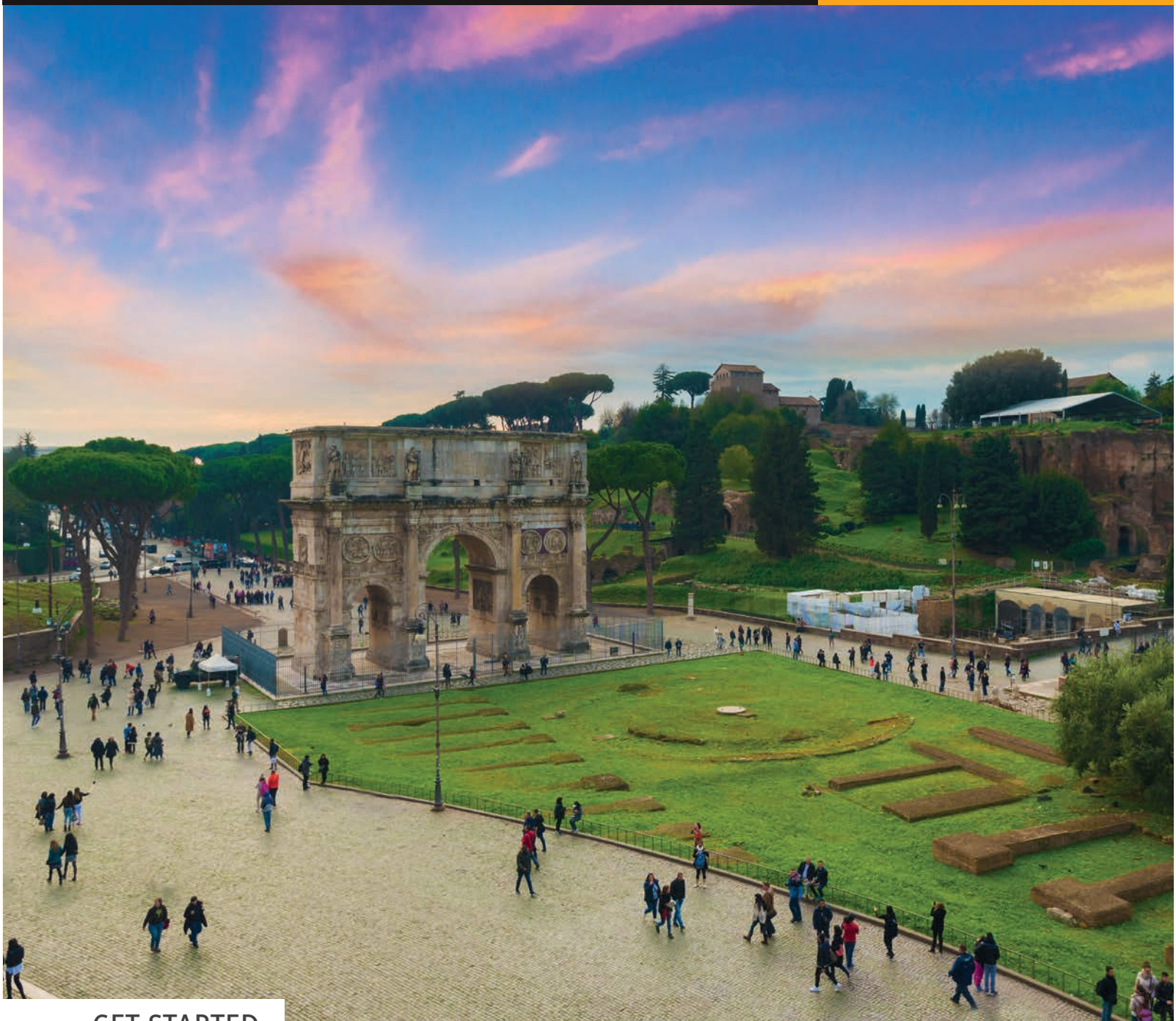
8 HOW WAS YOUR VACATION?

LEARNING GOALS

In this unit, you

- describe a place
- talk about a vacation
- describe a hotel experience
- read about an unusual job
- write a hotel review



GET STARTED

A Read the title and the learning goals.

