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Suksan Suppasetsee

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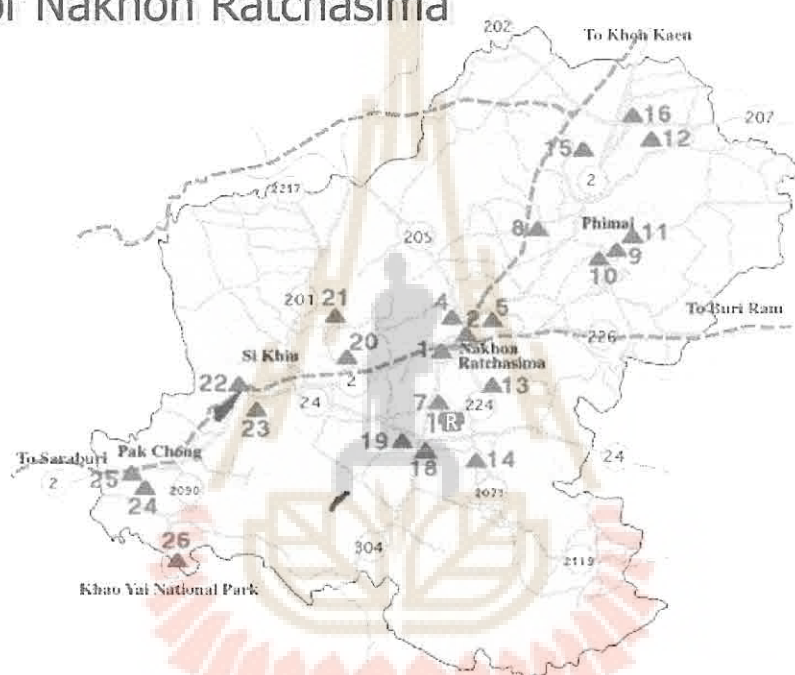
English for Tourist Guides

GETTING TO KNOW KORAT

Discussion

Look at the map of Nakhon Ratchasima or Korat and discuss the following questions.

Map of Nakhon Ratchasima



Attractions on this map:

- 1) From Saraburi Province follow highway No.2 to Lam Takhong Dam.
- 2) After Lam Takhong Dam go straight to Nakhon Ratchasima or Korat Province.
- 3) Korat city to Phimai District is about 60 kms. Visit: Phimai Historical Park, Phimai National Museum, and Sai Ngam.
- 4) On the way back it is recommended to visit Ban Prasat Archaeological Site.

Questions

1. Where is Nakhon Ratchasima located?
2. What is another name of Nakhon Ratchasima?

3. How large is it?
4. Is it far from Bangkok? Do you think how far it is?
5. What do you think about its geography and the weather?
6. How can we go to Nakhon Ratchasima?
7. Can you think of tourist attractions in Nakhon Ratchasima?

Reading

Read the following passage and complete the missing information in the given chart.

"TOWN OF BRAVE WOMAN, FINE SILK, KORAT NOODLE, STONE RUINS AND DANKWIEN POTTERY"

Nakhon Ratchasima province or Korat is the gateway to the Northeastern part of Thailand. It is 259 kilometres from Bangkok. It is the second largest province in term of population, and the largest in the area. The population is approximately 2.5 million and has an area of around 20,494 square kilometres.

It is famous for Phimai ancient Khmer style sanctuary, Thao Suranaree Monument, Silk weaving village at Pak Thong Chai District, Pottery / Sand stone carving/sculpture at Ban Dan Kwain, Chok Chai District, and the first national park, Khao Yai National Park at Pak Chong District.

It also has beautiful nature, with many forests, mountains, waterfalls, and reservoirs. Furthermore, it is well known for a variety of quality handicrafts that visitors can choose from, particularly the popular clay pottery products of Dan Kwian.

Korat used to be the site of several ancient prehistoric communities that continued to grow when the Dvaravati culture came in and later when the Khmer culture replaced it. An important prehistoric site is Ban Prasat. Traces of Dvaravati and Khmer cultures are scattered throughout the province, particularly at Amphoe Sung Noen and Amphoe Phimai. Nakhon Ratchasima has been a key city since ancient times as an administration centre. It was responsible for many northeastern cities in the past. Even now, its status has remained unchanged in that it is the Northeast's main transportation hub and economic centre.

The Korat city is now being expanded with many new divided highways, flyovers, industries, and commercial buildings. The famous Suranaree University of technology has a very large campus, and also offers up to doctoral degrees of studies.

Boundary**North borders:** Chaiyaphum and Khon Kaen**South borders:** Nakhon Nayok and Prachin Buri**East borders:** Buri Ram**West borders:** Chaiyaphum and Saraburi**How to get there**

1) **By Car.** The shortest route is to take Highway No.1 (Phahon-Yothin) from Bangkok city to Saraburi and turn right along Highway No.2 (Mittraphap Highway) till Nakhon Ratchasima, a total distance of 259 kms (161 miles).

