

Unit 1

Before reading

Decoding the text

Text type

Newsletter

Aim

To inform readers of events

Feature

Passive voice

Activity

Predicting content

Read the excerpt of the text in this unit and answer the questions.

[1] This summer 30 students from S3 to S5 joined the school's five-day study tour in Seoul. Through site visits, the tour aimed to enhance students' understanding of the cultural, social and economic development of South Korea after the end of the Korean war.

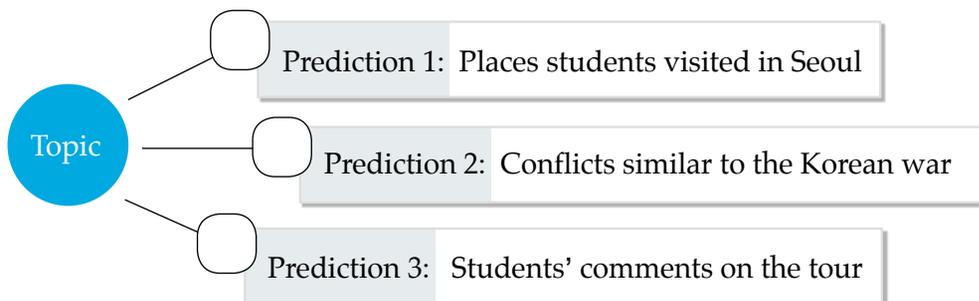
Notice what the focus is.



1. Fill in the blank with information from the excerpt.

Topic:

2. Which of the following could the text cover? Put a tick (✓) in the box(es). You may choose more than one.





NEWSLETTER

A study tour to Seoul



[1] This summer 30 students from S3 to S5 joined the school's five-day study tour in Seoul. Through site visits, the tour aimed to enhance students' understanding of the cultural, social and economic development of South Korea after the end of the Korean War.

- 5 [2] In order to help participants learn about the government's policy on the preservation of cultural heritage, the tour took them to popular historic attractions including the Jongmyo Shrine and Changdeokgung Palace Complex. The former was once the shrine of the royal family during the Joseon Dynasty, while the latter is the most intact among the five remaining palaces built in the
- 10 Joseon Dynasty. Also, participants were given valuable opportunities to exchange ideas with graduates of the Korean Tourism Development Institute.



15 [3] The highlight of the tour was the post-Korean War development of South Korea. The one-day visit to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and The War Memorial of Korea gave students an overview of the historical context and developments after the war. The exhibitions showcased the impact of this major war on the political and social development of South Korea.

20 [4] Apart from visiting historic sites and museums in South Korea, participants also had a chance to experience Taekwondo, the traditional martial arts of Korea. In Namsangol Hanok Village, they watched demonstrations including board breaking and attack and defence techniques.

25 [5] Participants of the tour expressed that the tour had broadened their horizons. 'I originally thought that war was just a part of history written in textbooks. Yet the Demilitarized Zone and museum told me that the impact of the Korean War is long lasting. It is sad to know that, even now, there are individuals separated from their families in North Korea. I hope they will soon be reunited with their families,' said Johnny Law from class 4C.

30 [6] Some junior form students claimed that the tour had allowed them to gain a better understanding of Korea. 'I didn't know how Korea marketed itself to be an attractive tourist destination. You can't possibly learn all this from Korean pop songs or K-dramas,' said Crystal Yu from class 3D. 'I was quite surprised that the palaces and shrines in Korea bear resemblance to those in China,' said Jimmy Wong from class 3B.

[7] In view of the success of the summer tour, the school will soon be organizing another study tour to enrich students' learning experiences out of the classroom.



After reading

Answer the following questions using information from the text.

1. Which of the following is true according to paragraph 1?

- A. The study tour was organized by the school.
- B. Students visited South Korea for about a week.
- C. The tour focused on the latest inventions of South Korea.
- D. Most of the participants are former students.

2. Why are the following historic sites important?

i) Jongmyo Shrine: _____

ii) Changdeokgung Palace Complex: _____

3. What does the word 'intact' in line 9 mean?

- A. respected
- B. not damaged
- C. attractive
- D. expensive

4. Besides visiting historic sites, how did participants learn about the preservation of Korea's cultural heritage?

5. Based on paragraph 3, are the following statements true (T), false (F) or not stated (X)? Write the symbols in the boxes.

i) Students learned about the history of Korea from The War Memorial of Korea.

ii) Students visited two places in two days.

iii) The visit was only about what happened during the Korean War.

6. Complete the following sentence.

Board breaking is an example of a _____.

7. Complete the following summary of paragraphs 5 and 6. Write one word in each blank.

Overall, the tour gave (i) _____ a positive experience. Some acknowledged that the visit had helped them learn that history has a lasting (ii) _____ on people, while others said they had learned that South Korea was more than K-pop or K-dramas. They were impressed by the (iii) _____ between shrines and palaces in China and those in Korea.

8. Which of the following is closest in meaning to 'in view of' (line 33)?

- A. in addition to
- B. while
- C. after
- D. due to

Reading strategies

Understanding unfamiliar words

★ Refer to question 3



We can guess the meaning of unfamiliar words by looking for **context clues**.

[2] ... The former was once the shrine of the royal family during the Joseon Dynasty, while the latter is the most **intact among the five remaining palaces built in the Joseon Dynasty**.

The prefix *in-* means 'not'.

The word 'remaining' hints why the palace is worth visiting.

Did you figure out that 'intact' means 'not damaged'?





Reading rocket

Understanding context clues (I)

1. Parts of speech (learned in Beginner)

Find out whether the unfamiliar word is a noun, a verb, an adjective or an adverb.

2. Word forms

Guess the unfamiliar word's meaning from its affix (prefix and suffix).
e.g. *dis-* (meaning 'not'), *-less* (meaning 'without'), *re-* (meaning 'again')

3. General knowledge

e.g. The day my sister was born—and I know it's a **cliché**—was the happiest day of my life.

(Tip: Reading more will help increase your general knowledge.)



Mini task

The underlined words are the context clues. Identify how they help you figure out the meaning of the unknown words. Write the numbers (1–3) in the boxes.

- | | Context clue |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The one-day visit to the <u>Demilitarized</u> Zone (DMZ) and The War Memorial of Korea gave students an overview of the historical context and developments after the Korean War. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The school will soon be organizing another study tour to <u>enrich</u> students' learning experiences out of the classroom. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Participants of the tour expressed that the tour had <u>broadened</u> their horizons. 'I <u>originally thought that war was just a part of history written in textbooks. Yet the Demilitarized Zone and museum told me that the impact of the Korean War is long lasting.</u> ' | <input type="checkbox"/> |