

5a From reality to fantasy

Reading

1 Work in pairs. The photo was taken in Dubai. Discuss the questions.

- 1 Where was it taken from?
- 2 What can you see below?
- 3 What do you know about Dubai? For example, where it is, its famous landmarks, who goes there?

2 Read the article and answer the questions.

- 1 What was Dubai like 50 years ago and how has it changed?
- 2 According to the author, what are the attractions for visitors and residents?
- 3 What do other countries feel about this change?

3 Would you like to visit Dubai? Why? / Why not?

FROM REALITY TO FANTASY

There once was a sheikh with big dreams. His land was a sleepy village occupied by pearl divers, fishermen and traders who docked their boats along a small creek through the town. It was here that Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed al Maktoum imagined creating a gateway to the world. It was a dream he could not afford to realise. So in 1959 he asked a neighbour to lend him many millions of dollars. He made the creek wider, built roads, schools and homes. With his young son, Mohammed, by his side, he walked along the empty waterfront and painted his dream with words. And some years later, it was as he had said. He built it, and they came. Then it was his son's turn to carry on developing his father's vision. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum

transformed Dubai into an air-conditioned fantasy world of 1.5 million people. No project seemed to be too ambitious for him. He built the world's tallest high-rise building, the 828 metre Burj Khalifa, the world's biggest shopping mall and the world's largest motorway intersection. He helped Little Dubai become the shopping capital of the Middle East. In the last five years, it has attracted more tourists than India. Its most famous landmark, the Palm Jumeirah, an artificial island built in the shape of a palm tree, provides holiday villas for the rich and famous.

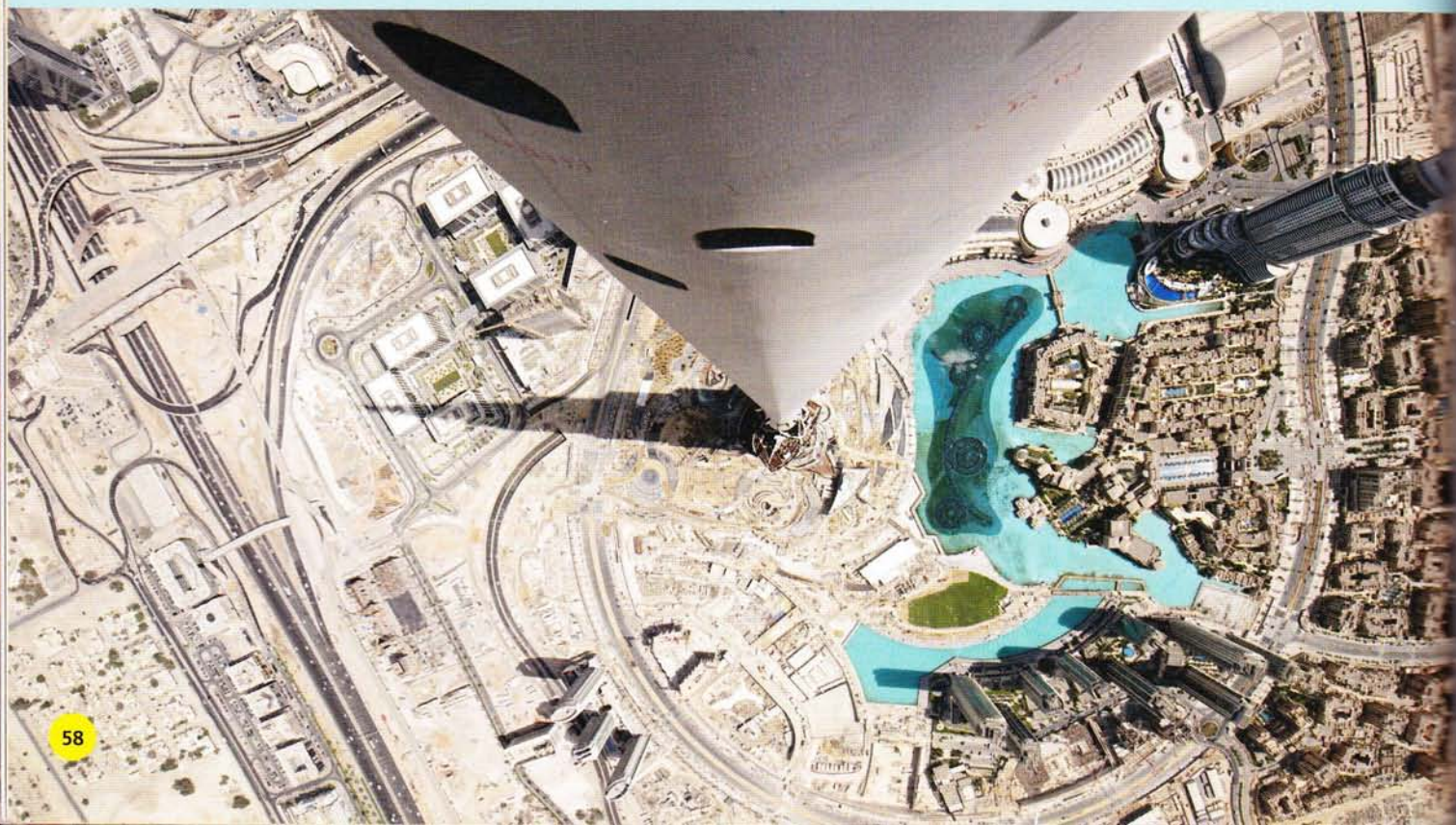
But the financial crisis in 2008 made people think again and Dubai failed to sell many of its new luxury apartments. Up to then property in Dubai had been increasing in value and it had been easy to get people to invest. These days, investors risk losing money.

