

B2 全场景覆盖表达
口语主题陈述——地点类

DESCRIBING CITIES

- Location / Size
- History
- Industry
- Interesting places
- Weather

LOCATION / SIZE

- Beijing is located **in** the north of **China**.
- Manchester' s located **to** the north of **London**.
- It can be found **in** the south of Canada.
- It can be found **on** the west **coast** of Mexico.

- The zoo is **in the vicinity** (周边地区) of the city center (= *near*).
- *Other words for near*
- nearby
- close by
- in the neighborhood of

INDUSTRY

- **Primary industries** (dealing with raw materials):
agriculture, mining, farming, fishing, oil and gas...
- **The manufacturing industry**
- **The service industry**
tourism, hospitality, recreation, food and beverage...
- **The finance industry**
- **The IT industry**
- **The entertainment industry**

INDUSTRY

- My hometown **relies** mainly **on** tourism / the service industry
- It' s **famous for** tourism/ the service industry
- Its main source of revenue **comes from** tourism/ the service industry
- The economy **depends** mainly **on** tourism/ the service industry

INTERESTING PLACES

- temples
 - museums
 - art galleries
 - beaches
 - mountains
-
- Places **worth visiting** include _____
 - Tourists tend to **flock to** _____ (=go in crowds to...)
 - The places that **attract** most **visitors** are _____
 - Visitors are **drawn by** the amazing views.

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO CITIES

- Bustling center
- Urban living
- Reliable public transport
- Long opening hours (shops and restaurants)
- Upmarket shops
- Pricey /overpriced restaurants (expensive)
- Lively bars
- Fashionable clubs
- High-rise flats

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO CITIES

Adjectives+cities

- *For good points of cities you could use the following adjectives:*
- picturesque
- historic
- spacious
- elegant
- magnificent
- lively

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO CITIES

Adjectives+cities

- *For the negative points of cities you could use the following adjectives:*
- **deserted** (no one on the street at night) city
- **packed** (very crowded)
- **filthy** (very dirty)/
- **run-down** (in a very bad condition)
- **sprawling city**
- **a shanty town** (=houses made of discarded materials, e.g. tin cardboard, plastic)
- **Bustling** (=with lots of movement) can be positive or negative

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO CITIES

Cities and their problems

- urban wasteland (in bad condition)
- no-go areas (with the high crime)
- run-down buildings (falling apart)
- deprived areas (without necessary things, e.g. enough money, good living conditions)
- bumper-to-bumper traffic all day long
- the volume of traffic (amount)
- exhaust fumes
- the incessant roar of trucks and buses (very loud noise)

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO PLACES

Situated

- beautifully
- delightfully
- ideally
- pleasantly
- conveniently
- inconveniently
- centrally
- remotely

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO PLACES

District

- neighbouring
- surrounding
- northern
- southern
- rich
- wealthy
- poor
- working-class
- coastal
- country
- local
- metropolitan
- rural
- suburban
- urban
- agricultural
- business
- commercial

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO PLACES

Town

- big
- large
- major
- little
- small
- nearby
- ancient
- historic
- medieval
- old

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO PLACES

Place

- great
- ideal
- terrible
- interesting
- busy
- crowded
- quiet
- strange
- faraway
- out-of-the way
- remote

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO CITIES

Building

- big
- high-rise
- large
- tall
- low
- single-storey
- small
- attractive
- beautiful
- fine
- imposing
- impressive
- magnificent
- crumbling
- ancient
- historic
- old
- seventeenth-century

DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CITIES

The following 3 phrases all mean “to appear”

- Many new buildings have **come** up
- Some new shops have **sprung** up
- Lots of quaint restaurants have **cropped** up

- There are lots more skyscrapers now,
- ...compared to before
- ...compared to the past
- Cities have become ‘smarter’

COLLOCATIONS RELATED TO PLACES

Verbs

- build
- erect, put up
- demolish 拆除
- destroy, flatten, gut, knock down
- pull down
- damage
- renovate
- restore 修复, 复原

