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## A trip to Budapest

*Long version of English lesson plan = 1, 2 or 3 x 90 mins*

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<b>Ideas and Articles by David Robinson</b>	

**28<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

**Category: Lifestyle / Central Europe / Budapest**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate**

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## THE ARTICLE

### **A trip to Budapest!**

Many people who visit Central Europe like to visit Budapest. It is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The mighty river Danube flows majestically north to south right through its centre. The city is rightly known as 'The Queen of the Danube'. It is also known as the 'City of Spas', as there are a dozen thermal spa complexes served by over a hundred thermal springs. Budapest was created out of the unification of the historic towns of Buda, Pest and Óbuda (old Buda) in 1873. Today the city covers an area of 200 square miles. It is home to a population of 1.8m people. Buda and Óbuda occupy about a third of the area and are situated mainly in the hills to the west, with commercial Pest on the plains to the east. There are three islands in the middle of the river Danube. They are Margaret Island, which is the most famous, Óbuda Island, and Csepel Island. There are nine bridges that cross the river, two of which carry railway lines.

So how to get to Budapest? Many airlines fly in from all over the world to Budapest (Ferihegy) International Airport. The airport is situated ten miles south east from the city centre. There are good railway & road connections to nearby bordering countries. Budapest has some top class hotels including the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, the New York Palace Boscolo Hotel or the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest. At the other end of the scale Budapest offers many budget and cheap hotels.

So what to do in Budapest? One of the most popular things to do is to visit a thermal spa. I can thoroughly recommend it. It is one way to spend an afternoon. Thousands of tourists daily visit these thermal spas that are also used for medical purposes. Indeed the springs' proven medical properties of the mineral water are internationally renowned. There are actually 118 boreholes and natural springs dotted around the city that supply some 15.4m gallons of water to Budapest, their temperature ranging from 21-78C (70-170F)

Other things to do in the city include visiting Buda Castle. It is one of

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the most visited sites in the city. In fact it is a UNESCO world heritage location. There are many interesting attractions around the castle. Feeling romantic - you can hire a horse and carriage to take you around the castle area. There are some fabulous views from up here. Budapest has a variety of museums to visit including the Budapest History Museum, the Aquincum Museum of Roman Ruins, the Military History Museum, the Hungarian National Museum, the House of Terror and the Transport Museum. Another favourite pastime is shopping! The main thoroughfare near the Danube is a positive delight to stroll down. There are also many shopping malls to stroll in including; the WestEnd City Center, Mammut, the Duna Plaza and the Pólus Centre. All with international brand names.

A novel way to see the city is by helicopter! You can get a bird's eye view of Budapest, including the Danube, its islands and the hills of Buda. Another interesting way is by boat. On board you could have a radiant night performance (90 minutes) being entertained by the actors and actresses of the Budapest Opera House whilst having a candlelit dinner reception with Budapest's illuminated panorama in the background. Day trips on river boats are pretty good. Some run as far as Bratislava and Vienna. Yet another way to see the city in an extraordinary way is by sea kayak! It will prove an unforgettable experience seeing the hidden side of Budapest's bridges, listed building & islands. I mustn't forget the walking tours. Armed with their upright umbrellas hear the famous tour guide phrase, "I'm walkin', I'm talkin'!" There is always 'the absolute pub crawl' – an organised trip seeing Budapest's nightlife seen through the eyes of a local. These trips could include off the street pubs and a river cruise.

Fancy a bit more culture? There are theatrical performances and classical concerts daily including the Danube Symphony Orchestra and the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble. The Hungarian National State Opera House is definitely worth seeing. Built in 1884 this magnificent building is one of the finest of its kind in Europe. The Hungarian Philharmonic Society holds weekly concerts here on a Monday. Whilst in Budapest you might hear the term 'Cultural Avenue' used. This area broadly runs from the castle to the City Park.

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Budapest has some wonderful parks to visit. Probably the best and certainly the largest is City Park (Városliget). It was among the first public parks in the world open to people for relaxation purposes. Another delightful place to visit in the summer is Margaret Island (Margitsziget). This is where you'll find all the locals at weekends. Whether you go there for relaxation or sport the island is a positive delight to see. On it you'll find joggers, people playing all sorts of sports and picnicking. Don't feel like walking - you can rent a 'bringó' cart, roller blades, bikes and electric cars. There are also some lovely walkways. For lovers - you can even get married on Margaret Island! There is also the Alfréd Hajós Swimming Pool. Alfréd Hajós, Hungary's first Olympic medallist designed the complex that opened in 1930. Naturally it is all very 30s!

