

This is a sample task called **Scan Reading**, one of the three tasks of the Reading test.

You can find all individual tasks of the four tests (**Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking**) with additional exam tips in your Training Programme in MyEuroexam. You can get more exam practice with another complete exam in the Tests and Tasks section.

Scan Reading - 15 minutes

You will read four texts about European cities.

- Read the texts and decide if the information is in text A, B, C or D.
- Place a in the appropriate box on your Answer Sheet.

Information to Find

This city...

Example: has places where it is easy to find somewhere quiet.

The correct answer is C.

- 7** is best seen on foot.
- 8** is not very welcoming of its visitors.
- 9** has an efficient transport system.
- 10** still uses its historical buildings.
- 11** has expensive taxis.
- 12** has fantastic nightlife.
- 13** has excellent gifts for sale.

Film A: London

London is easy for tourists; it is used to them and happily receives millions each year. Also much of what is interesting in London is very central and compact. Move away from the centre though and it is much more difficult to find your way around once the Tower, Palace and River are left behind. The history of London is still alive and is reflected in its architecture. The palaces and The Tower, Westminster and so many of its monuments are still used for their original purposes and are not museum pieces but living history.

There are, of course, some not so good tourist things- expensive cafes and souvenirs but, like many cities, it is a lively and thriving working environment. The bustle of the city is easy to escape though in the many parks and squares which are great places to unwind in and plan the next activity.



Film B: Venice

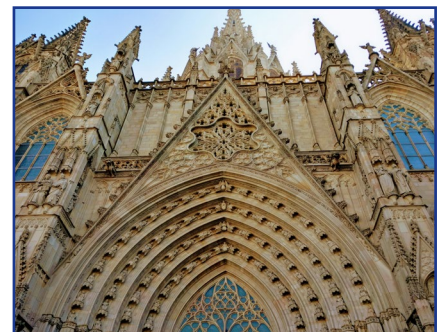
Venice makes you relax. You really can't rush as there is no traffic. You can get a watertaxi which will speed you to your destination but you will need plenty of money, and why rush around so beautiful a place? Most people use the 'vaporettos', or water buses, which go along at a steady pace, or you simply walk. Just wandering around is the best way to see Venice, there are the usual galleries and exhibitions to visit but it is outside on the streets which offers the best experience. Walking allows you to see the fascinating areas of Venice the handbooks rarely mention. You can stroll around its narrow streets in a day, and once away from the mass of tourists it is easy to imagine the past and realise how little the city has changed over the centuries.



Film C: Barcelona

Barcelona is a busy commercial centre and the city reflects this. Getting around is easy and cheap on the Metro and buses, which carry the city's workforce. The banks and offices of the city centre create a sense of industry and hard work, which the locals are proud of. By contrast a few minutes walk will take you to the beach from where the energy and noise of the city seem far away. Do go to the beaches but don't miss the wonderful art galleries and fabulous architecture. In the evenings the music starts and from early evening to the early morning the opportunities for enjoyment are fantastic.

There is an incredible range of musical styles on offer. Discos and clubs often don't open until midnight or later so take the opportunity to enjoy the local scene.



Film D: Paris

Some cities seem inviting for tourists. Paris though seems to accept, but not embrace, its guests. Perhaps that's what makes it special; it's not putting on a show: what you see is the authentic Paris and you can take it or leave it. As a visitor you always feel you are in a busy working city not a theme park. It is a big city and these riches are spread throughout its many different quarters. One unexpectedly good thing is the shops and markets which sell so many interesting and unusual things, definitely the best souvenirs around and far superior to the usual tacky presents to be found.

There are a lot of tourist traps though: the river trips, the crowded parks, Montmartre with its street artists and dull, expensive cafes that Parisians wisely avoid.

