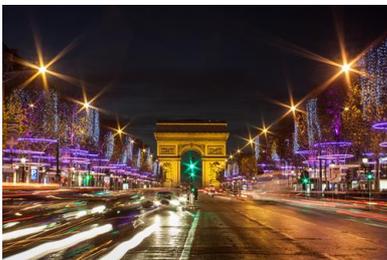




Ex. 1 https://www.examenglish.com/B2/b2_listening_describing_places.htm



1. The Arc de Triomphe stands in formal gardens.

True
False

2 The author recommends the Champs Elysees to tourists visiting Paris.

True
False

3 The shops no longer sell quality products.

True
False

4 Well-dressed men are hired by stores to greet female shoppers.

True
False

5 People can pay to hire a sports car on the Champs Elysees.

True
False

6 The speaker thinks the sports cars in the Champs Elysees look elegant.

True

False

7 The Champs Elysees is more romantic by night than by day.

True

False

8 You can hear loud accordion music on the Champs Elysees at night.

True

False

9 Hardly any of the people who frequent the Champs Elysees are French.

True

False

10 The Champs Elysees is a popular place to see lights at Christmas.

True

False

Script

Paris. There's the wondrous *Louvre*, the romantic *Ile de la Cite*, the mysterious *Notre Dame*, the iconic *Eiffel Tower* and there's the *Champs Elysees*. It was, and remains a breathtaking piece of town planning, as the wide, tree-lined boulevard stretches from the formal gardens at one end towards the *Arc de Triomphe* the other. The thoroughfare has long been considered classic France; the place where Parisians stroll beneath the plane trees, take a coffee and window shop in the luxury stores, and by night, lovers promenade in the moonlight. But if anyone asks me for advice about where to visit in Paris, I'd suggest they steered well clear.

Where there were once exclusive boutiques selling quality clothing and jewellery, the shops now are ostentatious, with branded products, cheaply-made and overpriced. The businessmen who own them are just in it for the money. Now, boys with fake tans and smooth tongues greet excitable girls who queue around the block to pick up something they can pick up in any city in the world.

On a corner stand four garish, sports cars which might look elegant if they didn't have the words *Drive-Mepainted* brashly on the side. Men in loose clothing and too much jewellery skulk around them, while a sign bears the slogan 'Dream on Board'. I find the sight repellent, but clearly I'm in the minority, as there is a constant stream of customers paying out to have their pictures taken next to the gaudy models, or paying out ninety Euros for a closely-supervised trawl through the traffic.

By night it's just as bad. The salubrious hotels and elegant Parisian bars have been replaced by a series of nightclubs frequented by footballers and girls who totter painfully on heels. By night, you are more likely to see drug dealers, drunken fights and staggering women than lovers, hands clasped, gazing fondly into each others' eyes; No harmonious sound of an accordion to complete the scene, everything is drowned out by electronic music and the heavy pump of a bass beat.

I'm not alone in thinking that, at least when it comes to the Champs Elysees, Paris has lost some of its charm. Many Parisians feel the same way about the loss of their iconic boulevard. In fact, you'll have a hard job finding anyone along the *Champs* who is actually French. They know it is crowded, overpriced and tacky, and only venture there at Christmas to see the lights. They know it is not a place worth going to try and glimpse the imaginary Paris that no longer exists.

1 According to the teacher, tourism damages the things that tourists come to see.

true

false

2 Most people who visited Goa before 1986 were poor.

true

false

3 Before 1986, about 250,000 foreign tourists visited Goa per year.

true

false

4 From 1986, there was an increase in package holidays to Goa.

true

false

5 Local people welcomed the increase in tourism.

true

false

6 Local people benefit from all-inclusive holiday packages.

true

false

7 The removal of mangrove swamps increases the risk of coastal flooding.

true

false

8 Tourism has led to an increase in crime.

true

false

Skript /выпадающий/

Tourism is an important industry for a large number of countries, in particular less economically developed ones. Why do tourists want to travel? Often it's about exploration and discovery - adventure - the yearning to discover places of natural and cultural significance, or great beauty - the desire to encounter a new way of life. The irony is that often it is these precise values which become threatened when an area opens up to tourism. We're going to have a look at a case study today of Goa in India, and see how tourism has changed and shaped

that area, for the good, and for the bad.

As for the numbers of visitors, until 1986 tourism was quite limited here. The type of people who frequented Goa were hippies and backpackers, like these fellows here, are very wealthy tourists from overseas, and Indian tourists. The annual total reached about ...er ... 500,000, about half of those from overseas. They would stay in family homes and locally-run hostels, not very luxurious, but which gave visitors a more cultural experience, and because they were all locally run, their money would be injected into the local economy.

Since 1986, there's been a huge boom in tourism in Goa, principally with the arrival of package holidays. There was a demand for a new sort of accommodation - three and four star hotels with pools and gardens. Tourism spread from the small fishing villages and started to sprawl along the coastline.