Feeling hungry in Hungary? Try some real Hungarian goulash. Contrary to popular belief it's not a stew but an artistically prepared thick soup! Sour cream is often used to soften the flavour. Other delicacies to try include; fish soup, a good home made pörkölt (stew), some excellent fresh-water fish: grilled pike-perch or trout with almonds. Not to mention goose liver. Naturally one can try some fine Hungarian beers like Gerbeaud or Kaltenburg, both of which are brewed on site. Maybe try the Dreher, Soproni or Gutberger and Braunger beers. There are also some delightful Hungarian wines like the famous Tokaji or Bulls Blood to try. Also Hungarovin or Sop-Vin.

Budapest offers many fine classic coffee houses with some delicious cakes to be tried. In fact, turn of the century Budapest was known as the 'City of 500 coffee houses!' Most have sadly disappeared. Cafés were an integral part of the social and cultural life at that time. Unfortunately during communism the communists thought them a hotbed of communication so in 1948 they closed everyone of them. Today many coffee houses have been thankfully restored.

Let's focus on the spas for a moment. One of the reasons the Romans built a city called Aquincum on what is today's Budapest is because of the thermal springs. New baths were constructed during the Turkish period (1541-1686). These were used for both bathing and medical purposes. They are still used today and remain as popular. It wasn't

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until the 20s that Budapest used the thermal spas for economic potential to draw in the tourists. Today they are frequented by mainly the older population, though many young people use them as well. The two oldest baths are the Király Thermal Baths and the Rudas Medical Baths. The former was started in 1565. Both buildings stem from the Turkish period. Two large medical baths include the Gellert Baths, which were built in 1918 (previously there was a Turkish bath here) and the Lukács Medicinal Baths, which is another Turkish bath that was revived at the end of the nineteenth century.

By far the best spa in Budapest has to be the Szechenyi Baths that are opposite the zoo in the park. They are one of the largest bathing complexes in all Europe and the only 'old' medicinal baths to be found on the Pest side of the city. The indoor baths date from 1913. The outdoor ones from 1927, though because of their style they look considerably older. There is an atmosphere of grandeur about this place. The largest pools resemble Roman baths! The smaller ones of Greek baths and the saunas and diving pools borrowed from the traditions of northern Europe. One of the 3 outdoor pools is a 'fun' pool. In another you can relax and play chess! The spa is open all year including winter, so you can enjoy a game of chess with the snow falling on you as the steam rises all around you! Indoors there are 10 separate pools and there are a host of medical treatments available. The thermal water is drawn from both natural springs and a 3,000ft deep artesian well drilled in the 1870's. The temperature of the water from this well is 74C (165F). The water temperature in the pools is 20-38C (68-100F). This is the place to visit!

To celebrate the foundation of the state, Budapest puts on a cracking fireworks display on the 20<sup>th</sup> August every year. This year sees the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Budapest Summer Festival. Located in around 100 venues all over the city including St Stephen's square-Basilica and even the Botanical gardens, it gives visitors the chance to see some traditional Hungarian music - including the Hungarian instrument the cimbalom, as well as bringing foreign artists and guests to the city. In the winter experience Budapest Christmas market. Well there you go – a taste of Budapest. Go on enjoy it!

## LET'S START

**1. Budapest:** What part of the world is Budapest? What country is Budapest in? Think of 3 things you know about Budapest? Go round the room swapping details.

**2. Dictation:** The teacher will read 4 to 6 lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self correct your work from page 2 - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than 5 is very good. 10 is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than 20 - we need to do some work!

**3. Reading:** The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

**4. Vocabulary:** Students now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

**5. The article:** Students look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about Budapest?
- c) Will you be going there this year?