2) **By Bus.** Take the air or non air-conditioned bus from Moh Chit bus terminal. Non air-condition buses leave every 15 minutes, for information call 272-5254, 272-5228. Air-conditioned buses leave every 20 minutes, call 272-5253, 272-5299.

3) **By Railway.** Trains leave Bangkok Railway Station (Hua Lamphong) many times daily. For further information call (02) 223-7010, or (02) 223-7020.

4) **By Air.** Nakhon Ratchasima has new airport a bit far from the city.

Nakhon Ratchsima's features	Answer
1. Location 2. Distance from Bangkok 3. Bordering 4. Administrations 5. Transportation 6. Season 7. Climate	

8. Land's feature	
9. People	
10. Tourist Attractions	

AT THE TRAVEL AGENCY IN KORAT

Conversation in context (1)

Bruce and Amy are the tourists from London. They want to go sightseeing in Korat. They are at a travel agency near their hotel.

- Clerk : Good morning, madam. May I help you?
 Amy : Good morning. We'd like to have a guided tour in Korat. Do you have a list of such tours?
 Clerk : Yes, certainly. We have a tour by coach.
 Amy : Do you have a tour by train?
 Clerk : No, we don't.
 Amy : How long does it take to go by coach?
 Clerk : It takes about 8 hours.
 Amy : Where will you take us?
 Clerk : The trip will be sightseeing to Thao Suranaree Monument, Wat Phra Narai Maharat and Maha Viravong National Museum.
 Amy : All right then. How much does it cost?
 Clerk : One thousand and two hundred bath each, including lunch, snacks and soft drinks.
 Bruce : It's cheaper than we did in Bangkok.
 Amy : What time does the tour begin?
 Clerk : A coach will pick you up in front of the hotel at 9 a.m.
 Amy : What time will we come back to the hotel?
 Clerk : About 4 p.m. please write your name here.
 Bruce : I haven't got a pen. Do you mind if I use your pen?
 Clerk : Of course not. Here you are.
 Bruce : Thank you. Here's the money. Two thousand and four hundred bath for both of us.
 Clerk : Thank you, sir. Here your tickets. I hope you enjoy the trip. Goodbye.
 Bruce : Thank you. Goodbye.

Exercise

Decide if these sentences are true (t) or false (f).

- _____ 1. There is a tour by coach only.
 _____ 2. The tour takes about ten hours.
 _____ 3. The tour costs one hundred and two thousand bath for two persons.
 _____ 4. The tour begins at 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 _____ 5. The tourist will be picked up in front of the travel agency at 9 a.m.
 _____ 6. The tourists have to pay for meals by themselves.

Way of saying it

Asking for permission

<i>Person A</i>	<i>Person B</i>	
Asking for permission	Giving permission	Refusing permission
Do you mind if I use your pen?	Of course not. Here's the pen. Not at all. Go ahead.	I'm sorry, but I'm using it now.
Will you let me use your camera?	Certainly you can.	No, I'm afraid you can't. It's not allowed.
May I turn on the television?	Of course you can, but not too loud.	I'd rather you didn't.
I was wondering if I could drive here?	Go ahead.	I'm afraid it won't be possible for you to ...
Can I go out, mom?	No problem.	Of course not. It's time to go to bed.
Would it be possible for me to read this book?	All right. OK.	Certainly not. It's too late.

Speaking

Role play

Person A

You are a tourist in Korat. You'd like to phone your mother in London. You ask permission from the clerk at a travel agency.

Person B

You are a clerk at the travel agency. You do not allow the tourist to use the telephone. Try to give him or her a reason why you refuse him/her.

After you finish, switch the roles and repeat the role play.

A COACH TOUR OF THE KORAT CITY

Conversation in context (2)

A guide is welcoming a group of tourists before they start a coach tour of the Korat City.

Guide : Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. On behalf of Sabaidee Tours, I'd like to welcome you on board the coach trip to the Korat city. First of all, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Somsak Rakdee. I'm a student from Suranaree University of Technology. I volunteer to work here and I'm your guide for today. In a few minutes we'll leave the hotel for the tour. Let me take this opportunity to tell you briefly about the itinerary. It will take us about half an hour to get to the Korat city from the hotel. When we arrive at the Korat city we'll start with the tour of Thao Suranaree Monument, which will take about an hour. Thao Suranaree Monument or Khun Ying Mo is situated in front of the old gate of "Pratu Chumpon" on the west side of the city. This monument was erected in 1934 to commemorate the heroic deed of Khun Ying Mo, wife of the Deputy Governor of Korat during the reign of King Rama III, who managed to save the city from the invasion of the Laotian army led by Prince Anuwong of Vientiane. Every year from March 23 to April 3, there is a celebration to honour this statue, which draws thousands of people from town and neighbouring provinces. After that we'll visit Wat Phra Narai Maharat on Prachak Road and we will spend about

