

# Places and things

## 4.1 Underground towns

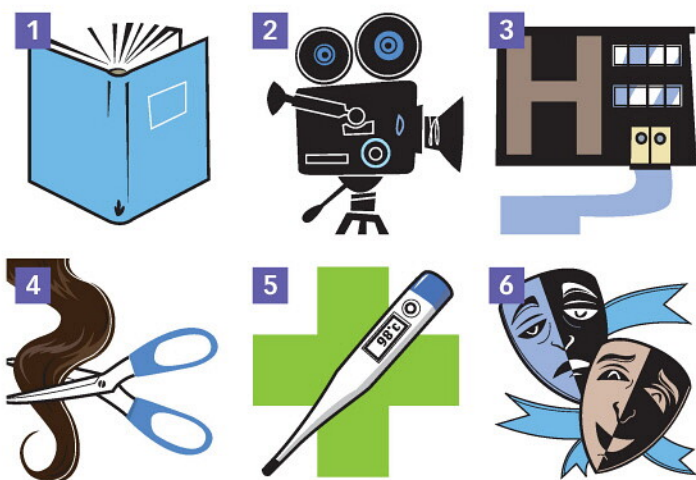
GOALS ■ Talk about places in towns and cities ■ Use *There is/There are*

### Vocabulary & Reading places in a town

- Work with a partner. Look at the title of the article and the photos from a place called Coober Pedy. Do you think the sentences are true (T) or false (F)?
  - This place is in the USA.
  - People work underground.
  - People live in normal houses.
  - It's a popular place for tourists to visit.
- Read the article about Coober Pedy. Check your answers to exercise 1.
- Work with a partner. Where can you do 1-7 in Coober Pedy? Use the words in **bold** from the article. You can use each word more than once.
 

1 eat <i>restaurants</i>	5 go in your free time
2 buy things	6 find information about the town
3 stay	7 travel to/from
4 visit	
- 4a Work with a partner. Match the words in the box to illustrations 1-6.

chemist cinema hairdresser's hospital  
library theatre



- b Work with a partner. What other places in a town do you know?

## COOBER PEDY THE UNDERGROUND TOWN



a room in a house in Coober Pedy



opal earrings

Coober Pedy is a very small town in Australia. It's very hot and it hardly ever rains. **There's** no water and **there aren't** many trees, but near Coober Pedy, **there are** opals under the ground – lots of them! Coober Pedy is the opal capital of the world.

A lot of the people in Coober Pedy work in the opal mines\*. The mines are underground and the houses are underground too because it's cool down there. The houses are very comfortable but they don't have windows or gardens. **There are** underground **shops** and **restaurants**, and **there's** also an underground **swimming pool**. A lot of tourists come to Coober Pedy to visit the underground buildings – some of these buildings are more than 100 years old. **There are** four or five **hotels** and **there's** also a **campsite** where visitors can stay. **There's** a **museum** about the history of the town and a big **tourist information centre**. The **roads** to Coober Pedy are good and **there's** an **airport**, but **there isn't** a **railway station**.

- **mines** very big holes in the ground where people work to get things like coal, gold or diamonds



**PRONUNCIATION** word stress

- 5a Work with a partner. Say the words aloud and circle the stressed syllable.

airport campsite chemist hairdresser's hospital  
 hotel library museum railway station restaurant  
 swimming pool theatre

- b 4.1 ))) Listen, check and repeat.

- 6a Choose three places you think are *very* important in a town, three places you think are *quite* important, and three places you think are *not* important.

- b Work with a partner. Compare your choices and give reasons.

A *Theatres aren't important for me because I never go there.*

B *Really? For me, they're very important because I love seeing plays.*

**Listening & Grammar** *there is/there are*

- 7 4.2 ))) Amir and Farah Badawi from Malaysia are in a hotel in Coober Pedy. Listen to their conversation with the receptionist. Tick (✓) the places they talk about.

- |           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| 1 shop    | 5 tourist information centre |
| 2 museum  | 6 theatre                    |
| 3 cinema  | 7 restaurant                 |
| 4 chemist | 8 swimming pool              |

- 8a Work with a partner. Complete parts of the conversation in exercise 7 with the words in the box.

there is are isn't aren't

- 1 A \_\_\_\_\_ a swimming pool?  
 B No, I'm sorry, \_\_\_\_\_. It doesn't rain a lot here, so \_\_\_\_\_ many swimming pools.
- 2 A \_\_\_\_\_ any museums near the centre?  
 B Yes, \_\_\_\_\_. There's the opal mine museum.
- 3 A \_\_\_\_\_ a theatre in Coober Pedy?  
 B No, \_\_\_\_\_ any theatres here.

- b 4.3 ))) Listen and check your answers.

- c Work with a partner. Take turns to practise the parts of the conversation.

- 9 Read examples 1–6 and match them to the correct form in the Grammar focus box.

- There aren't any theatres here.
- There isn't a swimming pool at the hotel.
- There are some nice restaurants in the town centre.
- And is there a cinema near the hotel?
- Are there any underground buildings we can visit?
- There's an opal museum near the centre.

**GRAMMAR FOCUS** *there is/there are*

(+) *There's* + *a/an* + singular noun ( 6 )

*There are* + *some* + plural noun (     )

(-) *There isn't* + *a/an* + singular noun (     )

*There aren't* + *any* + plural noun (     )

(?) *Is there* + *a/an* + singular noun? (     )

*Are there* + *any* + plural noun? (     )

→ **Grammar Reference** page 142

- 10 Complete the text about another underground town, RÉSO, with the correct forms of *there is/are*. Use the symbols (+/-/?) to help you.

The underground city of RÉSO is in Montreal in Canada.  
 1 *There are* (+) 30 kilometres of tunnels. 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (+) also forty cinemas and 1,700 shops. 3 \_\_\_\_\_ (-)  
 an underground campsite like in Coober Pedy, but  
 4 \_\_\_\_\_ (+) lots of hotels and 200 restaurants if  
 you want to eat out. 5 \_\_\_\_\_ (-) any schools but  
 6 \_\_\_\_\_ (+) some universities. 7 \_\_\_\_\_ (?)  
 an airport in RÉSO? No, 8 \_\_\_\_\_ (-), but  
 9 \_\_\_\_\_ (+) seven underground stations, two train  
 stations and a bus station. Don't worry if you get lost –  
 10 \_\_\_\_\_ (+) always someone to help you because  
 about half a million people use the city every day.



- 11 **TASK** Work with a partner. Take turns to ask and answer questions about Bruges in Belgium or Krakow in Poland. Student A, turn to page 127. Student B, turn to page 132.