**6. Let's tell a story!** Below are 20 words and phrases from the article. Use them to compile your own story about **Budapest**. (Imagine!) Add 2 words of your own. Tell your story to your partner. (*Maybe tick off your words as you tell it*)

1	Christmas market	11	Danube Symphony Orchestra
2	Tokaji wine	12	Cultural Avenue
3	Budapest	13	I'm walkin', I'm talkin'
4	chess	14	spa
5	sea kayak	15	City of Spas
6	pub crawl	16	saunas
7	UNESCO	17	shopping malls
8	Hungarian goulash	18	Buda Castle
9	thermal water	19	Margaret Island
10	Botanical gardens	20	hotel

Your choice 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Your choice 2 \_\_\_\_\_

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their stories in front of the class.

**7. Let's write! A leisure e-mail:** Write and send a leisure e-mail to your teacher about a trip you made to Budapest earlier this year. (Imagine!) (You might need to use the internet) Your e-mail can be read out in class.

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**8. Let's debate:** In pairs. Students A think Budapest is the best European City for tourists to visit. Students B think otherwise – choose an alternative city. Explain why.

**9. Let's talk! In Budapest:** In pairs. You are in a pub in Budapest. One of you is a barman/barmaid. The other is a tourist just in off the street who wants a drink. The tourist orders one at the bar. Between you get talking. Find out what you can about each other. Then ask questions about where to go in Budapest. *5-minutes.*

**10. Let's explain! Likes and dislikes of Budapest!** Think of 3 things you like about Budapest. Also 3 things you don't like. Write them below. Using these words/phrases tell your partner why. (Imagine!)

	Likes		Dislikes
1		1	
2		2	
3		3	

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to hear their results.

**11. Let's do 'The Article Quiz':** With your partner or in small groups: (*1 point for each correct answer. Lose ½ point if you look at the article for help!*)

**Student A**

- 1) Which cities are mentioned?
- 2) How many people live in Budapest?
- 3) Name the islands.
- 4) Name 3 museums.
- 5) What year was the Hungarian National State Opera House built?
- 6) How many boreholes are there?
- 7) What is the famous tour guide phrase?

**Student B**

- 1) What happens on 20<sup>th</sup> August each year?
- 2) When was the Turkish period?
- 3) According to the author what is the 'in place' to be?
- 4) Name 2 other thermal baths.
- 5) What was Budapest's name 100 odd years ago?
- 6) Name the swimming pool.
- 7) Why did the communists shut every coffeehouse in Budapest?

**12. Let's remember! The former (Austro) Hungarian Empire:** In pairs discuss what you know about the former (Austro) Hungarian Empire. (You may need to use the internet for this) *5-10 minutes. The teacher may ask you to discuss your findings in front of the class.*

**13. Let's chat! Phone call:** In pairs: One of you is in Budapest for the weekend. You are at a spa. It is a hot sunny afternoon. You are excitedly ringing your friend back home to tell them all about your adventures so far! Your friend asks you some questions about it. Arrange a meeting time and date for the following weekend. Remember you are *on the phone!* *5-minutes*

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**14. Let's think! Budapest:** Swap partners. With your new partner on the board write as many words to do with **Budapest** as you can. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

**15. Let's compile! Sentences:** Choose six/nine of the words from No 14. Write two/three sentences using two/three words in each. Underline your chosen words. The teacher will if necessary correct your work. Students might be asked to read their sentences aloud.

**16. Let's think! 10 things about Hungary:** Think of 10 things you know about Hungary? Write them below. Then tell your partner about your findings. (You may need to use the internet on this) What is the most unusual thing? What is the most obvious? What is the most expensive?

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

**17. Let's tell a story! Budapest highlights:** Look at the 10 Budapest highlights listed below. Add 2 more. Then **either** tell your partner about each place (You may need to use the internet on this) **or** compile a story about these places you visited. (Imagine!)

1 Coffee House	6 Margaret Island
2 State Opera House	7 St Stephen's square Basilica
3 Hungarian National Museum	8 Buda Castle
4 Botanical gardens	9 City Park
5 Szechenyi Baths	10 City Centre
Your choice 1 _____	Your choice 2 _____

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings/stories in front of the class.

**18. A day in Budapest:** In pairs. Look at the list below. Each person chooses to be one of the following. Think of 5 things that person might do or see during a typical day in Budapest. (Imagine!) Create a short story about it. Tell it to your partner. Try to make it interesting, funny, the problems, the experiences, the weather, etc...Your colleagues can then ask you some questions about 'your day'!

