



Year Level: Year 5/6
Genre: Travel Report

Queenstown Story -Part 1

Queenstown prides itself as one of the main tourist destinations in the southern Lakes District of the South Island of New Zealand. Set right on the edge of Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown is surrounded by steep sided glaciated mountains. Although it is a popular tourist destination in summer, it is well patronised by visitors to the nearby ski resort of Coronet Peak during the winter. In fact, Queenstown promotes itself as "the place to be in any season".

Along the narrow shopping streets near the lakeside, the local businesses thrive. There are souvenirs to buy, tours to book and boats to catch for sight seeing cruises on the lake. Those who stay only one night in Queenstown soon realise that they really need more time to see the local attractions.

Set above the town is a restaurant linked by a cable car. Once on top of this mountain peak, the view of Queenstown below is breathtaking. For the more adventurous, there are hang gliding experiences and toboggan rides available.

Daily trips link the town to high-country properties across the lake. Other cruises travel to the outer towns of Glenorchy and Kingston. Thrill seekers enjoy bungee jumping from a nearby bridge. Shooting the rapids of the Shotover River is also very popular but certainly not recommended for the faint hearted. Those with strong nerves and an interest in history can take the long, very hazardous drive to Skippers. This was once a gold mining town.

From the local airport, visitors can charter scenic flights over the alpine regions by plane or helicopter. Taking in the sights from the air is a wonderful experience. Visitors can get close to many natural landforms such as glaciers, mountain lakes and fresh snow fall which would otherwise be inaccessible.

These flights take in the Mount Cook region, the Westland glaciers and the world famous Milford Sound, all of which are impressive and well worth the trip. Queenstown really is the place to visit any time of the year.

QUESTIONS:

Main Idea (MI)

1) The report mainly...

- provides a geographical account of Queenstown.
- outlines all the retail outlets available in Queenstown.
- provides hints and tips for thrill seekers.
- promotes Queenstown as a tourist destination.

Facts and Details (FD)

2) Queenstown is on the edge of Coronet Peak.

- a) True
- b) False

Sequencing (S)

3) What is the first recommendation made to thrill seekers?

- a) shooting the rapids of the Shotover River
- b) bungee jumping from a bridge
- c) a cable car ride to the mountain peaks
- d) chartering a scenic flight over the alpine regions

Cause and Effect (CE)

4) What happens to tourists who only spend one night in Queenstown?

- a) They regret not allocating extra time to see this city.
- b) They deliberately miss their flight home.
- c) They bungee jump at night.
- d) They charter flights everywhere to save time.

Comparing and Contrasting (CC)

5) How are 'adventurous' tourists and 'thrill seekers' similar?

- a) They both play it safe.
- b) They are both timid and frighten easily.
- c) They are both fearless daredevils.
- d) They both make reckless decisions.

Predicting (P)

6) Predict what a glacier is.

- a) a slowly moving river of ice formed by the accumulation and compaction of snow
- b) a mass of snow flowing down a mountain slope at great speed
- c) the frozen ice formed on the apex of a mountain
- d) a lake formed on top of a mountain

Words in Context (WC)

7) Find a synonym in the text, which means 'covering all sides'.

- a) trapped
- b) ring
- c) transmit
- d) surrounded

Words in Context (WC)

8) The word 'inaccessible' in the text means ...

- a) lonely.
- b) solitary.
- c) remote.
- d) distant.

Conclusions and Inferences (CI)

9) Why would visitors with strong nerves and a keen interest in history be interested in visiting Skippers?

- a) These people are excitable.
- b) These people like to travel to new places.
- c) These people prefer skiing.
- d) These people will take risks to visit something of historical interest.

Author's Purpose (AP)

10) What audience is this article written for?

- a) people who are interested in travel
- b) people who like adventure and thrills
- c) anyone who likes visiting New Zealand
- d) anyone who enjoys skiing

Fact and Opinion (FO)

11) What does 'not for the faint hearted' mean in paragraph four?

- a) It is not recommended if you have a heart problem.
- b) It is not recommended if you frighten easily.
- c) It is recommended only if you like to be thrilled.
- d) It is recommended only for the adventurous.

Fact and Opinion (FO)

12) Which of these statements is a fact?

- a) Queenstown is the most popular tourist spot in New Zealand.
- b) Queenstown is on the edge of a lake.
- c) Visiting Mount Cook is a must.
- d) The views from the restaurant are breathtaking.