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This hotel not only floats but also turns around in a circle. Now THIS I need to see!

1 BEFORE YOU READ

A PAIRS What kinds of places would you prefer to stay in when you travel?

I prefer to stay at people's houses because...



B VOCABULARY ▶ 07-19 Listen. Then listen and repeat.

a palace: a large home where a queen or king lives

a rule: a statement of what you can or cannot do

lick: to move the tongue across something

a tank: an object that is used to hold a large amount of a liquid

submerged: under water

rotate: to go around in a circle like a wheel

face: to be towards or in the direction of something

a butler: a person whose job is to serve other people and take care of their home

out of sight: hidden; not able to be seen

>> FOR PRACTICE, GO TO PAGE 157

2 READ

A PREVIEW Look at the title and the photograph. What do you think the blog post is about?

B ▶ 07-20 Listen. Read the blog post.

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My World Travels—The Most Interesting Places I've Stayed

When I travel, I try to find interesting places to stay. Here are three of the most beautiful and unique hotels from my travels.

The Palacio de Sal (or Palace of Salt) Hotel is truly amazing. It is in the salt desert of Bolivia, at the eastern edge of Salar de Uyuni. What makes this hotel so unique? It is made entirely out of salt! When they first started to build the hotel, building materials were hard to find in the area. But there was plenty of salt. The floor, ceiling, walls, and even some of the furniture are all made of salt. If you're planning a visit, make sure to stay in a room with a view of the desert. It's beautiful. And remember one important rule: Don't lick the walls!

The Marmara Antalya Hotel in Turkey is another great place to visit. Part of this modern hotel is a building that floats in a tank of water. The bottom three floors of this building are completely submerged. The building revolves, or turns in a circle. It is the only hotel in the world that rotates 360 degrees! When I stayed there, I went to sleep facing the pool and woke

up facing the sea. I'd love to see those views again! Just remember: Only one building at this hotel turns, so make sure you get a room in the right building.

But there is nowhere more beautiful than the Null Stern Hotel in the Swiss mountains. This hotel is just one "room." The room has a bed, two small tables, two lamps, and nothing else. And I mean nothing else. There are no walls! There is just a bed, outside, surrounded by mountains and sky. A butler stays nearby, but out of sight, and brings guests their meals. The views of the mountains and the star-filled sky are incredible. But be ready to take a walk if you need to go to the bathroom: There isn't one at the hotel. I had to use a public bathroom which was five minutes away!

Next week I'll write about the best free places I've ever stayed. You'll be surprised by how many there are!

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THE BEAUTIFUL VIEW FROM MY HOTEL IN THE SALT DESERT.

3 CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

A Which statement best describes the main idea of the blog post?

- a. The best hotels are always unique.
- b. Unique hotels are often expensive.
- c. It is fun to stay in unique hotels.

B Read the blog post again. Circle the correct answers.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Why was the Palacio de Sal made of salt?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. It was the best way to attract tourists. b. It was hard to find other materials. c. It was the cheapest way to build. | <p>3. What was one thing the author would have liked at the Null Stern Hotel?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. a ceiling b. walls c. a bathroom |
| <p>2. What kind of view can you find at the Marmara Antalya Hotel?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the jungle b. the desert c. the sea | <p>4. What is one thing all these hotels have in common?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. They have great views. b. They are in Europe. c. They are hard to find. |

C **FOCUS ON LANGUAGE** Reread lines 21–27 in the blog post. Think about the phrases *360 degrees* and *the right building*. Then circle the correct answers.

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. The expression <i>360 degrees</i> means ____ . | | |
| a. a complete circle | b. from left to right | c. halfway around |
| 2. The phrase <i>the right building</i> means ____ . | | |
| a. the building on the right | b. the best building | c. the correct building |

D Read the Reading Skill. Look at the blog post in 2B again. Identify the point of view of the author by underlining the pronouns that let you know who is telling the story.

E **PAIRS** What is the blog post about? Retell the most important ideas in the blog post. Use your own words.

The blog post is about hotels that are...

READING SKILL Identify point of view

Identifying the point of view can tell you who is telling the story and how they are telling it. Writers may choose to tell their story in three ways.

First-person: using the pronouns *I* or *we*

Second-person: using the pronoun *you*

Third-person: using the pronouns *he*, *she*, *it*, or *they*

Tip: Not every sentence in a story tells you the point of view. To decide which point of view is being used, imagine someone reading the text aloud. Is it a story about themselves or about someone else?

4 MAKE IT PERSONAL

A **GROUPS** Think about the blog post you just read. Imagine you are staying in a unique hotel. What makes a hotel an interesting or fun place to stay?

	Details
food	
view	
activities	
services	
other	

Find out about other unusual places to stay.



B **CLASS** Report to the class about your ideas.

I would like to stay in a hotel that...

I CAN READ ABOUT UNUSUAL HOTELS.