCE, UNIT 2, SPELLING: **-ING FORM, PAGE 139**

Practice

1 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- At 6 pm, I *was doing* / *were doing* my homework.
- My dad *was cooking* / *were cooking* our dinner.
- Yesterday afternoon, we *wasn't playing* / *weren't playing* tennis.
- Yesterday afternoon, you *wasn't wearing* / *weren't wearing* your new cap.
- My friends *wasn't having* / *weren't having* lunch at 1 pm.
- We *was climbing* / *were climbing* a tree on Saturday morning.

2 Complete the paragraph with the past continuous form of the verbs in the box.

cry listen ~~make~~ not sleep not watch
rain read sit surf

This morning, my dad ⁰ *was making* breakfast. The baby was hungry and he ¹ _____. My big sister was in her bedroom. She ² _____; she ³ _____ a magazine. My mum and my older brother ⁴ _____ the internet. My little sister ⁵ _____ in her favourite chair, but she ⁶ _____ TV. My younger brother ⁷ _____ to loud music. There were clouds in the sky and it ⁸ _____. I decided to stay at home.

3 Write complete questions in the past continuous. Then write short answers.

At 10 am yesterday,

0 it / snow? (X)

Was it snowing?

No it wasn't.

1 your friends / ride their bikes? (✓)

2 you / shop with your friends? (✓)

3 your mum / work? (X)

4 I / have a shower? (X)

5 you and your friends / swim in the lake? (✓)

4 Put the words in order to make questions. Then write answers that are true for you.

0 yesterday at 11 am / you / were / sleeping / ?

Were you sleeping yesterday at 11 am?

No, I wasn't. I was studying at school.

1 were / doing / you / at 8 am this morning / what / ?

2 blue socks / you / were / wearing / yesterday / ?

3 after school yesterday / watching / a film / were / you and your friends / ?

4 raining / was / it / yesterday evening / ?

5 on Saturday morning / what / your friends / doing / were / ?