B Look at the photo. What are the people doing?

C Now read Diego's message. Where was he? Where is he now?

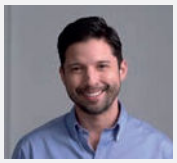


DIEGO SALAS

@DiegoS

In New York for work after my London vacation. Back to work!

LESSON 1 DESCRIBE A PLACE



DIEGO SALAS
@DiegoS
So many nice co-workers asking how my vacation was… It wasn't great… 😒

1 VOCABULARY Weather and travel experience

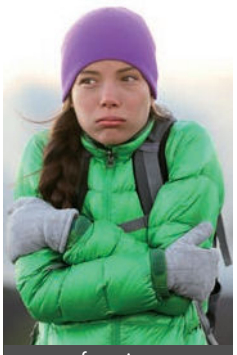
A WEATHER ▶08-01 Listen. Then listen and repeat.

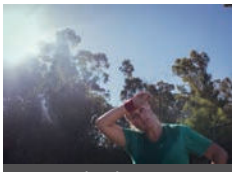

sunny


cloudy

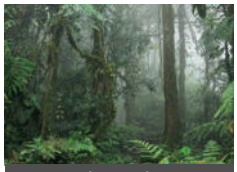

clear


hazy


freezing


boiling


dry


humid


lovely

B PAIRS Describe today's weather. Use the words from 1A.

C TRAVEL EXPERIENCE ▶08-02 Listen. Then listen and repeat.


horrible


relaxing


stressful


exciting


boring

D PAIRS Which words in 1C are positive? Which are negative? Make two lists.

2 GRAMMAR Simple past with *be*: Review

COACH

Affirmative statements			
Subject	***Be***		
I	**was**	on vacation last week.	
We	**were**	at the beach.	

Negative statements		
Subject	***Be* + *not***	
I	**was not**	at work.
We	**were not**	at home.

Questions			
***Wh-* word**	***Be***	**Subject**	
	Was	it	fun?
	Were	you	in New York?
How	**was**	your trip?	
Where	**were**	you?	

Answers	
Affirmative	**Negative**
Yes, it **was**.	No, it **was not**.
Yes, we **were**.	No, we **were not**.
It was great!	
In Central Park.	

Notes

- We almost always use the contractions *wasn't* and *weren't* in speech and informal writing.
- Notice the past tense in sentences with *there* + *be* and *it* + *be*.
  There were two restaurants in our hotel. **It was** sunny yesterday
  Was there a pool? Yes, **there was**. **Was it** fun? No, **it wasn't**.

>> FOR PRACTICE, GO TO PAGE 142

3 PRONUNCIATION

COACH

A ▶08-04 Listen. Notice the pronunciation of *was / wasn't* and *were / weren't*. Then listen and repeat.

The weather was great. It wasn't humid.

We were away on vacation. We weren't home.

> **Was / wasn't and were / weren't**
>
> *Was* and *were* are usually unstressed when a stressed word (such as a noun or adjective) follows. *Wasn't* and *weren't* are always stressed. Notice: *Wasn't* has two syllables, but *weren't* has one syllable.

B ▶08-05 Listen. Circle the word you hear. Check your work with a partner. Then listen and repeat.

1. Our hotel **was** / **wasn't** very good.
2. We **were** / **weren't** in Madrid.
3. There **were** / **weren't** a lot of people on the beach.
4. The food **was** / **wasn't** good, but I **was** / **wasn't** hungry.

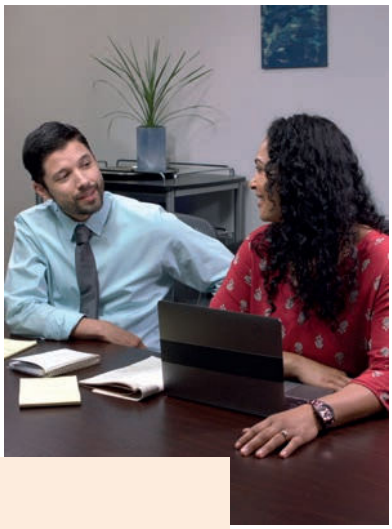
C PAIRS For each sentence in 3B, change one or two words to make a new sentence.

