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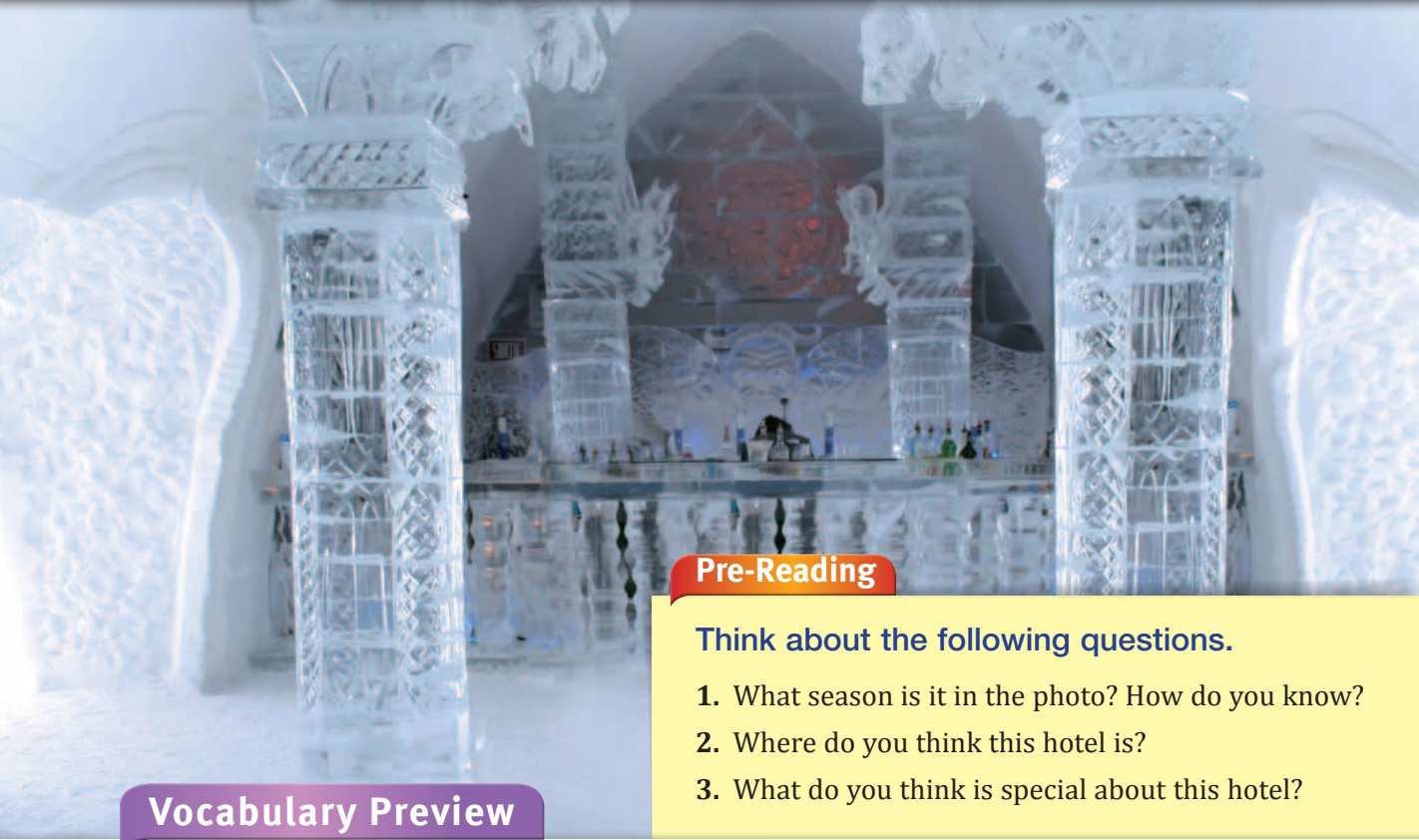
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INTRODUCTION:

In *Reading Challenge, Second Edition*, students will be able to benefit from the amazing technology provided by EnglishCentral. Designed specifically for intermediate to advanced learners of English, *Reading Challenge, Second Edition* presents a wide range of topics through controlled language. Each topic in the series is specifically aimed at engaging the interest of readers. With the additional resources provided by EnglishCentral, *Reading Challenge, Second Edition* comes alive for students wishing to develop not only their reading skills, but their listening and speaking skills as well.

