

Bridge



“Both of these places are Western, and both are modern.”

“I’d rather live near mountains even if it’s a modern town.”

“This is tropical, whereas these are in temperate climates.”

“This is a very industrial town.”

“This reminds me of a place I know.”

Talk with a friend about some special places you've been to. Describe one. What was it like? Talk about the land, the buildings, etc.

Example Dialogue

Jean: I've been to all except one of the inhabited continents. Only South America to go for the set.

Jesse: Wow. Where in Africa have you been? Did you see lions and elephants?

Jean: No, I was only in the desert. I've been to Mali and Tunisia.

Jesse: I've been to Tunisia as well. But Mali! What was that like? Isn't it dangerous?

Jean: It is now, but this was when I was a child, ten years ago. We went to Timbuktu.

Jesse: That's amazing. What was it like?

Jean: It is an old city on the edge of the Sahara. There's sand everywhere. It is very hot and dry.

Jesse: A city in the desert! What do people drink?

Jean: Water comes from wells, and it is near the river Niger.

Jesse: Is it similar to Tunisia? Much of that is North African desert too.

Jean: Well, it's a little bit similar but much hotter and drier in the daytime and colder at night.

Jesse: Were there lots of tourists?

Jean: No. There were only seven small hotels. It's not many for a city with a population of about 50,000.

Jesse: I'd love to go there if it is ever safe again.

Jean: Me, too. Where did you go in Tunisia?

Jesse: Hammamet. It's a busy resort town, in summer anyway.

Jean: Yes, I've been there. I didn't like the town, but at least it's on the coast.

Jesse: Yes – the desert meets the sea.

Discuss

Do you live in a city, town or village? Have you ever lived anywhere else? Where was it? What was it like?

Would you like to live somewhere else? What would be your dream place to live or to visit and why?

What different landscapes have you experienced, and where? What's the hottest / coldest / driest / highest place you've been?

Describe the continents of the earth. What do you know about the geography of the planet? Where are the biggest mountain ranges, rivers, deserts, cities? Where have you been? Have you or anyone you know been to any exotic destinations? Talk about them.

With a partner, take turns to talk about different countries.

Some Useful Phrases

- coastal
- landlocked
- volcanic
- mountain range / lowlands
- fault line
- densely / sparsely populated area
- urban / rural
- industrial / agricultural
- northern / southern hemisphere
- (rain)forest
- temperate / (sub)tropical climate
- monsoon
- national park / nature reserve
- World Heritage site