one hour there. It houses an image of Narayana (Hindu God) made of sandstone. This statue is considered the major sacred object of the city. The City Pillar is also enshrined in this temple. After Wat Phra Narai Maharat I'm going to take you to a Thai restaurant for lunch. After lunch we'll visit Maha Viravong National Museum opposite the city hall, exhibits various art objects and artifacts donated to Somdet Maha Viravong such as sandstone Buddha images of Khmer and Ayutthaya periods, bronze Buddha images, different sized ceramics and wood carvings from ancient monasteries. It opens everyday except Mondays and Tuesdays from 9.00-16.00. After that you'll have the afternoon free. Do you have any questions?

Tourist 1 : Are you going to take us back to the hotel after tour?

Guide : Yes, of course.

Tourist 2 : How long are we going to visit Maha Viravong National Museum?

Guide : About an hour and a half.

Tourist 1 : What are we going to see there?

Guide : You'll see art objects exhibition there.

Ways of saying it

1. Greeting, welcoming and introducing yourself

Good morning ,ladies and gentlemen.

Good afternoon

On behalf of	Sabaidee Tours,	I'd like to
welcome you	Golden Orchid Holidays,	It gives me great pleasure to
	aboard our coach tour of the Korat city.	
	on board our bus tour of the Korat city.	

First of all,	let me introduce myself.	My name is.....,
	allow me to introduce myself.	
	I'd like to introduce myself.	

and I	'm going to be	your guide	for	today.
	'll be			the next few days.
				the whole week.

2. Talking about future plan

On the way,	you	Will	see.....
	we	'll	visit.....
		're going to	stop at.....



3. Talking about sequences of activities

First,

Then,

Next,

After that,

Later,

Finally,

Speaking

You are a guide for a three-day Amazing Korat tour. Follow the instructions to help you give the whole welcome speech and talk through the itinerary. After that answer the tourists' questions.

A Touch of Korat **Package (3 days/ 2 nights)**

Day 1 :	Bangkok - Khao Yai National Park » Depart Bangkok in the morning, drive some 200 km to Khao Yai National Park, visit waterfalls. explore wild with a soft trekking by walking through dense forest, seeing various kind of plants, trees, shrubs and flowers such as wild orchids. » Overnight stay at hotel near the park.
Day 2 :	Khao Yai National Park - Phimai » Depart to Phimai a Khmer ruin and Sai Ngarm (beautiful Banyan tree). » Continue to Ban Dankwien the well known village for its famous of pottery and earthenware in various designs and style, before proceed to Korat » Overnight in Korat.
Day 3 :	Korat - Bangkok » Tour to city's highlights of Korat, include the heroine monument of Tao Suranaree who, in 1826 rallied town's peoples to repel invaders from Lao. » After tour return to Bangkok for another tour or departure to airport.

1. Greet the tourists.
2. Introduce yourself.
3. Say you are going to tell everyone the itinerary for the next 3 days.
4. Talk through Day 1, Day 2 and Day 3.
First..... Then..... After that.....
5. Ask if there are any questions.
6. Some tourists ask questions.
7. Answer their questions.
8. Tell the tourists to enjoy themselves.

Grammar Point**WILL VS BE GOING TO**

<p>(a) According to the weather forecast, it will rain tomorrow. (b) According to the weather forecast, it is going to rain tomorrow.</p> <p>(c) Be careful, you'll get sunburned. (d) Be careful, you're going to get sunburned.</p>	<p>'will' or 'be going to' is used to express a PREDICTION. When the speaker is making a prediction, either will or be going to is possible. (a) and (b) have the same meaning. (c) and (d) have the same meaning.</p>
<p>(e) A: Why did you stop? B: I'm going to show you Thao Suranaree Monument.</p> <p>(f) I heard that walking up Doi Sutep was tiring, so I'm going to take the tram.</p>	<p>Only 'be going to' is used to express a PRIOR PLAN. In (e): Speaker B has made a prior plan. She planned to show 'A' Thao Suranaree Monument, so she stopped in order to show her Thao Suranaree Monument . In (f) The speaker already knew that walking up was tiring. He made the decision in the past and he intends to act on this decision in the future.</p>
<p>(g) A: I left my passport in the hotel room. B: I'll phone the hotel to keep it for you. Don't worry.</p> <p>(h) A: I'm thirsty. B: I'll get you something to drink.</p>	<p>Only 'will' is used to express WILLINGNESS. In (g) Speaker B is not making a prediction. He has made no prior plan to phone the hotel. Instead, he is volunteering to phone the hotel and uses 'will' to show his willingness. In (h) Speaker B is volunteering to get Speaker A a drink.</p>

Exercise

Use be going to if you think the speaker is expressing a prior plan. Use will if you think there is no future plan.

