

2

SIGHTSEEING

VOCABULARY Buildings and areas

1 Complete the descriptions with the pairs of adjectives in the box.

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| deprived / residential | rough / run-down |
| high-rise / hideous | affluent / stunning |
| up-and-coming / trendy | historic / grand |

- 1 People say it's an area. They're starting to open a lot more shops, bars and stuff like that. I hope it doesn't get too, though, as the house prices will go up.
- 2 The architecture is amazing. It's full of buildings like the first synagogue in the area, but there are also palaces and squares.
- 3 It's always been a bit with lots of litter and graffiti everywhere, but now it's starting to look really All the houses are in a terrible state.
- 4 It's always been the most district in the city and I could never afford to live there. The houses are, with up to seven bedrooms and enormous gardens.
- 5 About 20 years ago this part of town was quite There were lots of empty houses and shops, and very few facilities. Now it's been transformed into a quiet, area. Loads of young families live there.
- 6 They're planning to build some blocks of about 25 floors on the edge of the old town. I think mixing old and new like that is going to look

2 Complete the conversations with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 A: Wow! Look at that castle. It totally (dominate) the whole area. What does it say about it in the guidebook?
B: Apparently, it (date back) to the sixteenth century and it (renovate) several times since then.
- 2 A: Why have they bought a flat down by the station? It used to be really rough down there. I always told visitors (steer clear) of it.
B: It's all changed now. They (knock down) the run-down old buildings about a year ago and built some trendy new flats. Needless to say, prices over there (soar) now.
- 3 A: Do you remember where I used to live?
B: Yeah, it was quite trendy. Lots of small shops and businesses (base) there. And there was that old factory on the main road.
A: Yes! You wouldn't recognise it now. It (clean up) and it houses a big art gallery and café.

GRAMMAR

Relative clauses

3 Add commas where necessary.

- 1 We'd walked round the same streets five times at which point I decided it was time to buy a map.
- 2 The local people who had at first appeared rather unfriendly couldn't do enough for us.
- 3 Our hotel turned out to be in a pretty run-down part of town which really spoilt the trip.
- 4 Most of the old town where my parents lived for many years had been knocked down and completely rebuilt.
- 5 We booked several day trips to the surrounding areas all of which were really good value for money.
- 6 The first day of the festival when everyone dresses up in amazing costumes is the one not to miss.

4 Match the information (A-F) in the box to sentences 1-6, rewriting it each time as a relative clause.

- | | |
|---|--|
| A | It was completely amazing. |
| B | We had missed dinner by then. |
| C | She had done a course in Mandarin Chinese. |
| D | His family is from South Africa. |
| E | My brother-in-law has a boat there. |
| F | None of them were open when we actually got there. |

- 1 It was very relaxing to spend a few days in Cannes, where my brother-in-law has a boat.
- 2 The tour didn't finish until 10pm.
- 3 We spent a week exploring the coastline.
- 4 We couldn't have managed in Beijing without Nicola.
- 5 My old boss gave us a lot of travel tips about Cape Town.
- 6 We spent ages planning our visit to different vineyards.

DEVELOPING CONVERSATIONS

Agreeing using synonyms

5 Match the opinions and responses.

- 1 I've never seen such a run-down area.
- 2 The architecture in the old town is amazing.
- 3 The height of that tower is unbelievable.
- 4 What wonderful old buildings!
- 5 The people round here must be quite wealthy.
- 6 They've turned this into quite a trendy area.
- 7 Aren't those high-rise flats awful?
- 8 The design of the roof is a bit strange.

- a You're right. It's absolutely stunning.
- b I know. They're beautiful, aren't they?
- c Yes, it does look quite an affluent area.
- d I agree. It does look a bit weird.
- e Yes, it does look pretty rough, doesn't it?
- f Yes, I heard it was quite fashionable now.
- g I know. It's incredible, isn't it?
- h I agree. They look hideous.

6 Write responses agreeing with these opinions, using a suitable synonym.

- 1 A: The view across the bay is lovely.
B: *Yes, it is beautiful, isn't it?*
- 2 A: This looks quite a fashionable area.
B:
- 3 A: I think the new architecture round here is really hideous.
B:
- 4 A: I'd hate to live here. It looks really rough.
B:
- 5 A: The design of the new gallery is a bit weird.
B:
- 6 A: Just look at the design of that cathedral. Isn't it stunning?
B:
- 7 A: The condition of the buildings in the old town is incredible.
B:
- 8 A: I think this must be the most affluent part of the whole city.
B:

LISTENING

7 2.1 You are going to hear two people planning a day's sightseeing. Listen and tick the places / events they decide to visit.

- the annual parade
- the City Museum
- a tour of the temple ruins
- the street market
- the old town
- old Merchant's House

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
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8 Number the places in the order they are going to visit them. Listen again if you need to.



