

4

Space

4.1 Living on water

GOALS ■ Talk about living on water ■ Talk about predictions and decisions



Vocabulary & Speaking living on water

- 1 Work with a partner. Look at the photos and use the words in the box to describe them.

at sea beach canal coast ferry float inland island lake mainland ocean reeds sand waves

- 2a Read the article from a business magazine and look at the photos. What does the article say about each of them? Discuss your answers with a partner.
- b How many of the words in exercise 1 can you find in the text? Underline them.
- 3 Work with a partner or in small groups and discuss the questions.
- 1 What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of living on water?
 - 2 Do you agree that large numbers of people will start living on water, rather than on land? Why/Why not?
 - 3 Would you like to live on water? Why/Why not?

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Living on water

As cities become bigger, those who can't move inland are starting to consider moving out, onto the sea itself. There are already cultures where a life on water is nothing new. Islands made from reeds float in the middle of Peru's Lake Titicaca, home to an ancient community. Venice is made up of 118 islands; and the Thai capital, Bangkok, with its canals, is famous for its floating markets. Fishermen live at sea for long periods, but could large numbers of people really move onto the water?

Koen Olthuis, the Dutch founder of *Waterstudio.nl* and a floating architecture expert, thinks so. His company is involved in a project in the Maldives, a group of islands just 1.5 metres above sea level. By 2100, their beautiful beaches and white sand could be completely underwater. However, before the architects can solve this problem, some cash has to

Grammar & Speaking *will/be going to* for predictions and decisions

- 4a** Work with a partner. Complete the sentences with the correct form of *will/be going to* to make predictions.
- The rise in sea levels _____ cause huge problems.
 - Look at those black clouds. It _____ rain.
- b** Complete the sentences with the correct form of *will/be going to* for decisions.
- You look a bit confused. Don't worry, I _____ help you.
 - Tony _____ go to California next spring.
- c** Check your answers with a partner.
- d** Read the Grammar focus box and choose the correct options to complete the rules.

GRAMMAR FOCUS

will/be going to for predictions and decisions

Predictions

- When we want to talk about what we **believe or think about the future**, we use ¹ *will / be going to*.
- When there is some **evidence in the present** to support the prediction, or an action is starting or clearly on the way, we use ² *will / be going to*.

Decisions

- When we make a **decision at the moment of speaking**, we use ³ *will / be going to*.
- When we have **already made a decision**, we use ⁴ *will / be going to*.

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To do this, Waterstudio will create a luxury floating development (with a conference centre, golf course and 185-villa resort), and use the money from this to develop artificial islands to provide houses for the Maldives' poorer citizens.

As well as building on the water, architects are now starting to think about building *under* the water. AT Design have produced plans for a 10 km² floating city off the coast of Hong Kong, with islands above the water connected by underwater tunnels and walkways. If and when it is completed, the city will have gardens, a huge entertainment arena for sports matches and concerts and even its own farms, making it self-sufficient. People will be able to travel back and forth from the mainland by ferry, and the designers predict that it will be a huge tourist attraction.

So, it seems that a life at sea will have a lot to offer!

- 5a** Complete the blog entry about a trip to Peru using *will* or *be going to* and the verbs in brackets.

Travel Blog

Destinations Themes Shop Bookings Insurance

So, yesterday we took the train from La Paz, Bolivia, into Peru, stopping at Puno, and today we ¹ _____ (visit) the floating islands on Lake Titicaca. I can't wait. Ever since I first heard about these islands in a geography class many years ago, I've wanted to see them. Actually, I don't really enjoy boat trips, but I'm sure the water on the lake ² _____ (be) quite calm, as it's a clear sunny day. It's quite cold, though, so I ³ _____ (take) an extra sweater to keep warm.

I'm really interested in finding out more about how people live there. I believe we ⁴ _____ (be able to) ask them questions through a guide. I'd love to know what people eat – a lot of fish, I suppose! I'd also like to know what they think the future holds for them and their families. Do they think their children ⁵ _____ (stay) on the islands? What effect ⁶ _____ technology _____ (have) on their lives? I know they already have solar power and even black and white TVs.

Just thought! It would be great to have some photos for the blog, so I ⁷ _____ (take) my camera, too. Just hope I don't drop it in the water ...



- b** Compare your answers with a partner and give reasons for your choices.
- c** 4.1))) Listen and check your answers.
- 6** **TASK** Work with a partner. Look at the interview questions. Imagine you are someone who lives in one of the four places pictured in exercise 1, and write a conversation, answering the questions (don't mention the name of the place).
- What is the best thing about living here?
 - Are there any disadvantages?
 - Tell me about a typical day. What are you going to do today, for example?
 - Do you think you'll ever move away? Why/Why not?
 - What do you think life will be like here in fifty years?
- 7** Read your conversation to another pair. Can they guess where the person being interviewed lives?