1 Spa attendant	4 Sea kayak guide
2 Opera singer	5 Ice cream seller in park
3 Dustbin collector	6 Helicopter pilot

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to tell their stories in front of the class.

**19. Let's be economic! The economic issues of Budapest:** Think of 4 economic advantages of Budapest today. Add 4 economic issues it faces today. Fill in the list below then discuss with your partner.

Economic advantages of Budapest today			
1	_____	3	_____
2	_____	4	_____
Economic issues the city faces today			
1	_____	3	_____
2	_____	4	_____

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to tell their stories in front of the class.

**20. Budapest:** Swap partners! With your new partner, discuss the following about Prague etc...

1	As a capital	6	Working / Jobs in Budapest
2	Major events in Budapest	7	The Mayor of Budapest
3	The Centre	8	The tourists!
4	The airport	9	Shopping in Budapest
5	Hungary's currency	10	Its pubs!

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to tell their stories in front of the class.

**22. Sentence starters:** Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) Budapest \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Central Europe \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Buda Castle \_\_\_\_\_
- d) The thermal spas \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Tourists \_\_\_\_\_

**23. Presentation:** In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a 2 minute presentation on **Budapest**. Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation to the class. The class can vote on the best presentation. Class – After the presentations go through the strong and weak points on each presentation. Learn from the results.

## AFTER READING / LISTENING

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** After reading the article guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. Budapest is known as the 'The Queen of the Danube'.                      | T / F |
| b. Budapest has a population of 2m  | T / F |
| c. There are 128 boreholes and natural springs around Budapest              | T / F |
| d. A novel way of seeing Budapest is by hovercraft                          | T / F |
| e. Budapest offers many classic tea houses with some delicious cakes        | T / F |
| f. Budapest puts on a cracking fireworks display on 20 <sup>th</sup> August | T / F |
| g. You can play chess in a spa with steam rising all around you             | T / F |
| h. The cimbalon is a Hungarian musical instrument                           | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article:

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| a. beautiful    | glowing       |
| b. majestically | unusual       |
| c. middle       | spread over   |
| d. budget       | stunning      |
| e. indeed       | canoe         |
| f. dotted       | centre        |
| g. fabulous     | it is said    |
| h. novel        | magnificently |
| i. radiant      | low cost      |
| j. kayak        | nicest        |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** Match the following phrases from the article:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a. Many people who visit Central Europe       | is to visit a thermal spa.              |
| b. It is one of the most                      | to spend an afternoon.                  |
| c. The mighty river Danube flows majestically | population of 1.8m people.              |
| d. The city is rightly known                  | like to visit Budapest.                 |
| e. It is one way                              | an area of 200 square miles             |
| f. Today the city covers                      | beautiful cities in the world.          |
| g. It is home to a                            | in the middle of the river Danube.      |
| h. There are three islands                    | as 'The Queen of the Danube'            |
| i. One of the most popular things to do       | these thermal spas                      |
| j. Thousands of tourists daily visit          | north to south right through its centre |

## GAP FILL: READING

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

### A trip to Budapest!

Many people who visit Central Europe like to visit Budapest. It is one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ cities in the world. The \_\_\_\_\_ river Danube flows \_\_\_\_\_ north to south right through its centre. The city is rightly known as 'The Queen of the Danube'. It is also known as the 'City of Spas', as there are a dozen thermal spa complexes served by over a hundred thermal springs. Budapest was created out of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the historic towns of Buda, Pest and Óbuda (old Buda) in 1873. Today the city covers an area of 200 square miles. It is home to a \_\_\_\_\_ of 1.8m people. Buda and Óbuda \_\_\_\_\_ about a third of the area and are situated mainly in the hills to the west, with commercial Pest on the plains to the east. There are three \_\_\_\_\_ in the middle of the river Danube. They are Margaret Island, which is the most famous, Óbuda Island, and Csepel Island. There are nine \_\_\_\_\_ that cross the river, two of which carry railway lines.