PRONUNCIATION Connected speech

9 Underline the main stresses and mark the linking (final consonant + vowel sound).

- 1 It starts in the town square and then goes all the way through the main streets.
- 2 The city museum has one of the best collections of modern and abstract art in the country.
- 3 It's not the kind of place you can see in just a short time.
- 4 Take a trip into the past and soak up the atmosphere at the street market.
- 5 So, we spend the morning at the market and we end up at the parade.
- 6 We need to be up there for the parade anyway.

10 2.2 Listen and check. Practise saying the sentences.

VOCABULARY Festivals and carnivals

1 What are the people talking about? Match the statements (1–5) with the items in the list (a–j).

- a a firework display
- b costumes
- c a parade
- d confetti
- e a sound system
- f a bonfire
- g a band
- h masks
- i floats

- 1 'Wow! Look at how many people there are. It stretches all the way back to the main square. And the music is brilliant. I love all those Caribbean rhythms.'
- 2 'Look at that one with all the flowers. That must have taken ages to build. And the one in the shape of the boat is beautiful. But I can't hear the commentary very well. It isn't loud enough.'
- 3 'I'm freezing. Let's get a bit closer to the flames. ... Oh, it's started! Aren't they amazing? Like little coloured stars hanging in the sky.'
- 4 'There were people dressed as Romans, characters from Disney, birds all sorts. I didn't even recognise my own sister. Her face was completely covered with feathers.'
- 5 'Look at me! I'm covered in bits of paper. And you are too. It's all in your hair.'

2 Cross out the verb in each set that doesn't collocate.

- 1 ~~set light~~ / make / sit round / throw wood on a bonfire
- 2 watch / light / cancel / miss a fireworks display
- 3 listen to / form / play / book a steel drum band
- 4 set up / test / record / hire a sound system
- 5 watch / hold / look / take part in a parade
- 6 carry local / dress up in a / design a / wear national costume
- 7 decorate / build / ride on / sit a float
- 8 get dressed / make / wear / hide behind a mask
- 9 throw / spray / ban / be showered with confetti

READING

3 Read the blog opposite quickly. Match the headings (a–f) to the correct sections (1–6).

- a Learn something new
- b Declare your home a work-free zone
- c Keep a record
- d Indulge yourself a little
- e Plan ahead
- f Set start and finish dates

4 Read the blog again. Which of these statements are true, according to the writer.

- 1 The only reason for doing a staycation is lack of money.
- 2 At first, the writer's children weren't keen on the idea of a staycation.
- 3 It's important to decide a fixed period for your staycation.
- 4 A staycation is a good time to catch up on household jobs.
- 5 Only one person should plan the family activities.
- 6 It's a good idea to explore your local area on foot.
- 7 You should be prepared to spend a bit on money on something special.
- 8 People don't often bother to look back on their staycation experiences.

5 Add one missing word to each sentence. Look back at the blog if you need to.

- 1 Our kid aren't very demanding. They usually along with what we suggest.
- 2 You can't trust to luck if you want a successful party. It's in the planning.
- 3 If you want to improve your language skills, staying with a host family is just the for you.
- 4 I avoid fattening foods, but I like the ice cream now and again.
- 5 There's a lot to choose from, but have what your fancy.
- 6 You've been very kind. I'd like to you to a nice dinner.

HOLIDAYS FOR THE HARD-UP

Short of money, time or just energy? Fed up of being ripped off at hotels, restaurants and theme parks? Tired of getting stuck in endless traffic jams and airport queues? Then a staycation may just be the thing for you. Adapted from the word vacation, a 'staycation' is becoming the trend for families who opt to stay at home during their summer break. And it can be more fun than you might think.

My family and I have been 'staycationing' for the last couple of years. At first my kids went wild at the thought of not going abroad. What on earth would they tell their friends or put on their Facebook profile at the end of the summer? But then they realised they wouldn't have to put up with an exhausting journey, sharing a room with siblings, communication problems and endless arguments over the plans for each day. Suddenly, exploring the area near their own home and being able to hang out with their friends seemed like heaven.

Basically, as with any family activity, it's all in the planning. Don't expect to have a successful break by just staying at home and hoping that something interesting will happen. Here are a few pointers to get you started:

1

Schedule a beginning and ending to make your staycation seem like a 'real' holiday. Otherwise, it might end up feeling like a series of days just hanging around at home.

2

That means no housework, no paperwork and no homework. You are on holiday, after all.

3

Have a daily activity in mind and a back-up in case the weather changes. Let each member of the family choose what they would like to do for at least one afternoon ... and make sure the others go along with it.

Check out what's free

Everything from bike rides in the countryside to family fun days in the local park. Pack your own picnic and set a budget for treats like boat trips, cold drinks and the odd ice cream.