Since 1987, the region started to see action groups protesting against the growth of tourism. There were protests at the airport - people with banners saying 'Tourists go home', and throwing cow dung. These had little effect. The growth of tourism continued. Communication routes improved - airports, railways, roads, and these opened up areas to the north and south, invading further into the natural environment. Large multinational chain hotels opened up, and these of course, take money out of the country, rather than giving it to local people. Obviously, some money reaches the local people - there are more jobs available in the big hotels, reducing unemployment and raising wages and standards of living, and then local people open up small businesses of their own, shops, bars, restaurants, boutiques, construction businesses and so on. But at the same time, a lot of the profit just disappears, especially as more and more of these hotels offer all inclusive package deals that include accommodation, full board, excursions, transportation, spas, the lot. The tourists need never leave their resorts.

The traditional industries of fishing and agriculture fell into decline. There was large-scale deforestation, and valuable farm land was lost too. Some locals claim they have been forced off their land. Obviously, where the natural environment has been built up, this means there are huge pressures on natural resources. Mangrove swamps are removed and replaced by hotels. Do you know what mangroves are? They are trees with long, twisting roots that grow in the salty coastal waters, partly underwater. These mangrove swamps are really important for reducing coastal flooding, so their removal is really damaging. The disposal of rubbish and sewage is also an issue, and much of it is dumped at sea, destroying the marine ecosystem.

There is also a loss of traditional values, as young Indians are influenced by Western ways. Festivals become Westernised - tourist shows - losing their cultural significance. Goa in particular has become a centre for drugs, prostitution and nudity. Crime is also on the increase, where tourists are threatened, assaulted and robbed by members of the local population.

So as you can see, there is no stopping the inevitable tide of tourism that is sweeping through more and more corners of the world. And although there are a number of advantages to tourism, you can clearly see that there are severe negative implications too.

Ex.3 https://www.examenglish.com/B2/b2_listening_traffic_report.htm

1 What is the problem on the M1 southbound?

road closure

breakdown

2 What is the problem on the M25 clockwise?

roadworks

heavy traffic

3 What is the problem with the East Coast rail line?

fallen tree

engineering works

4 Will the following people experience delays? Choose Yes or No.

Harry plans to travel eastbound along the M8 between junctions 16 and 15.

Yes

No

5 Denise wants to travel southbound along the M1 between junctions 24a and 24.

Yes

No

6 Archie plans to travel westbound between junction 20 and junction 21.

Yes

No

7 Ruth intends to travel clockwise around the M25 between junctions 25 to 28.

Yes

No

8 Louise wants to travel on the Northern Rail route between Haydon Bridge and Bardon Mill.

Yes

No

9 Carlos is planning to travel on the East Coast rail line between Edinburgh Waverley and Kirkcaldy.

Yes

No

Script

Man:

It's a wet Friday and everyone's heading home, so let's go over to Paula for the travel news.

Woman:

Thanks, Neil. There's a lot to get through today. First of all, to the M8 westbound in Glasgow, now there's been an accident between junctions 17 and 18, and there's one lane shut, and that means that there are *very, very* long delays heading west, back as far as junction 14, and if you're heading onto the M8 at the junctions between 14 and 18, expect heavy congestion on the slip roads and the roads leading onto the motorway. Eastbound is moving pretty slowly as well, between 18 and 14.

Now the M1 southbound, we've still got the breakdown between junctions 25 and 24a, affecting traffic and causing long delays in that direction, and traffic in the other direction is also moving slowly.

The M1 is also closed northbound between junctions 42 and 43 and a diversion is in place, which means traffic is practically at a standstill from junction 40 onwards. There's still no reopening time on the M1 so these delays aren't likely to clear soon.

Further along the M62, westbound, there *was* an accident between junctions 20 and 21. This has now been cleared, and all lanes are now open, but there are still long tailbacks all the way from Leeds to Manchester. On the M6, southbound, the accident between junctions 14 and 15 has also been cleared, but there are patchy queues still there, all the way down to junction 5. Northbound, traffic is very heavy along this stretch. It *is* moving, but again, there are patchy hold-ups all the way up.

Now there are problems on the M25 due to roadworks - really long queues clockwise between junction 8 all the way to junction 16, where it meets the M40. There's a brief respite, then there are long queues again between junctions 19 and 24, and again from junction 29 over the QE2 Bridge. Anticlockwise, queues start at junction 17 and they don't really let up until junction 5 where it meets the M6. There's hardly a break in the queue. All lanes are open anticlockwise - the congestion is just due to the solid weight of traffic.

On the trains, there is disruption on South West trains between Epsom and Ashted due to people walking on the line causing delays of up to two hours. A signal failure on Arriva trains between Ludlow and Craven Arms is causing minor delays of up to 20 minutes. Normal service has resumed on the Northern Rail route between Haydon Bridge and Bardon Mill which was disrupted earlier following a fallen tree. There are also delays on the East Coast line between Edinburgh Waverley and Kirkcaldy due to engineering works.

On the ferries, there is a reduced service on the Red Funnel service between Southampton and the Isle of Wight due to a technical problem. That's all from me, I'll be back in half an hour.