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Lessons 3–4 Expo 2020

- What happens at trade fairs?
- Would you like to visit one?

Reading 21st

1 Read the text below and decide which of the questions (A, B, C or D) it answers.

- A What are some of the design features for Expo 2020?
- B What will Expo 2020 be about?
- C Who is attending Expo 2020?
- D How can visitors hide from the sun?



A celebration of ecology

The design for the main building of the Dubai 2020 Expo has been revealed during Sustainability Week in Abu Dhabi. During the week long event, delegates were able to look at details and images for the main pavilion. The pavilion, a large and impressive building that will form the centrepiece of the forthcoming trade fair, is said to represent some of the most innovative designs and technologies.

The main function of the building is to demonstrate how new science and design can work together to help us to protect our planet. The building will include exhibitions and performances showing how effective alternative energy sources are. These energy sources include solar energy, the use of water power and materials from natural resources.

The centre of the building is 8000 sq metres and will also have an auditorium where visitors will

have the opportunity to listen and take part in discussions focusing on global challenges and solutions. As almost 200 countries are hoping to take part in the event, visitors will be given the chance to meet, discuss and exchange ideas with people from almost every corner of the world. The centre part of the pavilion will also house a courtyard and a reservoir. To ensure every aspect of the pavilion promotes sustainability, the roof will not only protect visitors from the sun, but will also collect solar energy to power the venue.

A few other smaller buildings, named 'energy trees', will be built around the central building. These trees have a dual purpose: they will be able to take energy from the sun to add power to the pavilion and they will also take water from the atmosphere for use during the event. The design of the pavilion originated from ideas present in the natural sciences.

As Expo 2020 will take place during a time when the sun could affect those from cooler climates, there will be places where visitors can hide from the sun and move around Expo 2020 without getting burnt. These shaded enclaves and walkways are based on local wadi riverbeds and will attract visitors by creating natural sights and smells within the fair.

To ensure that visitors cannot miss the pavilion, it will be located right at the centre of the Expo's 2km² site. Other countries attending the event will contribute smaller pavilions demonstrating that Expo 2020 is clearly a global event.

A delegate who was attending Sustainability Week claimed that the designs were really impressive, saying 'I think the pavilion's very low carbon footprint will send a clear message about the importance of the natural world, ecology and the use of sustainable technology'.

2 Read the text again and complete the following sentences with words from the text. Remember to write the answers in your notebook.

- 1 Delegates at Sustainability Week were shown _____
the design for the main building of the Dubai 2020 Expo
- 2 The pavillion will show _____
to demonstrate how new science and design can work together
- 3 The auditorium will give visitors the chance to _____
to listen and take part in discussions focusing on global challenges and solutions
- 4 The pavilion's roof will be used to _____
protect visitors from the sun and collect and use solar energy to power the venue
- 5 The design of the pavilion originated from _____
the design of the pavilion
- 6 Visitors will find the pavillion easily because _____
it will be loacted right at the centre

Reading strategy

Before reading a text to look for key information, carefully read the questions and consider what information you are looking for. The words and phrases in the questions may be phrased slightly differently to those in the text.

Speaking

3 Answer these questions with a partner.

- 1 Would you like to attend Expo 2020? Why/why not?
- 2 What do you think of the design for the pavilion?

Use of English

4 Read the text again and find examples of relative clauses which use *that*, *who*, *where* and *when*. Look at the sentences that use the words above and answer the questions below.

- 1 What is the purpose of each relative clause (essential information or a definition)? *All the example sentences give essential information*
- 2 When do we use
 - a *that* things, b *who* people, c *where* Places d *when* Events
- 3 What kind of words follow...
 - i which/that who?
 - a verb b noun/prounn
 - ii where/when?
 - a verb b noun/pronoun

Use of English

We use **relative pronouns** to specify or define the nouns that come before them. They can be used to join two clauses.

For example:

Jan is my friend. She lives in England.
Jan is my friend who lives in England.

In this example, *who lives in England* is the **relative clause**.

Note that '*which*' can replace '*that*'.

A defining relative clause gives us a definition.

Samia is the person who always helps me.

Writing

5 You are going to write a short essay about sustainability. Before you do, discuss ideas with a partner. Now write a short essay.

How can sustainable designs help to protect the environment from human impact?

Sustainable design seeks to reduce negative impacts on the environment, and the health and comfort of building occupants, thereby improving building performance. The basic objectives of sustainability are to reduce consumption of non-renewable resources, minimize waste, and create healthy, productive environments