

Responsible Tourism and Local Communities

COMPREHENSION • VOCABULARY • DISCUSSION

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Reading Passage

Read the passage carefully. Each paragraph is labelled with a letter for easy reference.

A Responsible tourism is a way for travelers to enjoy new places while also helping local communities. It means being aware of how our actions affect the environment and the people living in the areas we visit. For example, when tourists visit a small village, they can support local businesses by buying handmade crafts or eating at local restaurants. This not only helps the economy of the village but also allows tourists to experience authentic culture. In 2022, a group of travelers visited the coastal town of Samara in Costa Rica. They stayed in eco-friendly hotels and participated in community projects like beach clean-ups. This made a positive impact on the town, and many locals appreciated the visitors' efforts. Future travelers can learn from this example and choose to travel responsibly. By doing so, they contribute to the preservation of natural resources and support the livelihoods of local people. Responsible tourism is not just a trend; it is an important way to ensure that travel benefits everyone involved, including future generations.

Vocabulary Glossary

Key words and phrases from the passage. Study them before attempting the exercise below.

WORD / PHRASE	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
responsible	doing the right thing and being careful about your actions	<i>It is important to be responsible when you borrow someone else's things.</i>
authentic	real and true, not fake	<i>The restaurant serves authentic Italian food made by a chef from Rome.</i>
eco-friendly	good for the environment, not causing harm	<i>Many people are choosing eco-friendly cars that use less fuel.</i>
preservation	keeping something in its original state or in good condition	<i>The preservation of old buildings helps us remember our history.</i>
livelihoods	the ways people earn money to live	<i>Fishing is one of the main livelihoods in the coastal village.</i>
participate	to join or take part in an activity	<i>She likes to participate in school clubs and events.</i>
impact	a strong effect or influence on something	<i>The new law had a big impact on small businesses.</i>
trend	a general direction in which something is changing or developing	<i>There is a trend towards healthier eating these days.</i>

Vocabulary Exercise — Fill in the Blank

Use one word or phrase from the glossary above to complete each sentence. Each item is used only once. Answers are on the final page.

1. We should be _____ when we travel to other countries to respect their culture and traditions.
2. Tourists enjoyed the _____ dishes that were made using local recipes.
3. The hotel uses _____ products to reduce waste and protect nature.
4. The _____ of the forest is important for protecting wildlife habitats.
5. Many local _____ depend on tourism for income and support.
6. Visitors can _____ in activities like planting trees to help the environment.

Comprehension Questions

These questions are different from the online practice test. Choose the best answer (A, B, C, or D). Answers and explanations are on the final page.

Question 1

What is the main idea of the passage?

- A. Responsible tourism benefits both travelers and local communities.
- B. Traveling to new places is always harmful to the environment.
- C. All tourists need to stay in eco-friendly hotels.
- D. Local communities should stop welcoming tourists.

Question 2

What can be inferred about local people's attitudes towards responsible tourists?

- A. They are indifferent to tourists.
- B. They appreciate tourists who help.
- C. They dislike all tourists.
- D. They prefer tourists who spend a lot of money.

Question 3

What does 'eco-friendly' mean in the context of the passage?

- A. Expensive and luxurious
- B. Environmentally safe
- C. Old-fashioned
- D. Fashionable and trendy

Question 4

Why did the travelers participate in community projects in Samara?

- A. To get a discount on their hotel stay
- B. To make a positive impact on the town
- C. To compete with other travel groups
- D. To learn a new language

Question 5

What is the author's purpose in writing this passage?

- A. To criticize tourists
- B. To promote eco-friendly hotels
- C. To encourage responsible tourism
- D. To provide travel tips for Costa Rica

Discussion & Writing Prompts

Each prompt references a specific detail from the passage above. Use for classroom discussion or a short written response (150–200 words).

1. The passage mentions that travelers in Samara participated in beach clean-ups. Do you think such activities should be part of every travel itinerary? Why or why not?

2. The passage states that responsible tourism helps preserve natural resources. What are some other ways tourists can help protect the environment while traveling?

3. According to the passage, responsible tourism is not just a trend. Do you agree with this statement? How can responsible tourism be made more popular and long-lasting?

Answer Key

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Q1 A

Q2 B

Q3 B

Q4 B

Q5 C

VOCABULARY EXERCISE

FIB1 responsible

FIB2 authentic

FIB3 eco-friendly

FIB4 preservation

FIB5 livelihoods

FIB6 participate

Comprehension Question Explanations

Why the correct answer is right — and why each wrong option is incorrect.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

✓ A — Responsible tourism benefits both travelers and local communities.

The passage focuses on how responsible tourism helps both travelers and local people.

✗ B — Traveling to new places is always harmful to the environment.

The passage highlights positive actions, not the idea that travel is harmful.

✗ C — All tourists need to stay in eco-friendly hotels.

Eco-friendly hotels are mentioned, but the passage is about more than just accommodations.

✗ D — Local communities should stop welcoming tourists.

The passage talks about supporting locals, not avoiding them.

2. What can be inferred about local people's attitudes towards responsible tourists?

✓ B — They appreciate tourists who help.

The passage states that locals appreciated the visitors' efforts, showing a positive attitude.

✗ A — They are indifferent to tourists.

The passage indicates appreciation, not indifference.

✗ C — They dislike all tourists.

There is no mention of locals disliking tourists.

✗ D — They prefer tourists who spend a lot of money.

The passage emphasizes meaningful support, not just spending money.

3. What does 'eco-friendly' mean in the context of the passage?

✓ B — Environmentally safe

Eco-friendly means safe for the environment, as described in the passage.

✗ A — Expensive and luxurious

Eco-friendly is not related to cost or luxury.

✗ C — Old-fashioned

Eco-friendly is not about being old-fashioned.

✗ D — Fashionable and trendy

While it may be trendy, the focus is on environmental safety.

4. Why did the travelers participate in community projects in Samara?

✓ B — To make a positive impact on the town

The passage states that the travelers' actions had a positive impact on the town.

✗ A — To get a discount on their hotel stay

There is no mention of discounts in the passage.

✗ C — To compete with other travel groups

There is no competition mentioned in the passage.

✗ D — To learn a new language

Learning a new language is not mentioned as a reason.

5. What is the author's purpose in writing this passage?

✓ C — To encourage responsible tourism

The passage is intended to encourage readers to travel responsibly.

✗ A — To criticize tourists

The passage does not criticize tourists but encourages positive actions.

✗ B — To promote eco-friendly hotels

Eco-friendly hotels are mentioned, but they are not the main focus.

✗ D — To provide travel tips for Costa Rica

The passage does not specifically provide travel tips for Costa Rica.

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