ADDITIONAL FEATURES OF ENGLISHCENTRAL:

- **Interactive Speaking Practice** - Proprietary speech assessment technology “listens” to learners’ speech and scores it based on pronunciation and syntax. Feedback is instantaneous, motivating learners to keep practicing. Learners can compare their speech with native speakers at the word or sentence level.
- **Listening Comprehension Features** - Captioning and clickable transcripts with in-context definitions provide support for listening comprehension and vocabulary building. Any line can be paused and played back in “slow-down” mode for easier comprehension.
- **Goals & Achievements** - Learners earn points based on how well they speak each passage of *Reading Challenge, Second Edition*. They can compare their achievements with anyone else in the EnglishCentral community.
- **Teacher Tools** - For teachers, EnglishCentral provides tools to track student learning and speaking progress, including how many passages students study, how many lines they have spoken, and the points they have earned from their speaking practice.



Pre-Reading

Think about the following questions.

1. What season is it in the photo? How do you know?
2. Where do you think this hotel is?
3. What do you think is special about this hotel?

Vocabulary Preview

Write the letter of the word or phrase with the same meaning as the underlined word.

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| a. great | d. unbelievable |
| b. different | e. one of a kind |
| c. like ice | f. but; in fact |

1. ___ It is freezing cold outside in winter.
2. ___ The Ice Hotel is very cold. Surprisingly, people like to stay there.
3. ___ These dishes are very unusual. This is the first time I've seen dishes made of ice.
4. ___ There's no other hotel like this in the world. It's unique.
5. ___ I can't believe how large this hotel is. It is amazing!
6. ___ This ice art is beautiful. It's fantastic!



The Ice Hotel



Are you into skiing? Is winter your favorite time of year? If you like snow and ice, maybe you should stay at the Ice Hotel in Quebec, Canada. But, you can only check in to this hotel **during** the winter. Why? Because this hotel is made entirely of ice and snow!

5 This amazing hotel is **built** every December. It has 32 rooms, and 80 people can stay there each night. The hotel has a movie theater, an art gallery, and a church. Of course, all of these parts of the hotel are made of ice. In fact, all the furniture, art, lights, and even plates and drinking glasses are made of ice.

10 Because this hotel is so unusual, it has become very popular. People from all over the world come to the Ice Hotel to look at the fantastic ice art, drink and eat from designer ice dishes, and experience the unique **atmosphere**. Some couples have even gotten married in the hotel's ice church.

15 However, all the guests keep their winter coats on! Because of all the ice, the **temperature** inside the hotel is always between -2 and -5°C.

Surprisingly, sleeping is not a problem in the freezing cold hotel rooms. Every guest gets a special cold-weather sleeping bag and some **fur** blankets.

20 These keep them **cozy** and warm until morning.



Reading Time

_____ minutes _____ seconds

223 words

3 *during*: at the time of

5 *build*: to make

11 *atmosphere*: feeling

14 *temperature*: how hot or cold something is

20 *fur*: animal hair

22 *cozy*: comfortable and warm

Choose the best answer.

1. What is the main idea of this reading?
 - a. How the Ice Hotel is built
 - b. What makes the Ice Hotel special
 - c. Why the Ice Hotel is made of ice
 - d. The services of the Ice Hotel

2. What can you do in the hotel?
 - a. Watch a movie
 - b. Get married
 - c. Eat an interesting meal
 - d. All of the above

3. Why is sleeping NOT a problem at the hotel?
 - a. The rooms are warm.
 - b. The temperature is -2°C.
 - c. The sleeping bags are warm.
 - d. The furniture is warm.