So how to get to Budapest? Many \_\_\_\_\_ fly in from all over the world to Budapest (Ferihegy) International Airport. The airport is situated ten miles south east from the city centre. There are good railway & road connections to nearby \_\_\_\_\_ countries. Budapest has some top class hotels including the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, the New York Palace Boscolo Hotel or the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest. At the other end of the \_\_\_\_\_ Budapest offers many \_\_\_\_\_ and cheap hotels. So what to do in Budapest? One of the most popular things to do is to visit a \_\_\_\_\_. I can thoroughly recommend it. It is one way to spend an afternoon. Thousands of tourists daily visit these thermal spas that are also used for medical purposes. Indeed the springs' proven medical properties of the mineral water are internationally \_\_\_\_\_. There are \_\_\_\_\_ 118 boreholes and natural springs dotted around the city that supply some 15.4m \_\_\_\_\_ of water to Budapest, their temperature ranging from 21-78C (70-170F)

*population*

*bridges*

*majestically*

*beautiful*

*islands*

*mighty*

*occupy*

*unification*

*airlines*

*bordering*

*actually*

*thermal spa*

*gallons*

*scale*

*budget*

*renown*

## GAP FILL: LISTENING

**Listen and fill in the spaces.**

### **A trip to Budapest!**

Many people who \_\_\_\_\_ like to visit Budapest. It is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The mighty river Danube flows majestically north to south right through its centre. The city is rightly known as 'The \_\_\_\_\_'. It is also known as the '\_\_\_\_\_'; as there are a dozen thermal spa complexes served by over a hundred thermal springs. Budapest was created out of the unification of the historic towns of Buda, Pest and Óbuda (old Buda) in 1873. Today the city covers an area of 200 square miles. \_\_\_\_\_ population of 1.8m people. Buda and Óbuda \_\_\_\_\_ of the area and are situated mainly in the hills to the west, with commercial Pest on the plains to the east. There are three islands in the middle of the river Danube. They are Margaret Island, which is the most famous, Óbuda Island, and Csepel Island. There are nine bridges that cross the river, two of which \_\_\_\_\_.

So how to get to Budapest? Many airlines fly in from \_\_\_\_\_ to Budapest (Ferihegy) International Airport. The airport is situated ten miles south east from the city centre. There are good railway & road connections to nearby bordering countries. Budapest has some top class hotels including the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, the New York Palace Boscolo Hotel or the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest. At \_\_\_\_\_ scale Budapest offers many \_\_\_\_\_.

So what to do in Budapest? One of the most popular things \_\_\_\_\_ thermal spa. I can thoroughly recommend it. It is one way to spend an afternoon. Thousands of tourists daily visit \_\_\_\_\_ that are also used for medical purposes. Indeed the springs' proven medical properties of the mineral water are internationally renown. There are actually 118 boreholes and natural springs \_\_\_\_\_ that supply some 15.4m gallons of water to Budapest, their temperature ranging from 21-78C (70-170F)

## DISCUSSION

**Note: A previous trip to Budapest will benefit students here.**

**For students who have NOT been to Budapest – IMAGINE a little!**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a. Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- b. Is Budapest overrated? Why? Why not?
- c. How would you get to Budapest?
- d. How long *would/will* it take you to get to Budapest?
- e. Have you ever been ripped off? If yes, where? When?
- f. What do you think of Hungarians?
- g. Where is the best place to go shopping in Budapest?
- h. What do you think of Budapest trams and its underground system?
- i. What do you think of Budapest airport?
- j. Give 3 examples of how Budapest has changed over 25 years.
- k. Would you like to study English or Hungarian in Budapest?



STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a. What do you think about what you read?
- b. What do you think of Budapest?
- c. Is Budapest cheap?
- d. Why do tourists go to Budapest?
- e. Have you ever been ripped off in Budapest? How?
- f. What do you think of Budapest taxis?
- g. Are there too many tourists in Budapest?
- h. Where's a good place to stay in Budapest?
- i. Where's a good place to eat in Budapest?
- j. Where's a good place to drink in Budapest?
- k. Did you like this discussion?