1. Our hotel was very clean.

4 CONVERSATION

A ▶08-06 Listen or watch. Match the questions and the answers.

___ 1.	Where was Rosa yesterday?	a. In London
___ 2.	How was Rosa's day yesterday?	b. Not good
___ 3.	How was the weather in New York?	c. In New York
___ 4.	Where was Diego last week?	d. Sunny and clear
___ 5.	How was Diego's vacation?	e. Cloudy and freezing
___ 6.	How was the weather in London?	f. Lovely



B ▶08-07 Listen or watch. Complete the conversation.

Diego: I _____ on vacation last week.

Rosa: Oh, yeah? _____ you?

Diego: I was in London.

Rosa: And _____ it?

Diego: Well, the weather _____ horrible! It _____ really cloudy and cold. And everything _____ really stressful. It _____ relaxing at all.

C ▶08-08 Listen and repeat. Then practice with a partner.

D PAIRS Make new conversations. Use these words or your own ideas. Use different names and places.

lovely sunny and clear exciting boring

5 TRY IT YOURSELF

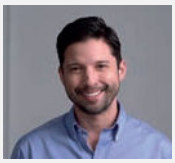
A MAKE IT PERSONAL Describe a place you visited recently. What was it like? How was the weather? Choose three words to describe it and tell your partner.

A: I was in Cartagena in February.
B: Oh, yeah? How was it?
A: It was lovely and relaxing. The weather was sunny and clear. ...

B WALK AROUND Describe the place to other classmates. Was anyone in the same place? Compare your descriptions.

☐ I CAN DESCRIBE A PLACE.

LESSON 2 TALK ABOUT A VACATION



DIEGO SALAS
@DiegoS

My last vacation was in an exciting, cold place. Next time I think I'll go to a relaxing, sunny place!

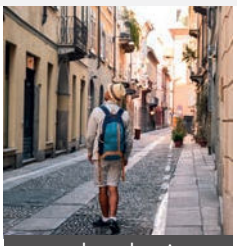
1 VOCABULARY Things you do on vacation

A 08-09 Listen. Then listen and repeat.


walk on the beach


sunbathe


watch the sunrise


explore the city


go sightseeing


visit a tourist attraction


talk to local people


learn about local customs


shop for souvenirs

B Circle the phrase that does not belong.

1. talk to local people / learn about local customs / sunbathe
2. walk on the beach / shop for souvenirs / watch the sunset
3. watch the sunrise / visit a tourist attraction / explore the city

C PAIRS What do you like to do on vacation? What don't you like to do?

A: I like to walk on the beach.
B: I do, too. I also like to explore the city.

2 GRAMMAR Simple past, regular verbs: Review

COACH

Affirmative statements		
Subject	**Verb**	
I	**visited**	Miami.
She	**watched**	the sunset.

Negative statements			
Subject	***Did* + *not***	**Verb**	
I She We	**did not**	**like**	the beaches.

Notes

- We almost always use the contraction *didn't* in speech and informal writing.

Spelling rules for regular verbs

- For most verbs, add *-ed* to the base form. enjoy → enjoy**ed** walk → walk**ed**
- For verbs that end in *e*, add only *d*. like → like**d** love → love**d**
- For verbs that end in a consonant + *y*, change the *y* to *i* and add *-ed*. stu**dy** → stu**died** t**ry** → t**ried**
- For most verbs that end in consonant + vowel + consonant, double the last consonant. **stop** → sto**pped** **plan** → pla**nned**

>> FOR PRACTICE, GO TO PAGE 143

3 PRONUNCIATION

COACH

A ▶08-11 Listen. Notice the sound of the *-ed* ending. Then listen and repeat.