1. Today we (visit) _____ Phimai Historical Park, where you (see) _____ the ruins of the old palace temple.
2. A: Tell me what you (do) _____ tonight.
 B: I (write) _____ some postcards and letters.
3. A: Have you got a city map?
 B: Yes, of course. I (get) _____ one for you.



4. A: Isn't it hot and stuffy in here?
B: Yes, I think so. I (turn on) _____ the air-conditioner.
5. A: Could you put your seat upright. We (land) _____ soon.
B: Oh, I'm sorry.
6. A: This ring is too expensive. I think.
B: I (show) _____ you a cheaper one.
7. A: What would you like for your main course?
B: What have you got?
A: We have fish, chicken and beef.
B: I (have) _____ fish, please.
8. A: Why did you buy a phone card?
B: I (make) _____ a long distance call to London.

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN KORAT

Discussion

Look at the given picture below and discuss the following questions.



The Monument of Thao Suranaree

All areas of the world have their military heroes, and Korat is no exception. Except that Korat's hero was a woman called Khunying Mo who was wife of the assistant governor.

During the reign of King Rama III Khunying Mo led the villagers in a battle against Chao Anuwong from Vientiane who was apparently on his way to attack Bangkok. Khunying Mo's generalship led the villagers to victory.



Now Khunying Mo is referred to as Thao Suranaree and a monument to her stands at Chumphon Gate, the main gate to the old city. Every year from March 23 to April 3, there is a celebration to honour this statue which draws thousands of people from town and neighbouring provinces.

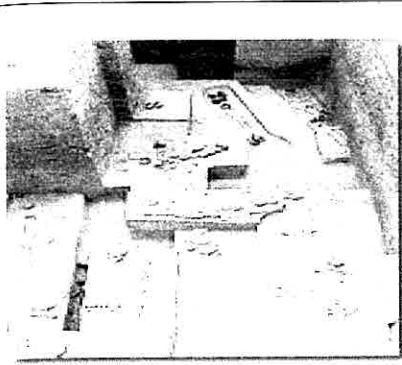
Answer the following questions.

1. Where is the Monoment of Thao Suranaree located?
2. Who was Khunying Mo?
3. Why was Khunying My the heroine of Korat?
4. When is a cerebration to honour the Monoment of Thao Suranaree?

Matching

Read the descriptions of other places in Nakhon Ratchasima and match with the given pictures by writing the correct letter in each box.

Picture	Description
 <p data-bbox="469 1059 593 1093">Picture A</p>	<p data-bbox="810 779 1331 1039">Wat Phra Narai Maharat on Prachak Road houses an image of Narayana (Hindu God) made of sandstone. This statue is considered the major sacred object of the city. The City Pillar is also enshrined in this temple. <input data-bbox="932 1014 979 1059" type="checkbox"/></p>
 <p data-bbox="469 1527 593 1561">Picture B</p>	<p data-bbox="810 1167 1331 1570">Maha Viravong National Museum is opposite the city hall, exhibits various art objects and artifacts donated to Somdet Maha Viravong such as sandstone Buddha images of Khmer and Ayutthaya periods, bronze Buddha images, different sized ceramics and wood carvings from ancient monasteries. Open everyday except Mondays and Tuesdays from 9.00-16.00 hrs. <input data-bbox="1043 1527 1114 1572" type="checkbox"/></p>



Picture C

Wat Sala Loi is located on the bank of Lam Takhong River, about 400 meters off the Northeast of the town. The main chapel, which received many awards from various architectural associations as a modern leading design of religious monument, is constructed in the shape of a Chinese Junk.



Picture D

Lam Takhong Dam lies 62 kilometres before reaching the town on Highway No.2. The construction had started in 1964 and finished 4 years later. The lake-like reservoir can contain up to 300 million cu.m. of water and irrigates 238,000 rais of paddy field.



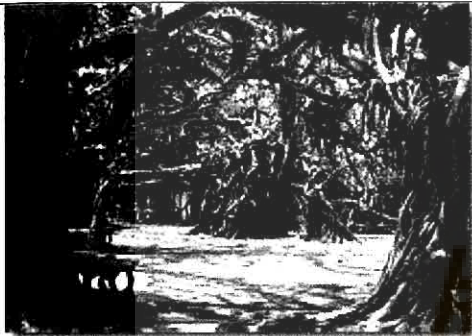
Picture E

Khao Yai National Park is at km.165.5 on Highway No. 2. covers an area of 2,168 sq.km. in four provinces: Nakhon Ratchasima, Nakhon Nayok, Sara Buri and Prachin Buri. The Park comprises various mountains, two important rivers of Lom Takhong and Nayok, with many species of fauna and flora and over 20 waterfalls. Accommodations near the national park are available.



Picture F

Wat Khao Chan Ngam is 58 kilometers from Khorat on Highway No. 2 and 3 kilometers on a side road after turning left at Km 198. The monastery is famous for the pre-historic colour paintings on a huge rock depicting human and animal figures in various movements. It can be dated to about 3000 years ago.