## **SPEAKING**

### **Let's brainstorm! Hungary:**

*Allow 10-20 minutes*

#### **Small groups**

In small groups brainstorm some ideas about what you all know about Hungary. Choose a spokesperson who can present your ideas to the class at the end of your preparation. Present it visually or use the board etc... Try to be imaginative! *10-20 minutes.*

	Your ideas	
1) 5 famous Hungarian foods and 5 famous Hungarian drinks	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
2) 5 towns/cities in Hungary plus 5 famous castles	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
3) 10 good places to visit in Hungary (not Budapest)	1 2 3 4 5	6 7 8 9 10
4) 5 famous Hungarian musicians, 5 Hungarian writers	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
5) 5 Hungarian Prime Ministers, 5 Hungarian Presidents	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
6) 5 songs about Budapest plus 5 movies with Budapest in them	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

**The teacher can moderate the session.**

## PUT THE ARTICLE BACK TOGETHER

### Put the article back together

- ( ) water are internationally renown. There are actually 118 boreholes and natural springs dotted around the city that supply some 15.4m gallons of water to Budapest, their temperature ranging from 21-78C (70-170F)
- ( ) towns of Buda, Pest and Óbuda (old Buda) in 1873. Today the city covers an area of 200 square miles. It is home to a population of 1.8m people. Buda and Óbuda occupy about a third of the area and are situated mainly in
- ( ) south east from the city centre. There are good railway & road connections to nearby bordering countries. Budapest has some top class hotels including the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, the New York Palace Boscolo Hotel or
- ( ) known as 'The Queen of the Danube'. It is also known as the 'City of Spas', as there are a dozen thermal spa complexes served by over a hundred thermal springs. Budapest was created out of the unification of the historic
- ( ) are nine bridges that cross the river, two of which carry railway lines. So how to get to Budapest? Many airlines fly in from all over the world to Budapest (Ferihegy) International Airport. The airport is situated ten miles
- ( ) thoroughly recommend it. It is one way to spend an afternoon. Thousands of tourists daily visit these thermal spas that are also used for medical purposes. Indeed the springs' proven medical properties of the mineral
- (1) Many people who visit Central Europe like to visit Budapest. It is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The mighty river Danube flows majestically north to south right through its centre. The city is rightly
- ( ) the hills to the west, with commercial Pest on the plains to the east. There are three islands in the middle of the river Danube. They are Margaret Island, which is the most famous, Óbuda Island, and Csepel Island. There
- ( ) the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest. At the other end of the scale Budapest offers many budget and cheap hotels. So what to do in Budapest? One of the most popular things to do is to visit a thermal spa. I can

**LANGUAGE:** Choose the correct words from a–d below and write them in the article.

Many people who visit Central Europe like to visit Budapest. It is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The (1)\_\_\_ river Danube flows majestically north to south right (2)\_\_\_ its centre. The city is rightly (3)\_\_\_ as 'The (4)\_\_\_ of the Danube'. It is also known as the 'City of Spas', as there are a dozen thermal spa (5)\_\_\_ served by over a hundred thermal springs. Budapest was created out of the unification of the historic towns of Buda, Pest and Óbuda (old Buda) in 1873. (6)\_\_\_ the city covers an area of 200 square miles. It is home to a population of 1.8m people. Buda and Óbuda occupy about a third of the area and are situated mainly in the hills to the west, with commercial Pest on the plains to the east. There are three islands in the middle of the river Danube. They are Margaret Island, which is the most famous, Óbuda Island, and Csepel Island. There are nine bridges that cross the river, two of which carry railway (7)\_\_\_.

So how to get to Budapest? Many airlines fly in from all over the world to Budapest (Ferihegy) International Airport. The airport is situated ten miles south east from the city centre. There are good railway & road connections to nearby bordering (8)\_\_\_. Budapest has some top class hotels including the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, the New York Palace Boscolo Hotel or the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest. At the other end of the (9)\_\_\_ Budapest offers many budget and cheap hotels. So what to do in Budapest? One of the most popular things to do is to visit a thermal spa. I can (10)\_\_\_ recommend it. It is one way to spend an afternoon. Thousands of tourists daily visit these (11)\_\_\_ spas that are also used for medical purposes. Indeed the springs' proven medical properties of the mineral water are internationally renown. There are actually 118 boreholes and (12)\_\_\_ springs dotted around the city that supply some 15.4m gallons of water to Budapest, their temperature ranging from 21-78C (70-170F)