/t/	/d/	/ɪd/
talked watched	explored stayed	rented decided

Simple past *-ed* ending

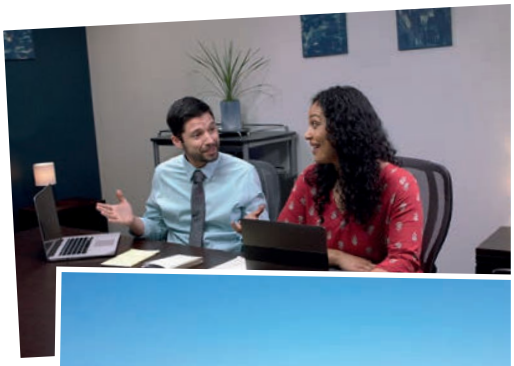
We pronounce the simple past *-ed* ending as an extra syllable /ɪd/ only after the sound /t/ or /d/. After other sounds, we say the *-ed* ending as the sound /t/ or /d/ and do not add a syllable for the ending.

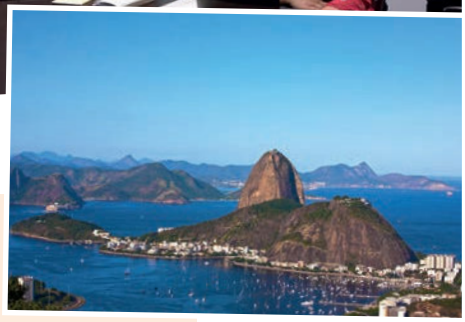
B ▶08-12 Listen. Write each verb in the correct column in 3A. Then listen and repeat.

1. enjoyed 2. visited 3. learned 4. sunbathed 5. walked 6. needed

C PAIRS Student A: Say a phrase from 1A. Student B: Use that phrase in the simple past.

A: watch the sunrise
B: We watched the sunrise before breakfast yesterday.





4 CONVERSATION

A ▶08-13 Listen or watch. Circle the correct answers.

1. Rosa's vacation in Miami was ***horrible*** / ***lovely***.
2. Rosa was ***on the beach*** / ***in the city*** a lot during her vacation.
3. Diego enjoyed his vacation in ***Miami*** / ***Rio***.
4. Diego was ***on the beach*** / ***in the city*** a lot during his vacation.

B ▶08-14 Listen or watch. Complete the conversation.

Diego: Last year, we were in Rio on vacation. I really _____ it.

Rosa: Ah, Rio! How exciting!

Diego: Yeah. We visited tourist attractions, and we explored the city. We also learned about the local customs.

Rosa: You're lucky. Rio is great.

Diego: We _____ any beaches, though. Next time!

C ▶08-15 Listen and repeat. Then practice with a partner.

D PAIRS Make new conversations. Use these words or your own ideas.

sunbathed
talked to local people
went sightseeing

5 TRY IT YOURSELF

A MAKE IT PERSONAL Describe your last vacation. Where did you go? Was it near or far? How was it? What did you do?

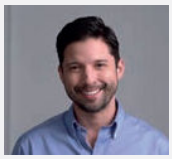
I visited Beijing last year. I loved it. I explored the city. ...

B WALK AROUND Find people who did the same activities as you.

A: I walked on the beach in Los Angeles on my last vacation.
B: Oh, cool. I walked on the beach in Bali!

☐ I CAN TALK ABOUT A VACATION.

LESSON 3 DESCRIBE A HOTEL EXPERIENCE



DIEGO SALAS
@DiegoS
Did you know the largest hotel in the world is in Malaysia? It has 7,351 rooms!

1 VOCABULARY Hotel activities

A 08-16 Listen. Then listen and repeat.



B 08-17 Listen to the conversations. Number the activities in 1A in the order you hear them.

C PAIRS Which activities in 1A do you like to do when you stay in a hotel? Why?
I like to swim in the pool because ...

2 GRAMMAR Simple past, irregular verbs: Review

COACH

Affirmative statements		
Subject	**Verb**	
I	**ate**	at a restaurant.
She	**swam**	at the beach.
We	**got**	a massage.