Picture G

Phra Non Sema is located 4 kilometers from Amphoe Sung Noen, is a Reclining Buddha image made of red sand stone which is the most ancient and largest in Thailand. The image is assumed to be built since 1200 B.E. There are various evidences of archaeology found within the area such as bronze Buddha images, Buddha terracotta printing images, glass beads and inscribing stone.



Picture H

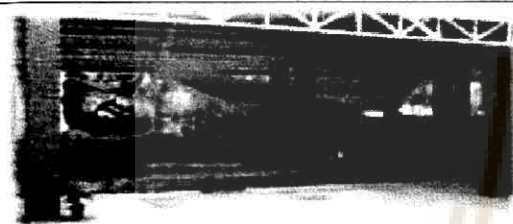
Ban Prasat Archaeological Site is 42 kilometers away from Nakhon Ratchasima along the Nakhon Ratchasima-Khon Kaen route. Skeletons, ornaments, and artifacts and potteries were discovered here. It is presumed that this area has continuously been inhabited during the past 3,000 years up to present.





Picture I

Prasat Hin Phimai is the largest sandstone sanctuary in Thailand almost situated in the center of Phimai Ancient city which carries a rectangular shape of 665 meters wide and 1,030 meters long. The Sanctuary has been magnificently restored and renovated ruins and has been preserved as a National Historical Park.



Picture J

Sai Ngam or "Beautiful Banyan Tree" is two kilometers from Phimai. It is a recreation place which provides more than 15,000 square feet of shady area. Food stands for snacks and drink are also available.



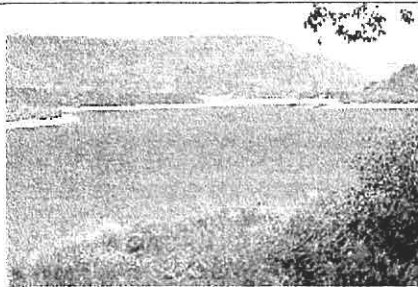
Picture K

Dan Kwian is situated on Highway No. 24, about 14 kilometers from the city of Nakhon Ratchasima is a village noted for the unique pottery widely used for interior and outdoor decoration. The clay at Dan Kwian has a specially marvelous quality of tough, ductile texture and the color of rust which are beyond comparison and the quantity is fantastic. Such clay cannot be found anywhere else but Dan Kwian and when added with proper heating process and attractive design, the earthenwares are irresistible.



Picture L

Nakhon Ratchasima Zoo is about 13 kilometers from town along the Korat - Pak Thong Chai route, covers a vast stretch of land comprising a reservoir and habitation areas for animals amidst the surrounding nearest to their natural environment.



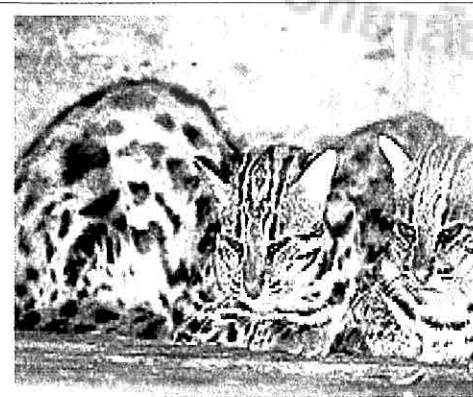
Picture M

Pak Thong Chai District itself is also noted for its finest silk. The town is situated about 32 kilometers from Nakhon Ratchasima along Highway No. 304



Picture N

Lam Phra Phloeng Dam is situated in Amphoe Pak Thong Chai on a side road some 28 kilometers from the main highway. From the Dam, boats can also be hired to go another 23 kilometers up the reservoir to Namtok Pak Thong Chai (waterfall) or Namtok Khlong Ki. Here is another spot for retreat and relaxation.



Prasat Hin Phanom Wan is located 20 kilometers from town. It can be reached by following Nakhon Ratchasima-Khon Kaen Highway; then turning right at kilometer 14-15 and traveling on for 5 kilometers. This religious place was constructed in the 12th century. Its Khmer style resembles Prasat Hin Phimai but its size is smaller. Its main stupa facing the east was built of sandstone and connected the Mandapa by a square

Picture O	path of 25.5 meter length and 10.20 meter width. The Prasat is surrounded by laterite wall and has Gopuras (entrances) from four directions. Outside the walls, there are a lot of ponds.
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VISITING THE PHIMAI ANCIENT CITY

Conversation in context (3)

At the Phimai Ancient city the guide tells the group of tourists about the information on its geography and related history.