4

Most colleges and sports centres run summer schools that offer a wide range of courses. Have a go at something the whole family can enjoy – pottery, cookery, local wildlife – whatever takes your fancy.

Explore your own backyard

Take the time to explore the area near where you live. Walking or cycling is a great way to enjoy the scenery without adding to your carbon footprint.

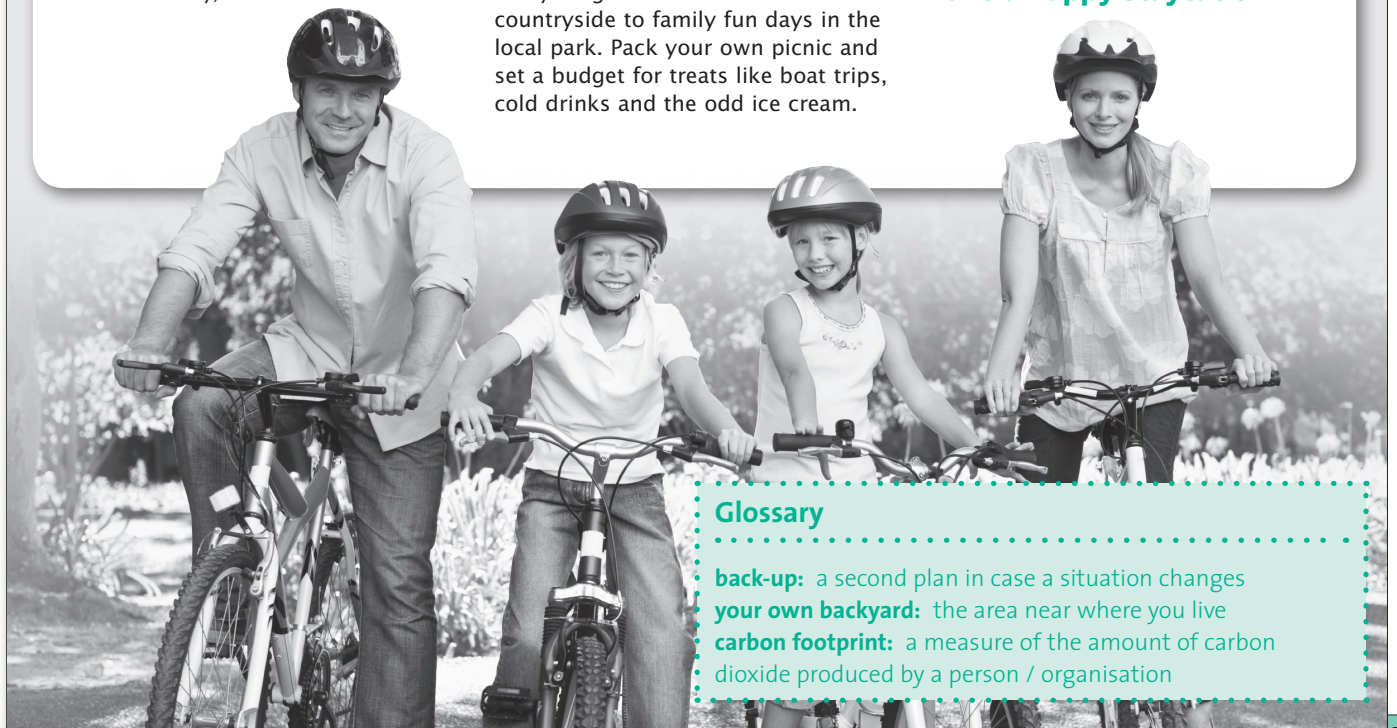
5

Add up all the money you're saving on travel and accommodation and treat the family to something really nice. It could be a banquet-style takeaway, a fancy dress party, or an evening out.

6

Take photos or videos, just as you would if you went away from home for your holiday. Remember your kids will want something to show their friends, and you will want to keep those staycation memories too.

Have a happy staycation!



Glossary

back-up: a second plan in case a situation changes

your own backyard: the area near where you live

carbon footprint: a measure of the amount of carbon dioxide produced by a person / organisation

GRAMMAR Talking about the future

Language note referring to the future

Remember that there is no single future tense in English. We use a range of different forms and sometimes more than one form can be used with little difference in meaning.

1 Cross out the one future form that is not possible.

- 1 It's pouring down. *Do you want a lift? / I'll give you a lift. / I'm planning to give you a lift.*
- 2 What *will you do / are you going to do / do you do* when you finish your contract?
- 3 When *are they hoping to / going to / bound to* move house?
- 4 *We drive / We're driving / We're going to drive* to the airport at about ten o'clock tomorrow.
- 5 Where *are we meeting / are we going to meet / do we meet* later?
- 6 The strike *plans to start / is due to start / starts on* Wednesday.
- 7 Look at all this traffic. We're *going to / bound to / hoping to* miss our train.
- 8 *I'm taking / I'm going to take / I take* next week off.

