

Develop your reading

► **Goal:** understand social media posts

► **Focus:** guessing new words



- 1 Look at the photo and answer the questions. Where is the person? Why do you think they like this place?
- 2 Work in pairs. Read the first three social media posts. Which one describes the place in the photo?

¹@Mel

I'm lucky, I have the sea on my doorstep. In the evenings, I walk five minutes and I arrive at the beach. I go there and watch the sunset. Other people go there to look at the sunset, too. We all enjoy the beautiful red and orange sky above the water. I love it! What place do you love? #thelacellove

²@Sam

My husband and I stay in a cottage every winter. It's in a pretty village in the countryside and it's very quiet there. The cottage is tiny. It's only got one very small bedroom, but it's old and beautiful. Every evening, we sit in front of an open fire and read books. We leave our phones and other technology at home. It's wonderful. #thelacellove

³@Lou

My job is stressful and I have a lot of things to think about. It's tough for me to relax in the evenings so I go to the gym. I love it there. I quickly relax and stop thinking about work. I go home and sleep well. #thelacellove

⁴@Carl

#thelacellove is a big tree in a park. I go there in my lunch hour at work. I have a picnic under the tree – two or three different types of food, nothing special. I read my messages and listen to the birds. It's lovely, except when it rains!

⁵@Andy

There's a fantastic café called Molly's. I go there every Saturday at 11 a.m. and have brunch. The people there are friendly and the brunch is great. I sit at a table in the window and people watch. It's fun! #thelacellove

- 3 a Read the Focus box. Use the questions and answers in the box to guess the meaning of *sunset* in the first post.

Guessing new words

If you see a word you don't understand, you can try to guess the meaning. Ask these questions to help you:

- What kind of word is it, e.g. a noun, a verb, an adjective?
For example, *sunset* is a noun. It comes after *the*.
- Are there any more examples of the word?
Underline them.
For example, *watch the sunset* / *look at the sunset*
- Look at the word. Do you understand any part of it?
Is it like an English word you know or a word in your language?
For example, you probably know the word *sun* in *sunset*.
- Look at the words around the word. Can they help you understand the meaning?
For example, *in the evenings* / *enjoy the beautiful red and orange sky*

- b Underline the word *cottage* in post 2 and the word *tough* in post 3. Answer each question in the Focus box about each word.

- c Answer the questions. Use your answers in Exercise 3b to help you.

- 1 What does *cottage* mean?

- a a country home
- b a kind of room in a house

- 2 What does *tough* mean?

- a easy
- b difficult

- 4 Read posts 1–3 again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Mel's home is near the beach.
- 2 Mel watches the sunset alone.
- 3 Sam's cottage is small.
- 4 Sam spends time using a computer at the cottage.
- 5 Lou has an easy job.

- 5 a Read posts 4–5. Write a list of words you don't know. For each word, answer the questions in the Focus box.

- b Guess the meaning of the words in Exercise 5a. Then, check your ideas in a dictionary.

- 6 Use your understanding of the vocabulary in posts 4–5 to answer the questions.

- 1 What kind of lunch does Carl have?
- 2 When does Carl not like going to the tree?
- 3 Why does Andy like Molly's café?
- 4 What does Andy do at the café when he's eating?

- 7 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 What's your favourite place to be?
- 2 Why is it special?