- Guide : We've arrived in the Phimai Ancient city. The first stop we'll make is the Phimai sanctuary or Prasat Hin Phimai.
- Tourist : Can you tell us briefly about it so that we'll have some understanding of what we're going to see?
- Guide : Certainly. The ancient city of Phimai was rectangular in shape and measured 565 x 1,030 metres. It is surrounded by a moat on all sides. The religious sanctuary is situated in the center of a modern community. It is the largest sandstone sanctuary in Thailand.
- Tourist : I have never seen a sandstone sanctuary this large before. When was it built?
- Guide : The present structures and buildings were constructed during the 11th - 12th centuries A.D. Some structures were added during the 13th century A.D. When we pass through the entrance on the right there is a big map of Phimai city and the sanctuary, and the building where visitors can get information, books, postcards, and souvenirs.
- Tourist : What is the Phimai sanctuary surrounded by?
- Guide : It is surrounded by a double wall, the outermost being called "Kamphaeng Kaew", and the inner wall called "Rabieng Khot". A rectangular building, known as "Phlab Phla" (robing pavillion) lies beyond the outer wall. To the front is a "naga"

(mythical snake) platform where the journey into the sacred sanctuary commences.

- Tourist : What is a naga famous for?
- Guide : According to ancient beliefs, the naga platform links the human to the heavenly realm. Crossing the naga platform there are four arched gateways known as "gopuras" set in the centre of each of the four boundary walls which lead into the heavenly realm where the celestial beings reside. The boundary wall and the gallery are linked by a 1-metre high raised passage way. The inner courtyard, which is the most important part of the sanctuary, houses three towers. The main tower, which is made of white sandstone, was constructed in the 11th - 12th centuries A.D. It faces the south, unlike other Khmer structures which generally face the east. It is understood that it faces south as it is in the direction of Angkor in Kampuchea. The other two towers are additional structures built in the 13th century A.D. The tower to the left of the principal tower is known as Prang Bhramathat.
- Tourist : This tower must be very durable. What is it made of?
- Guide : It's made of laterite.
- Tourist : What's laterite?
- Guide : It's reddish soil of tropical regions. Because of the high iron oxide content, laterite has a red colour. And this tower was constructed during the reign of King Jayavaraman VII.
- Tourist : What is kept inside this tower?
- Guide : Inside is a large sculpture of King Jayavarman VII in the seating posture. The tower to the right is made of red sandstone, and is connected by a path to another building known as Ho Bhram or Brahman shrine.
- Tourist : Has the Phimai sanctuary remained in good condition?
- Guide : Oh, no. The Phimai sanctuary has survived to the present, but the elements and time have left their mark, causing deterioration. Major restorations were carried out between 1964 – 1969 as a joint project between the Department of

Fine Arts and the Government of France. Restorations of all structures in the sanctuary continued and the Phimai Historic Park was officially opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn on April 12, 1979.

- Tourist : I see. This historic place really has an interesting history.
- Guide : Please feel free to take photographs. When you are ready, we will go to Phimai National Museum.

Conversation in context (4)

After visiting the Phimai sanctuary the guide takes the tourist to Phimai National Museum.

- Guide : Phimai National Museum was established in 1964 as an open air museum. Most of the artifacts on exhibit come from the excavation and restoration of archaeological sites in the lower part of the northeastern Thailand including Nakhon Ratchasima, Chaiyaphum, Buriram, Surin and Si Sa Ket. In 1989, the Department of Fine Arts upgraded the Phimai National Museum to meet accepted standards of a national museum and work was completed in 1993. Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn officially opened the Phimai National Museum on the 9th August 1993.
- Tourist : What can we see at museum?
- Guide : You can see the exhibition which is divided into three parts:
- Part 1 : Second Floor Exhibition. This exhibition shows the development of communities in the lower part of northeast Thailand from prehistoric to recent periods.
- Part 2 : Ground Floor Exhibition. This exhibition shows the archaeology and history of Phimai town. It includes the town environment, the construction of Prasat Phimai during the 11th to 13th centuries, and evidence of the flourishing religion, culture and economy of that time.
- Part 3 : Outdoor Exhibition. This displays sandstone objects used in the construction of Khmer temples such as Prasat Phimai. These includes lintels, door columns, motifs, lotus bud-shapes crowns (the apex of the tower) and miniature

towers.

Tourist : I'd like to take a stroll around the museum and explore it by myself.

Please feel free to do so and get back to the bus in about an hour.

Conversation in context (5)

The last stop at Sai Ngam

Guide : The last stop we are going to make is Sai Ngam. Let's get off the bus and follow me.

Tourist : What does "Sai Ngam" mean?

Guide : Sai Ngam means "Beautiful Banyan Tree".

Tourist : I see. Is it far from Korat city?

Guide : Sai Ngam is located at Phimai district, about 59 kms from Nakhon Ratchasima city, and about 1.5 kms from Phimai Historical Park. This is another well-known sight-seeing spot. The road to Sai Ngam passes through Phimai Irrigation Dam which was constructed across the Moon River, and Sai Ngam is located on the bank of this river.