ADVANTAGES OF LIVING IN A CITY

- Access to culture
- High level of convenience
- Reliable public transport
- Variety of shopping outlets
- Entertainment facilities
- Better job opportunities
- Higher quality education
- Better standard of living

DISADVANTAGES OF LIVING IN A CITY

- Traffic congestion
- Pollution
- Air pollution / noise pollution / traffic pollution / water pollution
- Overcrowding
- Dense population
- Growth of slums
- High rate of unemployment
- High cost of living
- Wealth inequality
- Growing gap/disparity between the rich and poor
- High levels of stress
- You get stuck in **the rat race** (=working 9 to 5 every day and stuck in a boring routine)

DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CITIES

- mouth-watering food
- stunning views
- breathtaking scenery
- incredible architecture
- gorgeous weather
- boiling hot
- freezing cold
- wonderful people

DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CITIES

Nowadays there is/are...

- Increased **urbanization**
- Better quality housing
- Higher **living standards**
- A higher **cost of living**
- More recreational facilities and amenities
- **Urban sprawl** = the spread of the city
- High street shops are disappearing
- This is even more noticeable **following** the Coronavirus / **in the wake of** the Coronavirus

地点类常见问题

- What is it like where you live?
- Well, I live in Shenzhen, which is a quite **cosmopolitan** city in China. You can see people from different backgrounds, from all over the world. It is also a very **vibrant** city. There are a lot of leading companies, art galleries, and museums.
- Where I live is a very **lively** place. People are always excited on the street, and bars are always packed. But sometimes, I feel it is a bit too **hectic** on holidays.
- I live in the **suburbs**. It is kind of a **rural** area. There are a lot of farms, and some of the buildings are **run-down**. But it is a **close-knit** community.
- My hometown is a small city. It is both traditional and modern because of having several festivals celebrated by the locals, and at the same time it is starting to be developed with increasing number of infrastructures and establishments.

- What do you like about your hometown?
- What I like about my hometown is that there are many orchards and vineyards. It is a truly picturesque place. Not many places in the world have that kind of view.
- I like the convenience and modernness of my hometown. There are a lot of convenience stores, pop-up stores, and futuristic shops. I also like the night view of my city. At night, the high-rise buildings with lights on make for a really beautiful scene.
- I like how the people in my hometown are so friendly. It's a really close-knit community and there are many malls and pop shops, which are hard to find in big cities.
- I like its cultural atmosphere. Within the city, you can see beautiful pavement cafes. On the outskirts of the city, there are some quaint stores that sell interesting handmade stuff.

- Do you think cities worth visiting are also suitable to live in?
- Yes, I think so. To me, cities worth visiting are places with cheap, efficient transportation, low crime rates, and a clean, healthy environment. Cities like that would be wonderful to live in.
- People living in the countryside tend to be self-employed and work in farming or other jobs that involve physical labor, while those living in the city usually work for companies or organizations in jobs that focus more on mental labor.

- What is the difference between big cities and small cities?
- Big cities have more people and higher population densities; as a result, in big cities roads are usually more crowded and there are more apartment buildings. Products and services in big cities also tend to be more expensive than in small cities.

- What is the difference between the north and south part of your country?
- The north and the south use different dialects. We use different words, phrases, and even pronounce words differently, so I may have difficulty understanding someone from the south. Another difference between the two regions is the weather. The south is consistently hotter than the north. Rain in the south also comes in fast and rarely lasts longer than a couple of hours, while in the north, it tends to drizzle throughout the day.

- What makes one country different from the other?
- Countries differ in terms of language, history and culture. Laws and regulations are also another aspect. Traffic laws, for example, might vary from one country to another.

- Do you like living in the city?
- Yes, I do. I like going out with my friends and there are lots of lively bars and restaurants within walking distance of my apartment. I' m a bit of a culture vulture as well so it' s great to have access to art exhibitions and that kind of thing.

- What are some of the challenges facing towns and cities?
- I suppose traffic congestion is a major problem, and the growth in out-of-town supermarkets and retail parks mean lots of town center shops are closing down, plus a shortage of good quality housing. I think these are the major challenges.