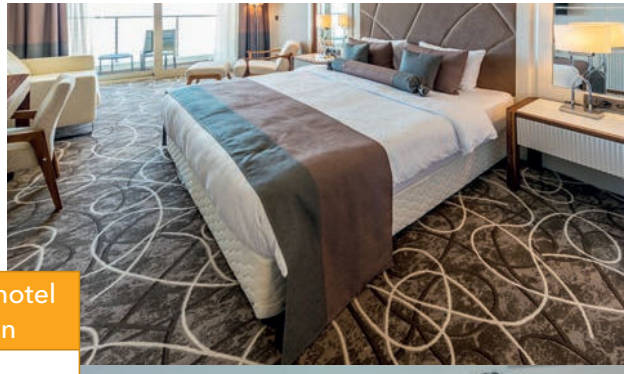
Negative statements			
Subject	***Did* + *not***	**Verb**	
I	**did not**	**eat**	at the hotel.
She		**swim**	in the pool.
We		**get**	a double room.

Note: We almost always use the contraction *didn't* in speech and informal writing.

Common irregular verbs

Base form	Simple past	Base form	Simple past	Base form	Simple past
be	was, were	go	went	sit	sat
bring	brought	hang out	hung out	sleep	slept
buy	bought	have	had	spend	spent
come	came	make	made	take	took
cost	cost	say	said	wake	woke
drink	drank	see	saw	write	wrote

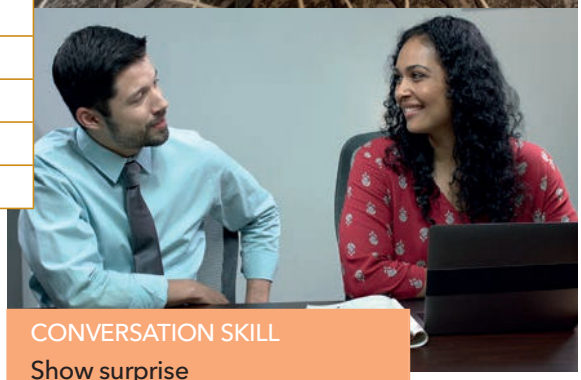
>> FOR PRACTICE, GO TO PAGE 144



3 CONVERSATION

A 08-19 Listen or watch. Complete the chart. Check the things each hotel has.

	Diego's hotel in Rio	Rosa's hotel in Ecuador	Diego's hotel in London
pool	✓		
spa			
gym			
restaurant			
Wi-Fi			



B 08-20 Listen or watch. Complete the conversation.

Diego: What _____ your hotel like?

Rosa: Well, it _____ everything we needed. The kids _____ swimming in the pool every day.

Diego: That's great.

Rosa: And Oscar and I _____ massages. We also _____ breakfast in the hotel restaurant.

Diego: That sounds perfect.

CONVERSATION SKILL
Show surprise

To show that you are surprised by something, say:

- No way!
- You're kidding!
- Really?

Listen to or watch the video again. Raise your hand when you hear someone show surprise.

C 08-21 Listen and repeat. Then practice with a partner.

D PAIRS Make new conversations. Use these words or your own ideas. Change the names of the places. Use the simple past of the verbs.

(buy) souvenirs in the gift shop (have) spa treatments (hang out) in the lobby

4 TRY IT YOURSELF

A GAME Work in a group. Student A: Imagine you stayed in a hotel last week. Tell the group that you stayed in a great hotel or a terrible hotel. Then go in a circle. Say each student's sentence and add a new sentence. How many sentences can you say?

A: I stayed in a great hotel last week.
B: I stayed in a great hotel last week. I went swimming in the pool.
C: I stayed in a great hotel last week. I went swimming in the pool. I bought ...

B GAME Play Truth or Lies with a new group. Say two true things and one lie about a vacation you had or a hotel you stayed in. The other students guess which thing you said is a lie.

A: I went to Mexico City last year. My hotel had three pools. I walked on the beach.
B: That's a lie! You didn't walk on the beach in Mexico City! There's no beach there!
A: You're right!

☐ I CAN DESCRIBE A HOTEL EXPERIENCE.

LESSON 4 READ ABOUT AN UNUSUAL JOB



DIEGO SALAS
@DiegoS
Just read a cool blog post. This person found such a smart way to learn English!

1 BEFORE YOU READ

A PAIRS When you visit a new city, what do you like to do and see? Do you sometimes go on tours? How do you choose a tour guide?