4. In which part of the hotel would you probably find the ice plates?
 - a. The church
 - b. The restaurant
 - c. The rooms
 - d. The art gallery

5. What do you think happens to this hotel in the spring?
 - a. It freezes.
 - b. It melts.
 - c. It stays open.
 - d. It moves.

Idiomatic Expressions

Find these idioms in the reading.

- **be into** [to enjoy doing]
Matt doesn't like noisy music. So, he **is not into** heavy metal.

- **check in** [to go to the hotel's front desk and get the room key]
You must **check in** before you go to your hotel room.

- **made (out) of** [built of]
My desk is **made of** wood.

Fill in the blank with one of the above idioms. Change its form if necessary.

1. Did John _____ at the front desk this morning?
2. I _____ video games. I really like playing them.
3. Look at that house! What is it _____?

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

cozy
surprisingly

fantastic
unique

freezing

The Ice Hotel is a/an 1 _____ hotel in Canada. It is made of only ice and snow. So, the inside temperature is usually 2 _____ cold. 3 _____, this hotel is very popular. Many people enjoy looking at the 4 _____ art in its gallery and eating from special ice dishes. Guests have a good sleep in the cold hotel rooms under the 5 _____ fur blankets.



Listening

A Visit to the Ice Hotel



Listen to the dialog and choose the best answer.

- At the end of the conversation, who wants to stay at the Ice Hotel?
 - The woman
 - The man
 - Both of them
 - Neither of them
- How is the hotel inconvenient?
 - It is too cold.
 - It is fantastic.
 - It has an ice art gallery.
 - It has only one bathroom.
- What will they probably do?
 - Stay at the Ice Hotel
 - Visit the art gallery in the Ice Hotel
 - Go to the bathroom at the Ice Hotel
 - Stay at the hotel next door

Discuss the following questions.

1. Would you like to stay in the Ice Hotel? Why or why not?
2. What is the most unusual place that you have heard of?
3. Have you ever visited an interesting place? What was it like?

Grammar

What Makes a Sentence?

A sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with a terminal punctuation such as a period, a question mark, or an exclamation point. A single sentence consists of a single clause (a subject and a predicate). Other complex sentences consist of two or more clauses.

(Is / Are) you into skiing?

Of course, all of these parts of the hotel (is / are) made of ice.

Writing

Write your own short paragraph by answering the questions below.

An Interesting Place

- (1) What is an interesting place in your country?
- (2) Where is it?
- (3) How or why is it interesting?
- (4) What can people do there?

Example

An interesting place in the United States is Las Vegas. This city is in the state of Nevada. It is interesting because it has big casinos. People can go to concerts, watch comedy shows, and try gambling there.

Vocabulary and Idiom Review

A. Choose the best word or phrase to fill in the blank.

1. He ____ J.K. Rowling. He has every book she has written.
a. hates b. is into c. checks in d. experiences
2. It's so cold outside that the water has turned to _____.
a. freezing b. ice c. cold d. temperature
3. Picasso painted ____ pictures.
a. designer b. cozy c. warm d. unique
4. Many people enjoy the ____ in that restaurant.
a. atmosphere b. ice c. world d. drinking glasses
5. I really like *The Matrix*. It is a ____ movie.
a. drinking b. fantastic c. freezing d. warm
6. That house is ____ wood.
a. made of b. built by c. looked like d. gotten to
7. In very cold countries, people sometimes wear ____ coats.
a. experience b. inside c. sleeping bag d. fur

B. Choose the correct form of the word to fill in the blank.

8. I gave her some flowers. She was _____.
a. surprising b. surprised c. surprisingly
9. "It is so cold today." "Yes, it's _____!"
a. frozen b. freeze c. freezing
10. It is ____ for me to go dancing. Actually, I don't dance well.
a. usual b. unusual c. usually