- Why do we have a lot of tall buildings in modern cities?
- Due to urbanization, cities are getting more and more crowded with people who come in search of job and supposedly better living conditions. Skyscrapers are built to accommodate the need of an influx of migrants. Greater demand for office space is also a major factor behind the mushrooming of tall buildings in urban areas.

- What are some well-known natural attractions in your country?
- There are so many natural attractions in my country, for example, the best one, in my opinion, is the Huangshan Mountain, which earns a high reputation for its magnificent natural scenery. Besides, I travel to the Inner Mongolian grasslands every year to see the vast grassland as well as the blue sky and the white cloud which can be rarely seen in Beijing.

- How do city kids in your country have contact with nature?
- Cities in China usually have many parks in them so that children can visit with their parents. Most of these parks have plenty of trees, meadow, rockery and even lakes, which are good enough for children to get close to nature. Besides, on holidays, children will have opportunities to go for an outing to some natural sceneries.

- What can people get from going to natural places?
- People can definitely benefit a lot from nature. Apart from the physical fitness, people can loose up in the natural environment and inspire their love to life. As for children, I believe getting close to nature can cultivate their natural motivations to investigation and discovery the world around them based on their interests.

- In what ways can you improve your hometown?
- One problem in my hometown is a low accessibility of some places due to problems of public transportation systems. Although there are different means of transportation, it can still take you hours to get to certain venues. For example, the earliest bus leaves at 5:00 am and the latest - around 5:30 pm. Therefore, for those who go back from work after 5:30 pm, it gets increasingly difficult to commute.

- What is the main reason for liking a hometown other than the fact you were born there?
- I reckon, we all love our hometowns, because we were raised there. I am personally used to this place and I have become very comfortable with it. I have created some very pleasant memories here - met friends, family, my first love, first academic achievements. In my hometown I was formed physiologically as an individual.

- Most people in this world do not live in their hometowns. Why?
- Well, I guess the majority of people feel that there could be more opportunities outside of their hometowns and consequently - comfort zones. Therefore, many believe that living in such a comfortable place, with relatives and friends can be distracting and too relaxing on the way of pursuing goals. Also, people (not only youth) strive to explore other places and experience different cultures across the globe.

- What' s the best place you' ve ever visited?
- The city that has really astonished me with its beautiful architecture and history was Paris. This is not only the capital of culture, economics and education, but also the place full of vivid art and romance.

- Why do people like to visit historical places?
- Well, we can' t go to future places, and the present is familiar and maybe uninteresting, so it makes sense that people want a chance to get a small window into what life was like in the past. There' s a big difference between reading about a historic location in a book and then actually experiencing the atmosphere of the place firsthand.

- Are all historical buildings well maintained and managed?
- I think buildings are preserved for their historical significance and their economic value. By that I mean, if a place generates a lot of tourism then there will be more investment in it so that it can continue to be profitable in the future. Other places that were the location of a major event are also looked after because of their cultural importance. However, many other historical places are left to fall into disrepair and are ignored until they have to be demolished.

- Do you think the government generates funds from tourism?
- Absolutely. Many countries rely on tourism as a major driver of their economy. Tourists spend large amounts of money on food, shopping, accommodation, and visiting tourist spots. All of this boosts the local economy and allows the government to generate revenue through tax and also ticket sales.

- How do people in your country feel about protecting historic buildings?
- I believe people from my country would want to protect and preserve important historic buildings except maybe a few who put business ahead of their morality and rational thinking. We had our moments when people spontaneously protested the plan to demolish such sites in the past. Due to a huge public backlash and outcry, the authority had been forced to abandon their plan to build multi-storied commercial buildings by smashing the old buildings that have historical significance. Thus citizens in my country are sensitive about protecting anything that has historical importance.