B VOCABULARY 08-22 Listen. Then listen and repeat.

sign up: put your name on a list to show you want to do something
directly: with nothing and no one in between
ordinary: not different or special
check out: look at something because it is interesting or attractive
neighborhood: a small part of a town or city with a lot of homes
offer: provide; make something available

2 READ

A PREVIEW Read the title and look at the photo. What city is the article about? Who is Jom Palao?

B 08-23 Read and listen to an article about being a tour guide. How is Jom different from many other tour guides?

Home | About | Photo Gallery | Museums | Food

Search

Come for a visit. I'll show you my city!

Jom Palao

People sometimes say to me, "You speak English so well." I tell them, "I practice with native speakers," but I don't tell them that I make money while I practice! How do I do it?

It all started when I joined a tourism website and became a tour guide. Here's how it works: People from all over the world can sign up for tours with me directly. That keeps the prices low for the tourists. And I don't pay anything to have my name on the site!

The people on the site want to see the usual tourist attractions, like museums and monuments, but they also want to see the places that ordinary tourists never see. I can show them. When I give tours of my city, Bangkok, I take visitors to restaurants and shops that only Thai people visit. We check out interesting neighborhoods where they can talk to local people and eat local food.

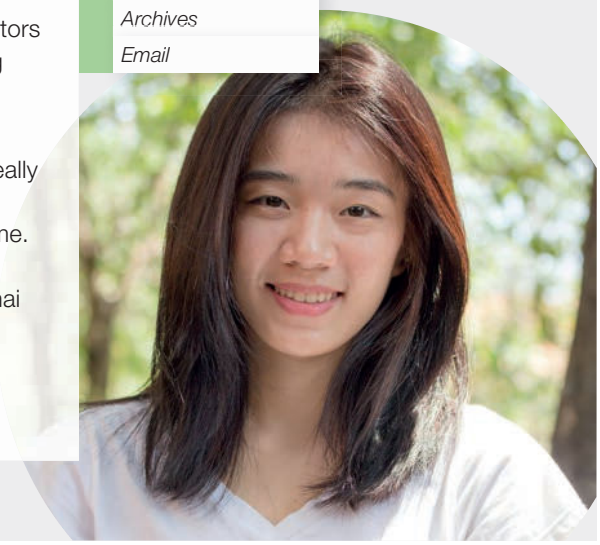
Can you guess my visitors' favorite activity? Eating! We visit markets and my favorite little restaurants. They look around, and everyone else is Thai. That really makes their visit special. Their interest in Thai food gave me an idea: cooking lessons! So, last year my mother and I offered cooking lessons for the first time. Well, my mother cooks, and I explain everything in English. The classes are now more popular than my tours. Every class is full. Maybe next I will offer Thai dancing lessons!

Leave a Reply

Enter your comment here...

Jom's Thai Tourism Blog

- *About*
- *RSS Feed*
- *Social Media*
- *Recent Posts*
- *Archives*
- *Email*



3 CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

A What is the main idea of the article?

a. Being a tour guide is the best way to learn a new language.
b. The internet has changed many things for tourists and travelers.
c. A local tour guide can give tourists a special experience.

B READING SKILL 1. Read the Reading Skill. Cross out the details that are not in the text.

a. The cost for tourists is low.
b. Eating is often tourists' favorite thing to do.
c. Tourists visit neighborhoods where Thai people live.
d. The website is free for guides.
e. Thailand needs more tourism websites.
f. Tourists can find local guides.
g. Jom and her mother offer cooking lessons.
h. Tourists visit small stores where Thai people shop.
i. Visitors meet and talk to Thai people.
j. Jom heard about the tourism website from a friend.

READING SKILL Find details

Most readings have a few big ideas and then some details to give information about those ideas. Finding details can help you understand the writer's ideas better.

2. Now match the supporting details to each of the three big ideas below. Write the letters on the lines.

_____ 1. Jom's tourism website has many advantages.
_____ 2. Local guides help tourists understand Thai people and culture.
_____ 3. Jom works for visitors who love Thai food.

C FOCUS ON LANGUAGE Read. What do the underlined words mean?

I tell them, "I practice with native speakers," but I don't tell them that I make money when I practice!

(a.) people who started speaking a language as a child
b. people who speak a language at work

D PAIRS What is the article about? Retell the most important ideas in the article. Use your own words.

