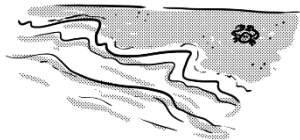


Reading extract and questions:
Year 3-4
Tourist Information
Set A/B



Ms Tina Wilkinson
33 Boundary Lane
Birmingham
B19 4NT

Darren Champion
Senior Tourism Officer
Council House
Hexham
NE46 2CU
30 April, 2019

Dear Ms Wilkinson,

Thank you for your letter of 24th April, asking about Northumberland. I am delighted that you would consider taking a holiday in our wonderful county. You won't be disappointed!

I suspect it will be a huge change from what you're used to. Coming from Birmingham you will, I think, be blown away by the open spaces. Northumberland has the fewest people per square mile of any county in the country. If you crave peace, quiet and room to breathe, you will have come to the right place.

Then there's the sea. No doubt you live hours away from the nearest shore. Here in Northumberland, we are blessed with miles and miles of stunning coastline. There are vast, sandy beaches and rugged, rocky cliffs that are home to a wide range of wildlife. Yet we can also boast wild, mountainous uplands offering spectacular views for the serious walker.

Like your neck of the woods, Northumberland has a proud tradition of work, power and invention. But our rich history stretches way beyond the last three centuries. We have the Roman marvel that is the world-famous Hadrian's Wall, the lonely charm of 'Holy Island' and more castles than any other county in the UK.

Living in the Midlands, you might think this is the 'frozen north'. In truth, it does tend to be a little cooler but don't confuse colder with wetter. Northumberland has less rain compared with many other counties. Anyway, most of it falls on high ground in the west.

Whatever the weather, you can be sure of a warm welcome. You'll also be pleasantly surprised by the cost of your holiday. Whether you stay in a top-class hotel or hire a charming cottage for your stay, you can expect great value. That means more money to spend on the things you want.

I could go on but I'll let you discover some of the joys of Northumberland yourself. Please find attached a list of places to stay, plus a tourist guide packed with useful information.

We really hope to see you soon.

Yours sincerely

Darren Champion



Northumberland Tourist Office

Questions for *Tourist Information* Set A

Vocabulary:

1. Look at the first paragraph of the letter. **Find** and **copy** a word that means *very happy*.

2. *If you crave peace, quiet and room to breathe ...* Which group of words means the same as *crave* in this sentence? **Tick one**.

can't find

☐

don't like

☐

live with

☐

really want

☐

3. ... *you can expect great value* ... This means ...

Retrieval

4. Who is this letter from?

5. When did Ms Wilkinson write her letter?

6. What does Northumberland have more of than any other county in the UK?

Inference

7. Look at the second paragraph of the letter. What does this make you think of Birmingham? Use what the letter says to support your answer.

8. ... *spectacular views for the serious walker* ... What does this tell you about a visit to the *mountainous uplands* of Northumberland?

9. What best describes the weather in Northumberland? **Tick one**.

cold but dry

☐

cold and wet

☐

warm and dry

☐

warm and wet

☐

Summarise

10. Using the whole text, **tick one box** in **each row** to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Darren Champion is replying to a letter from Tina Wilkinson		
Northumberland has many castles.		
Northumberland is an expensive place to stay in.		

Predict

11. What sort of clothes would you pack for a holiday in Northumberland?

Questions for *Tourist Information* Set B

Vocabulary:

1. Look at the first paragraph of the letter. **Find** and **copy** a word that means *think about*.

2. ... *vast, sandy beaches* ... what does *vast* mean?

3. *We have the Roman marvel* ... Which group of words means the same as *marvel* in this sentence? **Tick one.**

show of strength

☐

thing of wonder

☐

old ruin

☐

comic-book character

☐

Retrieval

4. What is Darren Champion's job?

5. In which city does Ms Wilkinson live?

6. Name **two** things that are attached to this letter.

a. _____ b. _____

Inference

7. Why does Darren Champion describe the sea in his letter?

8. ... *be blown away by the open spaces* .. This means ...

9. ... *your neck of the woods* ... Which group of words best explains what this means? **Tick one.**

your old factory

☐

your warm scarf

☐

where you live

☐

where you go on holiday

☐

Meaning as a whole

10. Here are some summaries of different paragraphs in the text. Number them from **1** to **4** to show the order in which they appear.

- ☐ Northumberland has a lot of history.
- ☐ There are good places to stay.
- ☐ The weather is better than you might think.
- ☐ Northumberland is not very crowded.

Authorial intent

11. Why has the writer put “frozen north” in inverted commas?

Answers for *Tourist Information*

Set A:

Vocabulary:

1. delighted
2. really want
3. the price will be low for what you get/you can get a lot for your money

Retrieval:

4. Darren Champion
5. 24th April
6. castles

Inference:

7. Birmingham is crowded/busy/noisy/there is no peace and quiet and Northumberland's open spaces will seem like a huge change.
8. You have to be experienced to cope with walking in these hills but it will be worth it for the views/they are very beautiful/you need to be an experienced walker to go there
9. cold but dry

Summarise:

10.

	True	False
Darren Champion is replying to a letter from Tina Wilkinson	✓	
Northumberland has many castles.	✓	
Northumberland is an expensive place to stay in.		✓

Predict:

11. Accept answers suggesting warm, practical, outdoor clothes, e.g. walking boots, jumpers, coats, tough trousers etc.

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Answers for Tourist Information

Set B:

Vocabulary:

1. consider
2. very big, huge, wide, etc.
3. thing of wonder

Retrieval:

4. Senior Tourism Officer
5. Birmingham
- 6.

- a. list of places to stay
- b. tourist guide

Inference:

7. because he thinks she lives a long way from the nearest shore/to explain to her what the coastline is like/to try to persuade her to come to Northumberland because of the sea
8. be very pleased and impressed by how much space there is/be amazed at the open spaces
9. where you live

Meaning as a whole:

10.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Northumberland has a lot of history. |
| 4 | There are good places to stay. |
| 3 | The weather is better than you might think. |
| 1 | Northumberland is not very crowded. |

Authorial intent:

11. Either:

- to suggest that he's not being completely serious or
- that it is a label that some people use even if it's not totally true

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