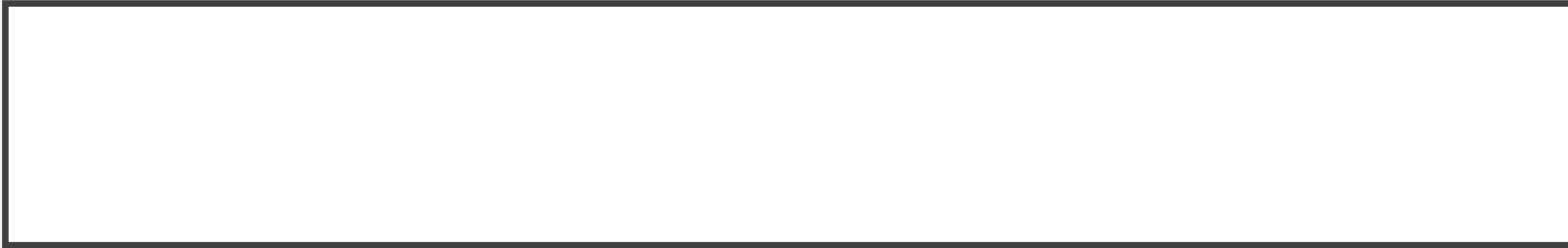
- Do you think an area can benefit from having an interesting historic place locally? In what way?
- Definitely an area with an interesting historic place can reap the benefits from different perspectives. First, such a place would attract a huge number of tourists and help grow different local businesses. Besides, such areas are strategically important for the local government, and it can bring more development projects to the area. The government takes extra measures to protect such areas from natural disasters and thus get more attention. On top of that, the flourishing tourism of the area spreads the local custom and tradition to other parts of the country. Thus the development of such a region occurs faster than other areas.

- What do you think will happen to historic places or buildings in the future? Why?
- That is hard to tell and all would depend on the future generation. If they feel that such locations and buildings are worth preserving, the authority would take steps to protect them. Otherwise, many of them, which are less internationally known, would disappear and would be converted to ultramodern commercial buildings. Prominent sites, on the other hand, would be preserved as they will attract many international tourists. Some of them will be debilitated due to the lack of maintenance and a few new ones would emerge as historic places and buildings in the distant future. The main reason some of the historic places and building will disappear is that they are less popular and can't sell tickets to tourists. So the authority or the owner would like to convert them for business purpose. The urbanisation, pollution and the need for more buildings for the increasing population are threats to such historic sites.

- Should the government spend money on renovating old buildings or constructing new ones?
- Well, as I mentioned historical buildings have a significant role to play in our modern society and restoring them should be given priority. However, in case the buildings are too old and shabby, which might pose a severe threat to visitors, I believe it's better to take them down and construct a new one in similar architectural style.

- Are buildings now better than those in the past? Why?
- Yes and no. The facilities are better, rooms are often fully equipped with whatever you may need. And there are lifts and convenient stores so you don' t have travel much to get what you want. But these buildings are also bad for the environment; their construction and operation release a lot of waste and heat, which pollute the environment and contribute to global warming.

地点类口语主题陈述

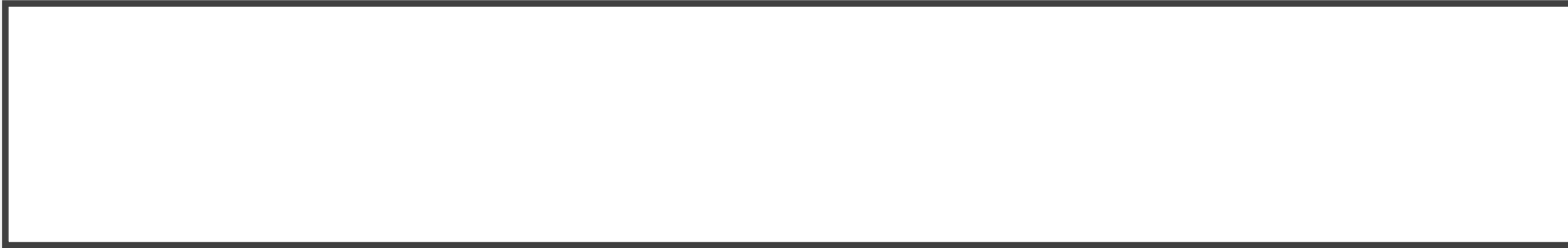


Describe a quiet place that you like.