Jom is a tour guide in Thailand. She ...

Search for local guides in your own city or a city you want to visit. Find out about the services they offer.

4 MAKE IT PERSONAL

A Describe some attractions or activities in your town that visitors don't usually see or do. Why are they special? What kinds of visitors would enjoy them?

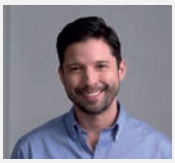
Place	Why it's special
Street market	It's exciting. You can also talk to local people.

B PAIRS Imagine you are a tour guide. You want to show visitors places that only local people know about. Explain why they are special and which visitors might enjoy them. Use the information in the chart from 4A.

There's a great market that sells local fruit. Tourists never go there.

☐ I CAN READ ABOUT AN UNUSUAL JOB.

LESSON 5 WRITE A HOTEL REVIEW



DIEGO SALAS
@DiegoS
I'll never stay at a hotel again without reading some reviews first.

1 BEFORE YOU WRITE

A Read the hotel review. What is the writer's opinion of the hotel? What did she like about it?



Danielle C.
Montreal, Canada
534 friends
22 hotel reviews
56 photos

map view

"I'll never go back!"

★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ September 29

I spent two nights at the San Marco Bellview Hotel last month. I'll never go back. It was horrible. First, the room was boiling hot. I don't think I slept at all. The website showed amenities like a gym, a swimming pool, and free Wi-Fi. That's why I chose this hotel, but when I arrived, I was really disappointed! The gym was closed, the pool was really dirty, and the Wi-Fi was not very strong, so I complained at the front desk. They were not helpful. The only good thing was the restaurant. The food there was cheap and pretty good, so we ate breakfast there both mornings.

Was this review helpful? Yes 87 No 2

B Read the review again. Write one reason in each arrow. The reasons should explain why the author chose the Bellview Hotel and why she complained.

Reasons	Action, event, or opinion
1. gym	I chose the Bellview Hotel.
2.	I complained.

C PAIRS Do you ever read reviews online? For what kinds of things? Why or why not?

I usually read reviews for hotels because...

2 FOCUS ON WRITING

A Read the Writing Skill.

B Read the review in 1A again. Circle *so* and *that's why*. Underline the reasons and double-underline the action or decision that followed.

WRITING SKILL Connect ideas with *so* and *that's why*

So and *that's why* link reasons to actions, decisions, or opinions. Use *so* and *that's why* after you give the reason(s) and before the action, decision, or opinion.

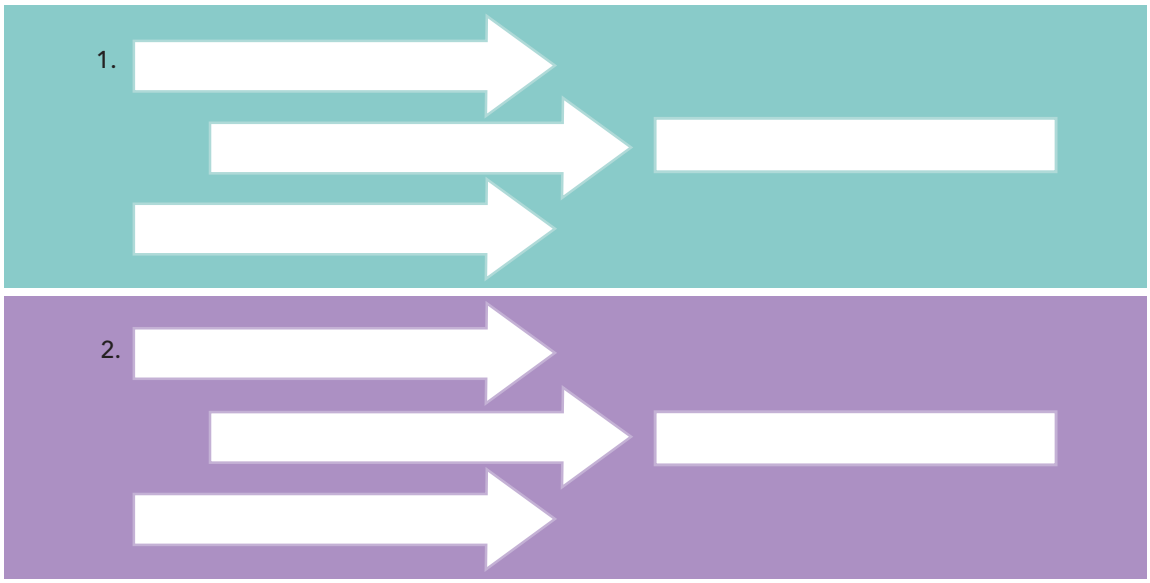
reason *decision*
I had a bad meal at that restaurant, ***so*** I never went there again.

