"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed."

Mahatma Gandhi (1869 – 1948), Indian anti-colonial activist

1. Ethical Tourism Discussion

1. How would you explain the recent boom in popularity of ethical tourism?
2. What are the different ways that tourism could be considered unethical?
3. How can tourism have a negative impact on the environment and local populations?
4. Have you ever had concerns over the impact of your own trips?
5. How can tourists act responsibly and ethically when visiting natural places? What can tourists do to protect the environment where they visit?
6. How can tourists act responsibly and ethically when visiting different cultures? What should you find out about the local culture before you travel? Which words or phrases should everyone learn before they visit a different culture? How do some tourists disrespect local people?
7. What type of accommodation might be considered unethical? How about transport?
8. What can tourists do to help the local economies of where they visit?

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2. Ethical Tourism Vocabulary

- **mass tourism** (noun) – *large numbers of organised tourists to a destination.*
- **overdevelopment** (noun) – *excessive development, especially that leads to what are considered negative, irreversible changes to an area.*
- **economic leakage** (noun) – *money that escapes a local economy; in terms of tourism, when money spent by tourists does not remain in the tourist destination.*
- **ecotourism** (noun) – *tourism that is intended to benefit ecologically important places.*
- **voluntourism** (noun) – *tourism that involves volunteering in a destination.*
- **slow tourism** (noun) – *tourism that involves travel for a longer period of time using slower, overland methods of transport.*

Using the vocabulary words above, complete the following sentences (remember to use the correct form of the word, e.g. verb conjugation or plural noun):

1. Despite the good intentions of tourists, _____ generally involves taking away jobs from local people when foreigners come and do it for free.
2. In order to prevent _____, the local government banned all foreign-owned hotel chains from opening locations in the city.
3. It is all very well preaching the benefits of _____, but what about people who don't have the luxury of swanning off around the world for several months at a time?
4. The promotion of _____ in Costa Rica has not only helped to protect the environment but has also contributed to a boom in the local economy.
5. This used to be a pretty little fishing village. But now, thanks to the _____ of all the high-rise hotels, I hardly recognise the place today.
6. While people may criticise _____ for its many negative effects, 10% of the world's population rely on it for their income.

Ethical Tourism vocabulary comprehension questions

1. Is mass tourism necessarily a bad thing?
2. Can you think of any examples of overdevelopment?
3. How could economic leakage in tourist destinations be prevented?
4. Why is ecotourism so expensive compared to other forms of tourism?
5. How can voluntourism have a negative or unethical impact on tourist destinations?
6. Is slow tourism really possible for the average tourist? Could you have done this in any of your trips?

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3. Video: The Benefits of Ecotourism

You are going to watch a video by The Economist called "Can eco-tourism help save the ocean?"

Watch the video here: https://yourenglishpal.com/blog/esl-conversation-lesson-plan-ethical-tourism/

While you watch the video, answer the following questions:

Multiple choice

1. For which animal did Ahmad's team receive reports of poaching?

   a) tortoise b) terrapin c) turtle

2. How big is Misool Marine Protected Area?

   a) 465mi2 b) 465km2 c) 4,650km2

3. Who decides how to punish illegal poachers?

   a) the military b) the police c) local communities

4. The hunting of which marine animals shocked Andrew and Marit when they first visited the area?

   a) dolphins b) sharks c) whales

Sentence completion

5. Andrew and Marit decided to protect the area with funds from a luxury eco-_____.
6. Andrew and Marit had to provide an economic alternative for villagers who relied on the _____ for their income.
7. Today, Andrew and Marit employ over _____ local people in their ecotourism venture.
8. Turtles are most vulnerable to hunters when they are nesting on the _____.

Short answer

9. Out of every 1,000 turtle hatchlings, how many will survive to become adults?
10. By how many times greater is the population of sharks inside the reserve compared to the population outside?
11. High-end tourists choose businesses that support what?
12. What is the global value of the coral reef dive tourism industry?

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4. Ethical Tourism Conversation Questions

1. What unethical or illegal practices can be promoted or encouraged in places popular with tourists?
2. Why should you never buy something from a child or give money to beggars in a tourist destination?
3. What products or souvenirs might it be considered unethical to buy on holiday?
4. How are animals treated unethically because of tourism?
5. Is it ethical to visit a country in which human rights abuses are committed? Why or why not?
6. Do you think some travel agents use the phrases 'ethical', 'eco', or 'sustainable' only for marketing purposes to make more money?
7. Are the phrases 'ethical tourism', 'ecotourism' and 'sustainable tourism' oxymorons?
8. Shouldn't we just stay at home and watch documentaries if we really wanted to be ethical tourists? Could tourism ever be considered ethical?

5. Ethical Tourism Writing Task

Write about your opinion of ethical tourism. Try to use some of the vocabulary you learned earlier in this lesson. In your answer, you could include some of the following topics:

- Unethical things tourists might do or encourage on holiday.
- How to be an ethical tourist.
- Whether tourism could ever be truly considered ethical.

Alternative exam practice question:

Many people criticise mass tourism for creating problems for the environment and local populations. Other people, however, say that mass tourism is vital for the survival of local economies all around the world. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

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