Tourist : How big is this area?

Guide : At Sai Ngam, the banyan trees cover an area of about 15,000 square feet and more than 350 years old. There are many banyan trees with branches and leaves twisted and are naturally woven as a big shed.

Tourist : What activities can we do in this area?

Guide : Inside the area people can walk and sit down to relax. A lot of tourists come during the weekend and there are food vendors, selling local foods and drinks. Also, there are many small shops selling souvenirs.

Tourist : Shall we go inside and have a look?

Guide : Yes, let's.

Exercise

Rearrange the pictures into the correct order according to the places that the guide takes the group of tourists to.

The first place to go is
Picture _____.

Picture A



The second place to go is
Picture _____.

Picture B



And the last place to go is
Picture _____.

Picture C



HANDICRAFTS IN KORAT (DAN KWIAN)

Conversation in context (6)

After several days of sightseeing in Korat the tourist would like to do some shopping.

Tourist : What kind of handicrafts is Korat famous for?

Guide : There are lots of things for you to choose from. Korat is famous for its pottery, sand stone carving, sculpture, Thai silk, bamboo goods, bronze figures and so much more.

Tourist : I would like to buy something for home decoration. I like to

decorate my home in an oriental style.

- Guide : Then you may like to see some products of ceramics such as ashtrays, wind bells and paperweights. Those items are very popular among visitors for their unique look.
- Tourist : Where's the best place to buy them for?
- Guide : The best place is Dan Kwian village, which is famous for beautiful ceramic. "Dan Kwian" in Thai, literally means "the bypass area of bull-carts". The locals say that a group of Mon-tribe people having traveled Eastwards in their carts Cambodia-Thai border about 250 years ago, and they arrived in the area of Dan Kwian. At the entrance of this area, the bull-carts and potteries [big one] are displayed. Dan Kwian ceramic is favoured by modern people, especially the people from Bangkok who like to decorate their houses themselves in their own style. Dan Kwian is located on Choke Chai district, only 15 km from Downtown Korat. There are so many shops on both side of the road selling big and small various ceramics with reasonable price. There are also some other goods shops that sell key ring, necklace, bracelet, animal ornament etc
- Tourist : Let's visit Dan Kwain this morning, shall we?
- Guide : Yes, let's.

Exercise

Answer the questions in complete written sentences.

1. Why does the guide suggest that the tourist should see some products of ceramics?
2. What is Dan Kwian famous for?
3. Where can tourists buy something for home decoration in Korat?
4. What does "Dan Kwain" literally mean in Thai?
5. Where is Dan Kwain located?
6. Is the price of ceramic products at Dan Kwian reasonable?

Ways of saying it

1.

Tourist :	What's	Korat	famous	for?
		Chiang Mai	best known	
		Pattaya		
		this area		

this shop

Guide : Korat is famous for its pottery.
 Chiang Mai best known scenery.
 Pattaya beaches.
 this area handicrafts.
 this shop hand-woven silk.
 jewelry.

2.

Guide : What would you like to do this morning?
 do are plan going this afternoon?
 are going today?

Tourist : I would like to do some shopping.
 plan to go shopping.
 am going to buy something for my friends.
 want to look around the city.

Guide : Then you may like to visit the Night Bazaar.
 want to go to the Mall.

3.

Tourist : What's the best place to buy beautiful ceramic ?
 Thai silk

Guide : The best place to visit is Dan Kwian.
 to try Pak Thongchai.
 places are shops at Night Bazaar.

4.

Tourist : What kind of handicrafts is Korat famous for?
 best known

Guide : Korat is famous for its pottery, sand
 best known stone carving,
 well known sculpture, Thai silk,
 bamboo goods,
 bronze figures and
 so much more.

5.

Tourist : Let's visit Dan Kwian , shall we?
 go shopping

Guide : Yes, let's.



TALKING ABOUT SOME OTHER HANDICRAFTS IN KORAT (PAK THONGCHAI)

Conversation in context (7)

The tourist wants to find out about some other handicrafts available in Korat.

