

A FAMOUS LANDMARK

THIS PHOTO shows a famous landmark in the desert of central Australia. European explorers saw it for the first time in 1873 and named it Ayers Rock. The original inhabitants of this part of Australia, the Aborigines, call it Uluru. ¹ It is 348 metres high, 3.6 kilometres long and 1.9 kilometres wide. It is a beautiful red-brown colour, especially when the sun shines on it early in the morning and in the evening.

When tourists want to visit Uluru, they often start 440 kilometres away in a town called Alice Springs. ² People on these trips usually sleep outside under the stars, not in tents, because it's more exciting. A fire keeps away snakes and other animals during the night. And when the sun comes up in the morning, the view of Uluru is amazing. After breakfast, visitors often walk around the base of the rock. ³

There are caves around the base of the rock and inside them, you can see paintings. Some of them are thousands of years old. ⁴ By law, Uluru belongs to the Aborigines and they still use it today for religious ceremonies. Because of this, they ask visitors not to climb it. However, about 100,000 visitors each year ignore this request.

- 1 Look at the photo. Do you know the name of this famous landmark and where it is? Read the first paragraph of the text and check your answers.

- 2 3.06 Read the text. Match sentences A–E with gaps 1–4. There is one sentence that you do not need.

- A The Aborigines use these to teach their children about their history and religious beliefs.
- B From there, they organise a camping trip into the desert.
- C This walk is 9.4 kilometres long and takes two hours.
- D But the Aborigines have their own stories about Uluru.
- E The rock is huge.

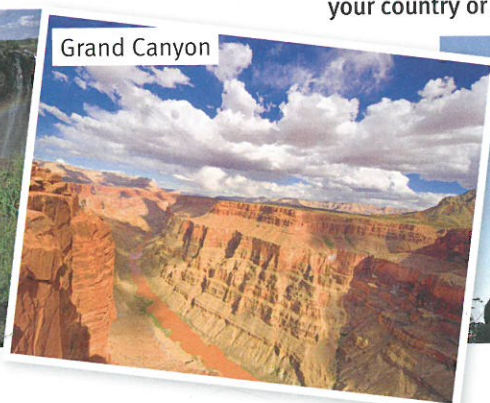
- 3 Read the text again. Are the sentences true or false?

- 1 The Aborigines' name for Uluru is 'Ayers Rock'.
- 2 It is 348 metres long.
- 3 It's easy to visit Uluru from Alice Springs.
- 4 Visitors to the rock can see caves.
- 5 Today, the Aborigines don't use Uluru for ceremonies.
- 6 The Aborigines do not like people climbing the rock.

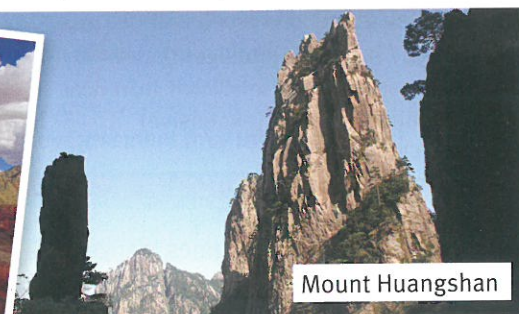
- 4 Look at the photos below. Do you know which continents these landmarks are in?



Victoria Falls



Grand Canyon



Mount Huangshan

- 5 3.07 Listen to three people talking about their trips to the places in exercise 4. Match each place with two activities from the list below.

Outdoor activities bird-watching canoeing climbing
cycling diving fishing horse riding mountain biking
sailing skiing snowboarding swimming walking

- 6 3.07 Listen again. Are the sentences true or false?

- 1 Zoe visited the Falls with her husband.
- 2 Zoe and her husband stayed in a hotel in Zambia.
- 3 Mark went on holiday with his family.
- 4 Mark went canoeing in the river.
- 5 Joe visited the mountain with his wife.
- 6 Joe loved seeing the mountain early in the morning.

- 7 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- 1 Can you name any famous natural landmarks in your country?
- 2 Describe them. Where are they? What are they like?
- 3 Why do people visit these places? What activities can they do there?

- 8 **PROJECT** Write a short description of a famous landmark in your country or region. Include a photo or a map.