

5A | Tourist trail

SPEAKING

- 1 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.
 - What time of year do tourists come to your country?
 - Which parts of your country do the tourists go to?
 - What do they do there?

READING

- 1 You are going to read an article about the place in the photograph. Which of these words do you think you will find in the article? Explain why or why not.

city fast food jungle path ruins
tea bag train valley views

- 2 Read the article and say if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Machu Picchu was built in 1911.
- 2 It is extremely popular with tourists.
- 3 The only way to Machu Picchu is on foot.
- 4 Ana Redondo thinks there are too many tourists.
- 5 Tourists leave their rubbish on the Inca Trail.
- 6 She thinks the cable car is good for Machu Picchu.
- 7 Ana's organization is trying to stop the cable car.

- 3 Underline the arguments for and against the cable car. Who do you agree with?

The Ruins of Machu Picchu

For centuries, the Inca city of Machu Picchu was lost in the jungle. Then, in 1911, the American explorer, Hiram Bingham, discovered the ruins of the city. It is one of the most extraordinary places in the world. The city ruins, the Inca bridge, the mountain views and the beautiful river valley below are all absolutely breathtaking.

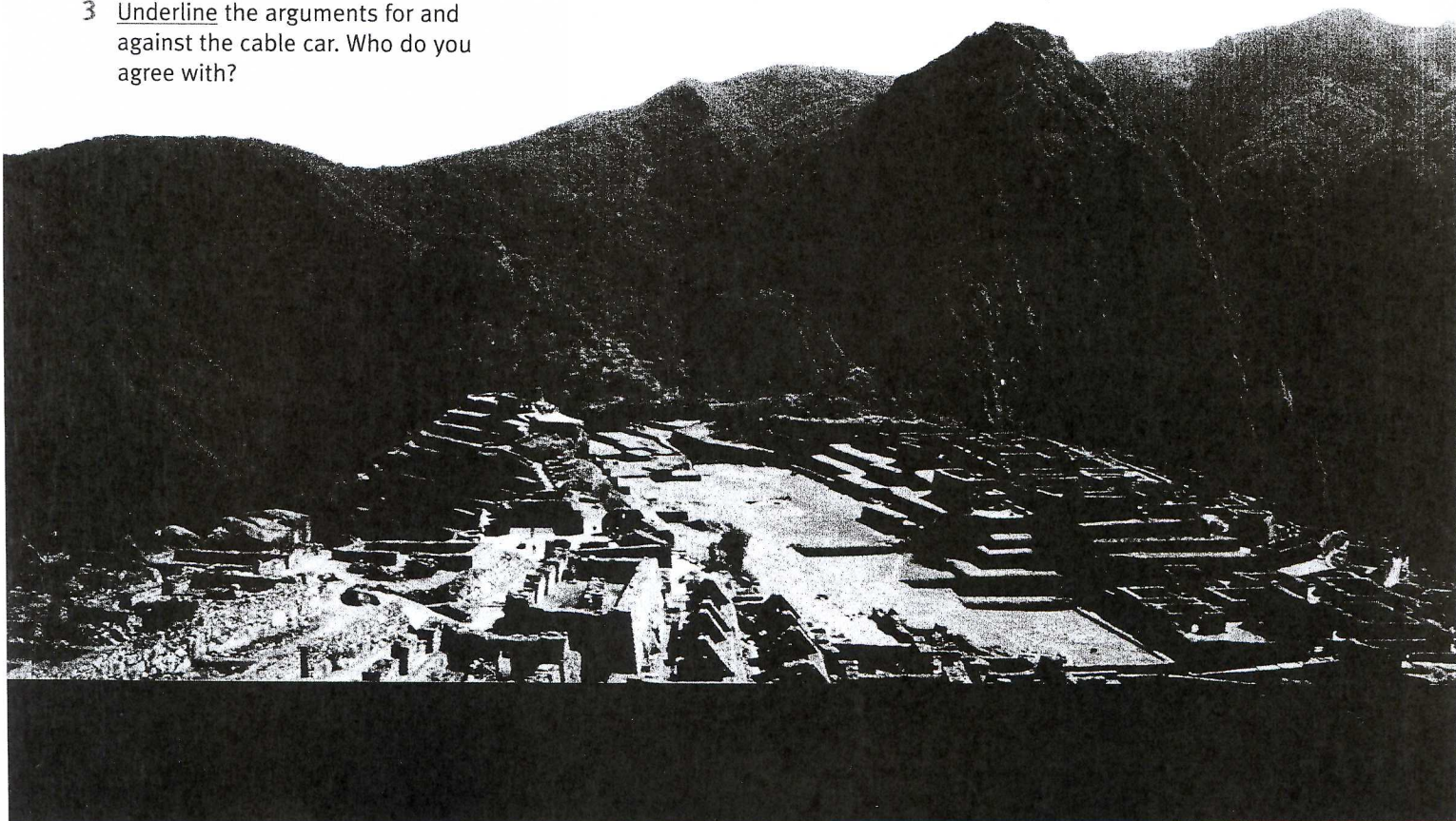
Today it is also one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. Many people choose to follow the Inca Trail, a centuries-old path of 43 km that takes three or four days on foot. Others take the train and then a bus for the last part of the journey.

Now a hotel company is going to build a cable car to the top of Machu Picchu. 'The cable car is good news for Machu Picchu,' says a company spokesman. 'There are going to be a lot more tourists and that means more jobs for the local people. Looking after the ruins is expensive. With the extra money, we can spend more on looking after them.'