You should say:

- where it is
- how often you go there
- what you do there
- and say why you like this place.

- In my city there are a lot of green spaces and parks, so fortunately there are a lot of quiet places I can go to unwind and escape the hustle and bustle of the city center. One place in particular is called “Crystal Gardens” here in my city.
- In the park, there is a pretty little duck pond. You can see ducks and ducklings swimming about in the water, I like sitting there and reading a book or just listening to music. You can enjoy the peace and quiet, especially in the city. There are also some really nice walking trails in the park. You can go hiking or just wander around and get lost in the park. I like going there to do some exercise when the weather is nice. Lastly, there are lots of outdoor cafes in the park. After I go walking, I like sitting down there and having a coffee or a beer and doing some people-watching. Overall, it’s just a really nice place.
- I’m probably going to go there at some point this week because the weather is supposed to be wonderful. So I ‘m looking forward to blowing off some steam in Crystal Gardens so I can forget about my workload for a while!”

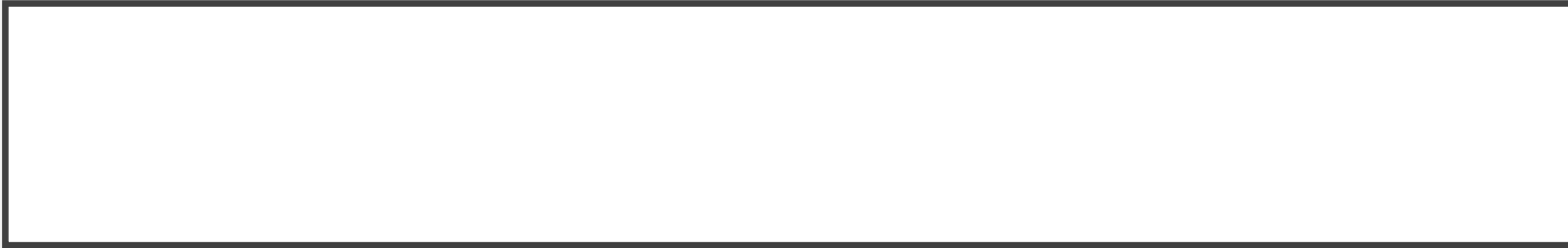


Describe a place where you like to go to often.

You should say:

- where the place is
- how you get there
- what it looks like
- and explain why you like this place and often go there.

- I am not really a very outgoing person. Therefore, I don't exactly like to go to many places, unless I have a very valid reason to do so, especially, if I have to travel to a distant place. However, one distant place, which I really like to visit often, is my grandparent's house.
- Now, I don't really know many people who dislike going to their grandparent's house, but I think that I like it a bit more than most others because I grew up there. As I have just mentioned, my grandparent's house is a long-distance trip from where I live. In fact, I need to travel about 12/14 hours by train, but a bit longer if I travel by bus. But, whether I travel by bus or train, the excitement is the same, especially, as soon as, I leave the city vicinity, in which, I live.
- Anyway, my grandparents live in beautiful countryside which is not even remotely as crowded as the city, in which, I live. Like many other countrysides, it also has many beautiful trees and a number of big green valleys. The place also has a lot of fertile farmlands where the farmers cultivate and grow different kinds of crops throughout the year. If anyone roams around my grandparent's place, he or she will get to see some beautiful ponds and lakes, from which, water is being channeled through the drain in order to irrigate the farmlands around them. By the way, there aren't many paved streets at my grandparent's place, but it is modern enough to have many shops and retail stores in it, from where people can buy different kinds of things to meet their daily needs.
- I like my grandparent's place and often visit there because it is very peaceful and quiet. Besides, the natural love and compassion of my relatives there are just too good to miss. The natural beauty of this place, along with the clear view of its blue sky without getting blocked by some high rising buildings, is also something that keeps drawing me close to my grandparent's place.

