



1 Match the words and the definitions.

- 1** hostel
- 2** public transport
- 3** relax
- 4** location
- 5** coast
- 6** backpackers

- A** where the land meets the sea
- B** a cheap hotel where people often share big bedrooms and bathrooms
- C** stop working or worrying and feel happy
- D** the place where something (e.g. a hotel) is
- E** people who go travelling with a rucksack on their back
- F** buses, trains, trams, etc.

2 Imagine you are going on holiday with your family or a group of friends. You are going to stay in a hotel or hostel for one week. What is important to you? Put these things in order.

- The price is not too high.
- It's easy to get there.
- It's near a beach.
- It's quiet at night.
- The beds are comfortable.
- It's clean.
- The staff are friendly.
- Other travellers stay there.





3 Read these three reviews of a hostel. Then add the correct final sentence to each review.

A Thanks to Jade and Jamie for a lovely week – we'll be back, but maybe with a car next time!

B Jade's is only for young people who want to have all-night parties!

C Considering everything, a lovely place, but they need to spend a bit more money on making it comfortable.

Ivan ★★★★☆

We spent a week at Jade's Hostel and really enjoyed ourselves. Jade's likeable husband, Jamie, picked us up at the station, which was good because there's no public transport near the hostel. It's in a beautiful forest and is quiet but also fun. We met lots of other cool travellers at the hostel café. Jade is always friendly and makes sure her guests are happy. The beds are not great and if you need everything to be very comfortable, maybe this is not the best place for you. However, if you just want to relax and have fun, it's fabulous. To be honest, it would be even better if it were a bit closer to the beach. It's a long walk from the hostel to the sea.

1 _____

Trisha ★★★★☆

Our week at Jade's was a lot of fun. We loved the location. You need your own transport if you want to go to the beach, but it's great to be a little bit farther away from the coast in a peaceful forest at night. We stayed outside and slept under the stars all night. It was wonderful! Actually, it was better than going to bed because the beds are very old. I know that Jade's is not an expensive hotel – in fact, it's a very cheap hostel – but the beds are not comfortable at all. That was the only negative thing about our stay. Otherwise, Jade and Jamie are great. They are always friendly and their hostel is full but never dirty.

2 _____

Calum ★★★★☆

The website for Jade's Hostel tells you that it's family-friendly, but it isn't! It's full of young backpackers, who are very loud. My two children need to go to bed early but the backpackers were talking and laughing all night. We couldn't sleep at all for a whole week because of the noise and the horrible old beds. Of course, we were very tired at the end of the week and I'm sorry to say, we weren't always polite to the other guests. The hostel is actually beautiful and it's not too expensive. The location, just a short drive from the beach, is great. Jade and Jamie were always nice and helpful, but I'm sorry, their hostel is *not* good for families.

3 _____

4 Read the reviews again. Which people have these opinions? Tick Ivan, Trisha or Calum. You can tick more than one name for each opinion.

**Tips**

This task asks you about the writers' opinions, not about what you think is true. Underline the places in the texts where the writer has given each opinion. If you can't underline anything, the writer has not given the opinion and you should not tick his/her name.

	Ivan	Trisha	Calum
1 Jade and Jamie are nice people.			
2 The hostel is too far away from the beach.			
3 It is very clean.			
4 The hostel does not have comfortable beds.			
5 Not everything on the hostel's website is true.			
6 The price of staying at the hostel is not too high.			



5 Ivan says Jade's Hostel is quiet but Calum says it's loud. How can you explain these two different opinions of the same place? Discuss in groups.

There could be different reasons. Maybe Ivan and Calum have different ideas ...

6 Write a review of a place where you have stayed on holiday or a place that you know about. It could be a hotel, a hostel, a campsite or any other kind of accommodation. Write about these points:

the location
comfort and how clean it is
the friendliness of the staff
the price



This worksheet pushes students towards B1 by asking them to read a text of around 380 words – about 130 words longer than the maximum they will encounter at A2. It introduces B1 vocabulary, most of which is pre-taught in Exercise 1. Some words will need to be deduced from the context but are not key to completing the tasks. There are higher-level structures, particularly non-defining relative clauses and conditionals. Students need to establish gist – a skill needed for Parts 1 and 4 of the B1/Preliminary Reading test. They also need to understand attitude and opinion (B1/Preliminary Part 3).

1 Exercise 1

Hand out the worksheet and ask the students to guess the topic by looking at the picture. Then ask them to do Exercise 1 in pairs. Many words may be new, so go around the room helping. Check the answers with the whole class.

Answers

- 1 B
- 2 F
- 3 C
- 4 D
- 5 A
- 6 E

2 Exercise 2

Let students read through the list alone and decide on a ranking. Then ask them to work in small groups, compare their priorities and see if they can agree on a group ranking. It's fine if they can't, but all groups should report back to the whole class on what they did or didn't find important.

3 Exercise 3

Let students skim the three reviews and then find the right concluding sentences in pairs. Check the answers with the whole class.

Answers

- 1 A
- 2 C
- 3 B

4 Exercise 4

Ask students to read the reviews again more slowly and then find the answers in pairs. Check with the whole class.

Answers

	Ivan	Trisha	Calum
1 Jade and Jamie are nice people.	✓	✓	✓
2 The hostel is too far away from the beach.	✓		
3 It is very clean.		✓	
4 The hostel does not have comfortable beds.	✓	✓	✓
5 Not everything on the hostel's website is true.			✓
6 The price of staying at the hostel is not too high.		✓	✓

5 Exercise 5

Let students discuss the question in small groups. At the end, discuss the possibilities with the whole class.

Possible answers

There could be different reasons. Maybe Ivan and Calum have different ideas of what 'quiet' means. There doesn't seem to be an all-night disco in the hostel, or a motorway or building site nearby – that's 'quiet' for many people.

They have different needs. Calum needs very quiet evenings so that his children can sleep. Calum may be a person who is happy to write a negative review, while Ivan focuses on the positive.

It may simply have been quiet when Ivan was there and loud when Calum was there. It would depend on the other guests.

**6 Exercise 6**

Give students some time to write their own accommodation reviews and go around the room helping. You could ask some students to read out their reviews at the end of the lesson. Alternatively, this could be homework.

Example answer

My friends and I stayed at Seasalt campsite for a week in July. It's right beside the beach so the location is perfect. However, it is very full in summer. There are not enough showers for so many people, and they are quite dirty. There is a small café but it is also usually full and not always clean. The campsite is loud, but that wasn't really a problem for us. I think we were quite loud, too! We had a good time and we especially liked the friendly and helpful staff. For the low price, it was all quite good but we think they have too many campers there in summer.