- Tourist : Silk is another popular thing to buy in Thailand. It has bright colours that come in various shades. Where does Thai silk come from?
- Guide : Thai silk comes from the northern provinces, such as Chiang Mai, Lamphun and Lampang. A lot of silk also comes from the Northeast, such as Kon Kaen, Udon Thani, Surin and Korat.
- Tourist : A friend of mine is a collector of silk. Can I buy some Thai silk in Korat?
- Guide : Yes, of course. Pak Thongchai is well known for its very fine silk. It's about 31 km from Korat city along highway No.304. There are more than 70 silk factories in Pak Tongchai area, which can export the large amount of silk of the country.
- Tourist : Is Thai silk of the same quality as Chinese and Japanese silk?
- Guide : I'm afraid not. Our silk comes from a wild moth that is not the same as the Japanese or Chinese moths. Therefore Thai silk is not as fine and thin as the Japanese or the Chinese silks. And also owing to our humidity, Thai silk is rough and lumpy. Of course this makes Thai silk unique.
- Tourist : Is silk weaving done by hand?
- Guide : That's right. Thai silk is hand-woven all over Thailand. In other words, it is home-made fabric. All shops in this center is direct sales shop by factory. You can see all process to make a silk, from spinning to waving.
- Tourist : Is all Thai silk of the same thickness?
- Guide : Oh, no. The thinnest or the light weight silk, has one thread and the thickest has six threads. And of course, the thickest, or the heavy-weight silk, is the most expensive. There are also the extra-heavy rope qualities, which are used for upholstery.
- Tourist : Which kind would you recommend for an evening dress?
- Guide : I would suggest the silk with two threads, or the light weight silk.
- Tourist : About how much silk does it take to make a dress for an average-sized woman?
- Guide : I think three meters should be enough.
- Tourist : Are there other silk products apart from the silk sold in lengths?
- Guide : Yes, of course. You can buy ready-made silk garments such as dresses, or shirts. We also have Thai silk ties, silk placemats

and napkin sets, silk coin purses, silk key-ring holders and many other things. You can buy the reasonable price silks in any shops in this center. Certainly, if you buy much, they give you a discount.

Exercise

Say whether the following statements are true or false.

- _____ 1. Thai silk, Chinese silk and Japanese silk are of the same quality.
- _____ 2. Japanese and Chinese silk are finer than Thai silk.
- _____ 3. Thai silk is produced only in the northern provinces of Thailand.
- _____ 4. The thicker the silk is, the more expensive it is.
- _____ 5. The light weight silk is not suitable for upholstery.

Way of saying it

Some characteristics of silk

Guide: Thai silk is rough and lumpy, while Chinese silk is thin and uneven and but Japanese is knobby fine.

Tourist: Where does Thai silk come from?
Where is Thai silk produced?

Guide: Thai silk comes from the northern provinces.
is produced in northeastern southern

We have Thai silk in plain colours.
I'd like with some designs on it.
patterns on it.

I'd like floral patterns.
We have flower designs.
There are animal
striped
checked

Talking about silk weight

Tourist: Which kind type would you recommend a dress ?
for a shirt
is suitable for draperies
upholstery

Guide: Light weight silks.
 Medium qualities.
 Heavy
 Extra-heavy

Reading and Vocabulary

Read the following texts and fill in the gaps with words from the list.

Text 1

local style surprised prices stock along famous

A few miles south of Korat is the "land of ceramics" at Dan Kwian. The village has become 1_____, at least in Thailand, for its pots made of fired clay from the banks of a nearby river. The grandiose name actually describes a market of many small shops lining either side of a wide spot in the road. There are similar markets 2_____ many roads in Thailand, where ever there is a 3_____ specialty. In most cases, although there are usually at least a dozen or so shops to chose from it doesn't really matter which one you shop in because they all have more or less the same 4_____.

Tourist will be pleasantly 5_____ at Dan Kwian to find that the shops have a wide variety of styles on offer. This is especially the case if you explore the shops around the parking area behind the salls on the west side of the road. Each shop has their own 6_____ on display, so you can really explore each of them to find what suits your fancy. The 7_____ are downright shocking. The smallest vase, approximately ten inches high, is just around \$1.50 while the largest is less than \$7.00. This is a fraction of what you will pay in a Bangkok tourist shop, if you can find this kind of thing at all.



Text 2

colors rhythmic quality insects bachelor
cultivation finished harvested

The women of northeast Thailand have spun and woven their own silk and cotton for centuries. Indeed, recent archeological discoveries, particularly at Ban Chiang in the northeast, have shown that Thais knew the techniques of silk _1_____ from their earliest origins when they migrated southward from China some three thousand years ago. Today, as in earlier times, women and girls in the northeast use their free time after the rice has been _2_____, to weave cloth for household use or for presenting to monks at Buddhist temple ceremonies. And over the centuries these hardworking women have also learned how to make the best possible use of the local natural products, to create vivid _3_____ for dyeing their homegrown cotton and home-produced silk yarns and fabrics. The designs, too, are based on patterns found in nature — elephants, watermelons, scorpions, birds flowers, snakes and _4_____.

The provinces of Korat, Chaiyaphum and Surin are among those famous for the high _5_____ and beautiful design of their silk. In Surin Province, for instance, every village has at least one loom, and in some villages every family has one. In these villages the air resounds with the loud, _6_____ thump-thump of the wooden battens beating the cross-threads or weft to make the _7_____ cloth firm and even. The tinkle of little bells attached to moving parts of the loom may also be heard — a relic of earlier days when the bells were probably a way of signal-ling to the _8_____ men folk that a modest, hard-working, diligent girl was at work in the house, who would make someone a good wife.