However, the plan is not popular in Peru. Ana Redondo, a tour guide, explains the problem. 'There are already more than 300,000 tourists that go to Machu Picchu every year. The Inca Trail is crowded and dirty with old tea bags and water bottles everywhere. The new cable car is going to bring 400 tourists every hour! The company is also going to build a large hotel and tourist centre with souvenir shops, fast food restaurants and so on. It is the end of Machu Picchu.'

Ana is an activist who belongs to an organization that wants to save Machu Picchu. She says that the organization is going to stop the company's plans. 'Tomorrow we are meeting government ministers. Next week some people from UNESCO¹ are coming here to look at the plans. Next month we are organizing an international conference. We are not going to stop until the cable car idea is dead.'

¹ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



VOCABULARY: compound nouns

1 We can often put a noun together with another word to make a compound noun. Compound nouns are sometimes written as one word, sometimes as two words and sometimes with a hyphen in the middle. There are no rules, so use a dictionary if you are not sure.

boyfriend dinner party T-shirt

Read the article again. How many compound nouns can you find?

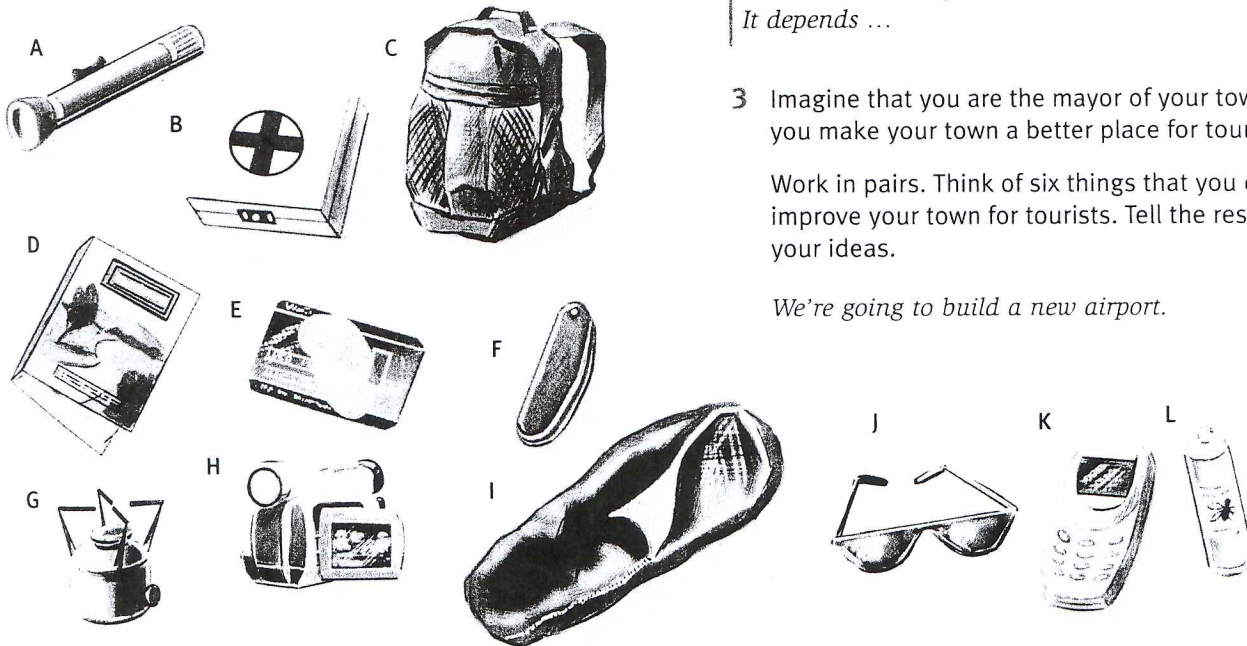
2 Can you name the objects in the picture below?

3 Match words from column A with words from column B to check your answers.

A	B
back	bag
camping-gas	book
credit	camera
first-aid	card
flash	glasses
guide	kit
insect	knife
mobile	light
pen	pack
sleeping	phone
sun	spray
video	stove

Use a dictionary to find out if the compound nouns are written as one or two words.

4 Work in pairs. You are going to walk the Inca Trail to Macchu Picchu. You can take six objects from the picture with you. Decide together which ones you are going to take.



GRAMMAR: future 1 (future plans)

We can use both *am/is/are going to* + infinitive and the present continuous to talk about plans in the future.

The new cable car is going to bring 400 tourists every hour.

Some people from UNESCO are coming here.

Often we can use either form, but when we want to show that the plan is more arranged/fixed, we use the present continuous.

The company is going to build a large hotel.

(This is their plan.)

Tomorrow, we are meeting government ministers.

(The plan is fixed in our diaries.)

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1 Rearrange the words to make questions.

- 1 after are do going lesson the to what you?
- 2 are get going home how to today you?
- 3 cooking dinner evening is this who your?
- 4 anything are at doing the weekend you?
- 5 are birthday doing for next what you your?
- 6 are going have holiday next to when you your?

2 Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions in exercise 1. Use the expressions in the Useful language box to help you.

Useful language

I'm not sure.

I haven't decided yet.

It depends ...

3 Imagine that you are the mayor of your town. How can you make your town a better place for tourists?

Work in pairs. Think of six things that you can do to improve your town for tourists. Tell the rest of your class your ideas.

We're going to build a new airport.