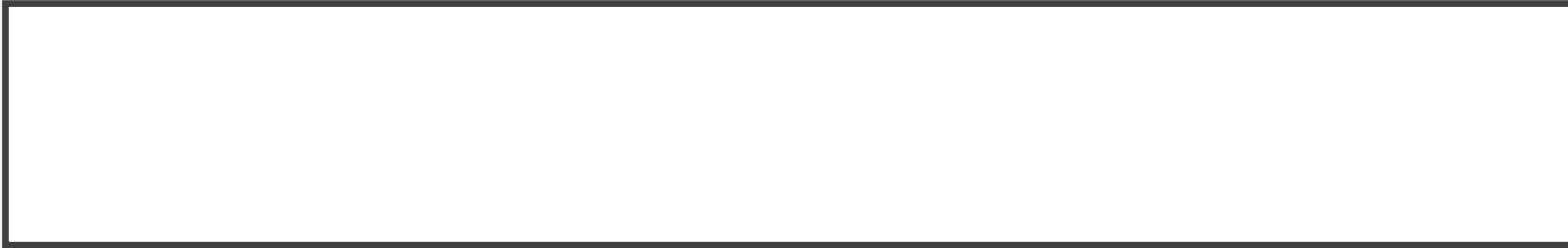


Describe a place that you enjoy visiting.

You should say:

- where the place is
- what you can see and do there
- how it has changed since you first visited it
- and explain why you enjoy visiting this place.

- A place that I enjoy visiting is Prague. It's the capital and largest city of the Czech Republic, with a population of nearly 2 million. It lies in the north-west of the country, in the center of the Bohemian region, which is a green and lush part of Czech Republic.
- There is lots to do in Prague. It has several universities, so first and foremost it's a fantastic place to be a student. It's buzzing, with a good nightlife, good restaurants and a lively cultural life. In fact, it's a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a cultural and economic center of central Europe a few years back.
- If you climb up to the hill overlooking the old town, you have an amazing view of the city. What strikes me most when I go up there is all the traditional, pale buildings with their red roofs, and then right in the middle of it all, a remarkable piece of art and engineering, the Charles Bridge. It is one of the most loved attractions in Prague that crosses the Vltava River. It was built between the 14th and 15th centuries and connects Prague Castle with the Old Town. Today you can walk across it and find many souvenir stalls or have your caricature drawn. There are many statues on the bridge and some people think that if you touch the statue of St John of Nepomuk you will receive good luck and return to Prague soon.
- The last time I went to Prague, they were having a wine festival. People were tasting all kinds of wines from stalls on the street, very informally and chatting with friends while they drank. It was wonderful.
- How has it changed since I first visited it? Well, I would say it has undoubtedly become more trendy. Like I say, they have built a stunning new museum. Another example is "the Lennon Wall", a monument of recent vintage: It is a wall covered in graffiti and pictures inspired by John Lennon and the Beatles. People have been drawing on the wall since the 1980s and they continue to do so today. I would say the local inhabitants have become more overtly proud of their city too. It has received quite a bit of recognition in recent times, which has really placed Prague well and truly on the cultural map; something the inhabitants are always happy to talk to you about. In fact, that is something else I enjoy about going there: the local people are invariably friendly and helpful.

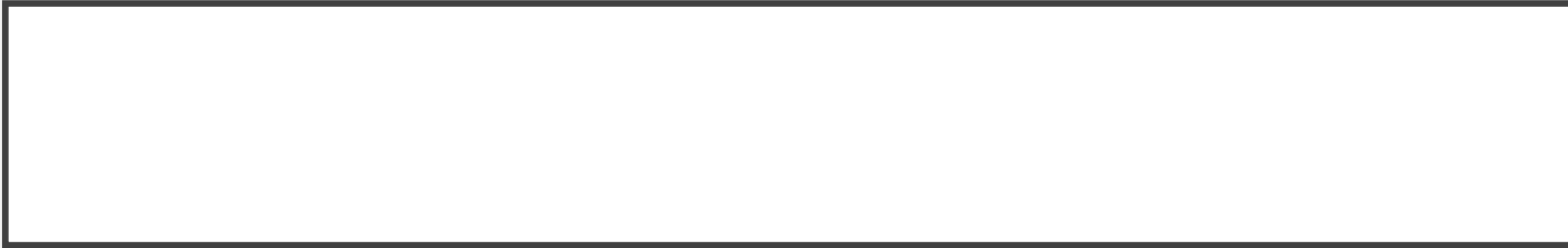


Describe an interesting journey you have been on.

