

8.6

SPEAKING

Speculating about photos

I can compare, contrast and speculate about situations in the photos.

1 SPEAKING Look at photos A and B and discuss the questions.

- 1 What might the relationship between the people and the landscape be?
- 2 How might the presence of the people affect the environment?

2 3.22 Listen to two candidates in an oral exam talking about photos A and B. Do they mention any of the points you made?

3 3.22 Read the SPEAKING FOCUS and, in your notebook, write one word from the box for each gap in the text. Then listen again and check.

(assume certainly doubt imagine
may must presumably rule)

Well, they show very different activities and relationships. The first shows people skiing, so involved in a leisure activity, and therefore I ¹ assume that their relationship with the landscape is one of enjoyment and appreciation. I mean they ² ? be having fun skiing and snowboarding, but they are also almost ³ ? enjoying the fresh air and the beauty of the spot too. We can't ⁴ ? out the possibility that it's during a school break, or the weekend at least, as it looks pretty busy and I can ⁵ ? that a lot of them are on holiday. ⁶ ?, most of these people have travelled out here to spend a few days in the snow. I mean, I very much ⁷ ? that it's near where they usually live, and so they ⁸ ? have come out here by car or bus.

SPEAKING FOCUS

Modal verbs

must/might/may (well)/could/would

Introductory verb phrases

I assume/suppose that ...

I presume that ...

I don't know whether/if ...

I shouldn't/wouldn't think that ...

We can't rule out the possibility that ...

I can imagine/envisage ...

It would appear/seem that ...

It's bound to be ...

I very much doubt that ...

Adverbs

(almost) certainly/definitely/admittedly

presumably/probably/potentially/tentatively/likely/unlikely



A



B

4 Look again at Photo A. In your notebook, rewrite the statements to make them more speculative using language from the SPEAKING FOCUS.

- 1 It's a very busy skiing resort.
- 2 Lots of people go here to ski in winter.
- 3 The air is very polluted at the weekend because of all the cars.
- 4 Some people prefer cross-country skiing because it is much quieter without the ski lifts.

5 Look at Photo B in Exercise 1 and write five speculative sentences in your notebook.

6 SPEAKING Look at photos C and D and follow the instructions in pairs.

Task 1

Student A: Describe photo C.

Student B: Answer the questions below.

- 1 Why do you think the person in the picture has chosen this kind of work?
- 2 Do you think your future job will have some impact on the environment? Why?/Why not?
- 3 Tell me about a time when you or your friends did something to help the environment.

Task 2

Student B: Describe photo D.

Student A: Answer the questions below.

- 1 Why do you think the person in the picture has chosen this kind of holiday?
- 2 How important for you is spending time in nature? Why?
- 3 Tell me about the most exciting outdoor activity in which you or your friends have recently taken part.



C



D