2 Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets. Make any necessary changes.

- 1 It's inevitable that you will get the job. (bound)
.....
.....
- 2 When should your train arrive? (due)
.....
.....
- 3 It's probable that the festival will be cancelled. (likely)
.....
.....
- 4 I don't think that the weather will improve at all this week. (unlikely)
.....
.....
- 5 I expect the taxi will get here in about 10 minutes. (due)
.....
.....
- 6 It is certain that there will be a delay at the airport. (bound)
.....
.....

DEVELOPING WRITING

An email – making a request

3 Read Martin's email to Kati. Choose the main reason for writing.

- a to ask for help with money
- b to ask for some travel tips
- c to give and ask for news

4 Read the email again and underline examples of these aspects of informal writing.

- contracted forms
- short sentences
- direct questions
- phrasal verbs
- two abbreviations
- a more informal way of saying:
 - 1 *thank you*
 - 2 *fine*
 - 3 *send you a message*
 - 4 *you don't have to hurry*

5 Complete the sentences with the verb phrases in the box.

| | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-----------|--------|----------|
| get around | drop off | booked up | put on | hang out |
| picking me up | eat out | put us up | | |

- 1 We'd like to stay with a family. Do you know anyone who could?
- 2 I'm arriving in the early hours of the morning. Would you mind?
- 3 We like to get away from the tourist areas. How easy will it be to on public transport?
- 4 We don't want to organise accommodation in advance, but will hotels be at this time of year?
- 5 We're hoping to try some local specialities, so where would you recommend to?
- 6 We'll be in town for just 24 hours. Is there a safe place where we can our bags?
- 7 Annie is desperate to see some flamenco, so where do they the best shows?
- 8 I'd like to sample the nightlife, so where are the best areas to in the evening?

- 6 You are going to spend time in a place that an English-speaking friend knows well. Write an email (150–190 words) to ask for some help in planning your trip. Remember to use a fairly informal style and include some of the language from this section.

● ● ●
▲

To

Subject

Hi Kati,

How are things? I hope all the family are doing OK.

I wanted to drop you a quick line to ask you a favour. As you know, I'm finishing uni at the end of this term and I'm going to do some travelling with a friend over the summer. We're planning to visit Hungary and I was wondering if I could ask you for some local info. We won't have a huge amount of spending money so can you recommend any bargain hotels and places to eat in Budapest? Also, when would be the best time to visit in terms of the weather and things to do? Apart from the capital, where would you recommend we go? A friend of mine suggested Lake Balaton. Do you think it's worth a visit? Any advice you can give us on transport, sightseeing and local customs would be very welcome.

I'm really looking forward to the trip but I've got to get through my finals first! There's no rush for a reply as I know you're really busy, too. Just get back to me when you can.

Cheers

Martin

▼

Learner tip

Before you write an email or a letter, think about how well you know your reader and the level of formality to use. A very formal style to someone you know well can sound silly or even pompous; an informal style in a work or business context may cause offence.

Vocabulary Builder Quiz 2

Download the Vocabulary Builder for Unit 2 and try the quiz below. Write your answers in your notebook. Then check them and record your score.

1 Complete the sentences with a word or phrase with *up* or *down*.

- A lot of work is being done on this area.
- Everyone wants to move here now and prices have
- I'm glad they've that awful old building.
- Why don't you visit? I can you for a few days.
- The house looks so, it needs renovating.

2 Replace the underlined words and phrases with more expressive language from VB Unit 2.

- I briefly saw the sea between the mountains.
- The new design for the town hall is very ugly.
- She was given lots of presents when the baby was born.
- Some of the new buildings in the city are very attractive.
- The renovation project has completely changed this area.
- House prices went up sharply during the housing boom.

3 Complete the text with the correct form of the word in brackets.

The library recently applied for planning ¹ (permit) to build a large ² (extend) to its branch in the city centre. Unfortunately there was quite strong ³ (oppose) to the ⁴ (propose), which involved adding an ⁵ (innovate) modern wing to the old building. Local residents object to any further modern ⁶ (develop) development in this historic area.

4 Correct one letter in the underlined words.

- It took us ages to elect the tent.
- The house was very grant, with ornate decoration.
- The bombs of the Egyptian pharaohs attract millions of tourists.
- I'd sneer clear of the ham sandwiches, they don't taste very fresh.
- It's a lovely residensial area but prices are high here.
- Don't spit me around, I get really dizzy.
- The company has ambitious plans for expension.
- I'm afraid I spilt some rice, I'll just steep it up.

Score ___/25

Wait a couple of weeks and try the quiz again. Compare your scores.