1.	(a)	might	(b)	mighty	(c)	mightily	(d)	tiny
2.	(a)	thoroughly	(b)	through	(c)	thought	(d)	through
3.	(a)	know	(b)	knowingly	(c)	known	(d)	knows
4.	(a)	King	(b)	Prince	(c)	Princess	(d)	Queen
5.	(a)	completion	(b)	complete	(c)	complex	(d)	complexes
6.	(a)	yesterday	(b)	today	(c)	tomorrow	(d)	Toyota
7.	(a)	trains	(b)	line	(c)	lines	(d)	wagons
8.	(a)	country's	(b)	countries	(c)	country	(d)	county
9.	(a)	scale	(b)	tale	(c)	pale	(d)	trail
10.	(a)	thoroughly	(b)	through	(c)	thought	(d)	through
11.	(a)	thermal	(b)	thermally	(c)	thermals	(d)	terminally
12.	(a)	nature	(b)	naturally	(c)	natural	(d)	natured

## GRAMMAR 1: MIDWAY

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

### A trip to Budapest!

(1)\_\_\_ people who visit Central Europe like to visit Budapest. It is one of the (2)\_\_\_ beautiful cities in the world. The mighty river Danube flows majestically north to south right (3)\_\_\_ its centre. The city is rightly known as 'The Queen of the Danube'. It is also known as the 'City of Spas', as (4)\_\_\_ are a dozen thermal spa complexes served by (5)\_\_\_ a hundred thermal springs. Budapest was created out of the unification of the historic towns of Buda, Pest and Óbuda (old Buda) in 1873. Today the city covers an area of 200 square miles. It is home to a population of 1.8m people. Buda and Óbuda occupy (6)\_\_\_ a third of the area and are situated mainly in the hills to the west, (7)\_\_\_ commercial Pest on the plains to the east. There are three islands in the middle of the river Danube. They are Margaret Island, (8)\_\_\_ is the most famous, Óbuda Island, and Csepel Island. There are nine bridges that cross the river, two of which carry railway lines.

*with*

*most*

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So how to get to Budapest? Many airlines fly in (1)\_\_\_ all over the world to Budapest (Ferihegy) International Airport. The airport is situated ten miles south east from the city centre. There are good railway & road connections to nearby bordering countries. Budapest has (2)\_\_\_ top class hotels including the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, the New York Palace Boscolo Hotel or the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest. At the (3)\_\_\_ end of the scale Budapest offers (4)\_\_\_ budget and cheap hotels.

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So (5)\_\_\_ to do in Budapest? One of the (6)\_\_\_ popular things to do is to visit a thermal spa. I can thoroughly recommend it. It is one way to spend an afternoon. Thousands of tourists daily visit (7)\_\_\_ thermal spas that are also used for medical purposes. Indeed the springs' proven medical properties of the mineral water are internationally renown. There are actually 118 boreholes and natural springs dotted around the city that supply some 15.4m gallons of water to Budapest, (8)\_\_\_ temperature ranging from 21-78C (70-170F)

## GRAMMAR 2: EASY

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

### A trip to Budapest!

Many people (1)\_\_\_ visit Central Europe like to visit Budapest. It is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The mighty river Danube flows majestically north to south right through (2)\_\_\_ centre. The city is rightly known as 'The Queen of the Danube'. It is also known as the 'City of Spas', (3)\_\_\_ there are a dozen thermal spa complexes served by over a hundred thermal springs. Budapest was created out of (4)\_\_\_ unification of the historic towns of Buda, Pest (5)\_\_\_ Óbuda (old Buda) in 1873. Today the city covers an area of 200 square miles. (6)\_\_\_ is home to a population of 1.8m people. Buda and Óbuda occupy about a third of the area and are situated mainly in the hills to the west, with commercial Pest on the plains to the east. There are three islands (7)\_\_\_ the middle of the river Danube. They are Margaret Island, which is the most famous, Óbuda Island, and Csepel Island. There are nine bridges that cross the river, two (8)\_\_\_ which carry railway lines.

So how to get to Budapest? Many airlines fly in from (1)\_\_\_ over (2)\_\_\_ world to Budapest (Ferihegy) International Airport. The airport is situated ten miles south east from the city centre. There are good railway & road connections to nearby bordering countries. Budapest has some top class hotels including the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, the New York Palace Boscolo Hotel (3)\_\_\_ the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest. (4)\_\_\_ the other end of the scale Budapest offers many budget and cheap hotels.