You should say:

- where you went
- how you travelled there
- who you went with
- and say how it affected your life at the time

- One of my favorite trips is the one I did in March to Paris in 2019. There is a peculiar thing about me - I don't like travelling without a clear purpose. I would rather go to a conference abroad than just fly to another country with no purpose other than wandering streets. So, this is exactly what happened on my journey to France. I was invited to attend a 3-days workshop on corporate mergers and acquisitions with BCG that stands for Boston Consulting Group.
- The hosting company paid all my expenses including a round flight to Paris, however I had a hard time receiving a visa, so I had to reschedule initial itineraries. After I finally landed in the French capital, a transfer driver picked me up and drove to a chateau, which turned out to be a beautiful countryside hotel set up in an old mansion.
- There was not only me, but also 50 other young people - students from the best European universities. The acceptance rate to this annual event is only 4%, so I felt very privileged to be there. I have not only made friends from all over the world, but also solved a real-life business case where we had to value and sell a company, presenting the strategy to the management board afterwards. And the best final part of the event was a sight-seeing trip around Paris, where I admired the Eiffel Tower, the Notre Dame de Paris, and many other breathtaking cathedrals and palaces that France is so famous for.



Describe a historical building in your country or city that you know.

You should say:

- what it is and where it is
- when and why it was built
- what it is known for
- and describe what you know about this historic building.

- Sydney Opera House is a World Heritage Site, and a renowned building in Australia. Since I am into opera a lot, Sydney Opera House has always been my dream spot. The building is a wonder for the world. Sydney Opera House is a venue mostly used for exhibiting performing arts. Now, this has become an iconic and historic building for the country. The building is located in Sydney Harbour. The Sydney business district is adjacent to the building. The building is also near to the Sydney Harbour Bridge and thus accessible almost from all the directions. The venue is used for several purposes together and hosts over 1400 performances annually. This is also one of the most visiting places in Australia and a notable number of people come to visit the structure.
- The initial plan to establish such a huge theatrical performance hall was adopted in the 1940s and with gradual development, the designing of the building was done in 1957 while the construction of the building started in 1958. The key aim of constructing the building was to create a unique facility where people can enjoy theatrical performances in a sophisticated environment. But the construction experienced some other troubles during its construction process and finally was opened in October of 1973 for the public. Now a wing of the New South Wales Government named the Sydney Opera House Trust runs the building. The building is covered with a series of concrete shells which appear uniformed from a distant view.

- The building is known for several reasons. Firstly, this is an important landmark for Australia that has been representing the country for years. The venue is mostly known for holding theatrical performances on its inside space. There are two large space and some smaller spaces inside the venue. One of the larger spaces is occupied by a concert hall inside the building. The seating arrangements inside the halls are done technically and the seats rise from the lower to the higher position so that the audiences could enjoy the shows and performances clearly. Sydney Opera House is also known for the Joan Sutherland Theatre, Drama Theatre, a Playhouse, a studio with 280 permanent seats, multipurpose venue for arranging parties, conferences and for arranging other functions and the recording studio.
- The Sydney Opera House construction was completed in three stages. The site where the building is standing now was occupied by the Fort Macquarie Tram Depot and it was demolished before the construction of the Opera House. The building contains all the modern facilities to its visitors and even guided tours are also available here to know the building perfectly. The building has restaurants and cafes for ordinary visitors and even they can have a glass of drink as well sitting at the bar. Shopping is fun here on the retail outlets. The backstage tour is another popular aspect of the building and it shows the activities of the performers before the show begins. The concert hall can accommodate over 2500 audiences at a time.