reason *action*
This restaurant is very popular. ***That's why*** we came early.

3 PLAN YOUR WRITING

A Think about a place you chose to visit. It can be a hotel, a spa, or another place. What amenities did the place have? Why did you choose it? Did you like it? Make notes on your reasons for why or why not. Write your reasons in arrows to the left of each action, decision or opinion.

Reasons Action, event, or opinion



B PAIRS Tell your partner about the place you visited.

My hotel was really far from the beach.

4 WRITE

Write a review of a place you visited. Include reasons why you chose it, as well as reasons why you liked or didn't like it. Use *so* and *that's why* to link reasons to your decision and opinion.

5 REVISE YOUR WRITING

A PAIRS Exchange reviews and read your partner's review.

1. Did your partner give reasons for his or her choice?
2. Did your partner give reasons for his or her opinion of the place?
3. Did your partner use *so* and *that's why* to link the reasons to the decision and opinion? Circle them.

B PAIRS Can your partner improve his or her review? Make suggestions.

Check your
- spelling
- punctuation
- capitalization

6 PROOFREAD

Read your review again. Can you improve your writing?

☐ I CAN WRITE A HOTEL REVIEW.

PUT IT TOGETHER



1 MEDIA PROJECT

A 08-24 Listen or watch. Who did Yunmi visit in Busan?

B 08-25 Listen or watch again. What three things did Yunmi do?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

C Show your own photos.

Step 1 Think about a person you visited. Choose photos of the person you visited and the things you did.

Step 2 Show the photos to the class. Talk about them.

Step 3 Answer questions about the photos. Get feedback on your presentation.

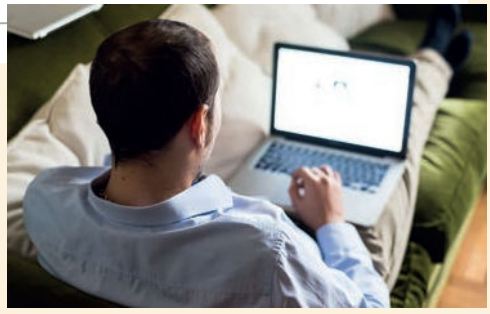
2 LEARNING STRATEGY

FIND GRAMMAR ONLINE

Choose a grammar point that you are studying in class. Visit an English-language website and find five examples of the grammar. Write the example sentences. How is the grammar used? Compare examples with a classmate.

Search a travel or hotel review site. Find five example sentences that use the simple past. Write the sentences down and note how the grammar is used. Compare your examples with sentences from a classmate.

1. Customers liked to spend money on good food.
2. The fire began at the apartment at 1:30 in the morning.
3.



3 REFLECT AND PLAN

A Look back through the unit. Check the things you learned. Highlight the things you need to learn.

Speaking objectives
- ☐ Describe a place
- ☐ Talk about a vacation
- ☐ Describe a hotel experience

Vocabulary
- ☐ Weather
- ☐ Travel experience
- ☐ Things you do on vacation
- ☐ Hotel activities

Pronunciation
- ☐ *Was / wasn't* and *were / weren't*
- ☐ The simple past *-ed* ending

Grammar
- ☐ Simple past with *be*: Review
- ☐ Simple past, regular verbs: Review
- ☐ Simple past, irregular verbs: Review

Reading
- ☐ Find details

Writing
- ☐ Connect ideas with *so* and *that's why*

B What will you do to learn the things you highlighted? Write notes.