(5)\_\_\_ what to do in Budapest? One of the most popular things to do is to visit a thermal spa. (6)\_\_\_ can thoroughly recommend it. It is one way to spend an afternoon. Thousands of tourists daily visit these thermal spas that are also used (7)\_\_\_ medical purposes. Indeed the springs' proven medical properties of the mineral water are internationally renown. There are actually 118 boreholes (8)\_\_\_ natural springs dotted around the city that supply some 15.4m gallons of water to Budapest, their temperature ranging from 21-78C (70-170F)

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## SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: **Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

1	beautiful	11	extraordinary
2	unification	12	definitely
3	population	13	whether
4	thoroughly	14	unfortunately
5	recommend	15	disappeared
6	internationally	16	frequented
7	renown	17	medicinal
8	thoroughfare	18	atmosphere
9	helicopter	19	foundation
10	panorama	20	instrument

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## HOMEWORK

**Newspaper article:** Write an article between 200 and 500 words on **Budapest**. Read your article to your classmates and discuss them in the next lesson.

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## WRITING: In class:

**Five-minute article:** Write an article on **Budapest**. You have five minutes. The teacher will select some students to read out their work.

## ANSWERS

### TRUE / FALSE:

- a. T      b. F      c. F      d. F      e. F      f. T      g. T      h. T

### SYNONYM MATCH:

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| a. beautiful    | nicest        |
| b. majestically | magnificently |
| c. middle       | centre        |
| d. budget       | low cost      |
| e. indeed       | it is said    |
| f. dotted       | spread over   |
| g. fabulous     | stunning      |
| h. novel        | unusual       |
| i. radiant      | glowing       |
| j. kayak        | canoe         |

### PHRASE MATCH:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a. Many people who visit Central Europe       | like to visit Budapest.                 |
| b. It is one of the most                      | beautiful cities in the world.          |
| c. The mighty river Danube flows majestically | north to south right through its centre |
| d. The city is rightly known                  | as 'The Queen of the Danube'            |
| e. It is one way                              | to spend an afternoon.                  |
| f. Today the city covers                      | an area of 200 square miles             |
| g. It is home to a                            | population of 1.8m people.              |
| h. There are three islands                    | in the middle of the river Danube.      |
| i. One of the most popular things to do       | is to visit a thermal spa.              |
| j. Thousands of tourists daily visit          | these thermal spas                      |

**GAP FILL: A trip to Budapest!** Many people who visit Central Europe like to visit Budapest. It is one of the most **beautiful** cities in the world. The **mighty** river Danube flows **majestically** north to south right through its centre. The city is rightly known as 'The Queen of the Danube'. It is also known as the 'City of Spas', as there are a dozen thermal spa complexes served by over a hundred thermal springs. Budapest was created out of the **unification** of the historic towns of Buda, Pest and Óbuda (old Buda) in 1873. Today the city covers an area of 200 square miles. It is home to a **population** of 1.8m people. Buda and Óbuda **occupy** about a third of the area and are situated mainly in the hills to the west, with commercial Pest on the plains to the east. There are three **islands** in the middle of the river Danube. They are Margaret Island, which is the most famous, Óbuda Island, and Csepel Island. There are nine **bridges** that cross the river, two of which carry railway lines.

So how to get to Budapest? Many **airlines** fly in from all over the world to Budapest (Ferihegy) International Airport. The airport is situated ten miles south east from the city centre. There are good railway & road connections to nearby **bordering** countries. Budapest has some top class hotels including the Four Seasons Gresham Palace, the New York Palace Boscolo Hotel or the Corinthia Grand Hotel Royal Budapest. At the other end of the **scale** Budapest offers many **budget** and cheap hotels. So what to do in Budapest? One of the most popular things to do is to visit a **thermal spa**. I can thoroughly recommend it. It is one way to spend an afternoon. Thousands of tourists daily visit these thermal spas that are also used for medical purposes. Indeed the springs' proven medical properties of the mineral water are internationally **renown**. There are **actually** 118 boreholes and natural springs dotted around the city that supply some 15.4m **gallons** of water to Budapest, their temperature ranging from 21-78C (70-170F)

### LANGUAGE WORK:

- 1 - b    2 - b    3 - c    4 - d    5 - d    6 - b    7 - c    8 - b    9 - a    10 - a    11 - a    12 - c

A trip to Budapest – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2009