The rest of the world looks on with a mixture of wonder and suspicion. Is this a capitalist model that people want to copy or do they feel that Dubai has decided to abandon its true heritage and become instead the Las Vegas of the Middle East?

creek (n) /kri:k/ a small stream that flows into a river (often they dry up in summer)

dock (v) /dɒk/ to 'park' a boat in a harbour or at a sea port

pearl (n) /pɜ:l/ a round white jewel found in the sea (in oyster shells)



Grammar verb + infinitive or -ing

4 Complete the sentences from the article.

- 1 Sheikh Rashid imagined _____ a gateway to the world.
- 2 It was a dream Sheikh Rashid could not afford _____.
- 3 In 1959 he asked _____ him some money.
- 4 He helped _____ the shopping capital of the world.

5 Read the article again quickly and find:

- 1 two more verbs followed by the *-ing* form
- 2 four more verbs followed by *to* + infinitive
- 3 one more verb followed by somebody + *to* + infinitive
- 4 one more verb followed by the infinitive without *to*

▶ VERB + INFINITIVE	VERB + -ING
Verb + to + infinitive <i>He couldn't afford to build a new harbour.</i>	Verb + -ing <i>He imagined building an amazing city.</i>
Verb + someone + to + infinitive <i>He asked a friend to lend him some money.</i>	
Verb + someone + infinitive <i>He helped Dubai become a great city.</i>	
For further information and practice, see page 90.	

6 Look at the grammar box. Then put the verbs in the right form.

- 1 The population of Dubai grew from half a million in 1990 to 1.5 million in 2008 and has kept on _____ (grow) to this day.
- 2 Sheikh al Maktoum decided _____ (make) Dubai the region's most important financial centre.
- 3 Attracting foreign banks and companies involved _____ (reduce) taxes for companies and individuals.
- 4 The expansion of the airport allowed _____ (Dubai / become) the fourth busiest international airport in the world.
- 5 If you enjoy _____ (shop), Dubai has over 70 shopping malls to choose from.
- 6 By planting 10,000 trees each year for the past four years, the city planners have managed _____ (create) many green spaces.
- 7 The banking crisis made _____ (construction / slow) down.
- 8 But it seems that Dubai can't help _____ (build) more property and tourist attractions.

Listening and vocabulary

7 Work in pairs. Make urban features by combining words in A and B.

A green high-rise leisure luxury
motorway pedestrianised shopping
waterfront

B apartment building centre
development intersection mall spaces
zone

8 1.32 Listen to someone describing a redevelopment that took place in their own city in the 1960s. Answer the questions.

- 1 What was redeveloped and why?
- 2 Was it successful?

9 1.32 Work in pairs. Complete the sentences with the missing verbs. Then listen again and check your answers.

- 1 In the 1960s the local authority decided to _____ the area as a shopping district.
- 2 This involved _____ all the houses and making way for huge car parks.
- 3 Even the residents seemed to accept that the area had to be _____.
- 4 If you proposed _____ houses into shops on such a big scale today, I don't think you would be allowed to do it.
- 5 The result was that they _____ the character of the city centre.
- 6 Now 50 years later the local authority wants to _____ it into a mixed area again.

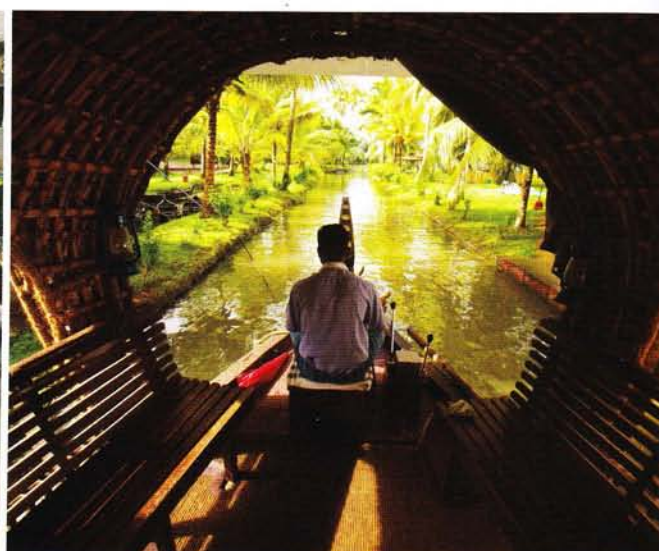
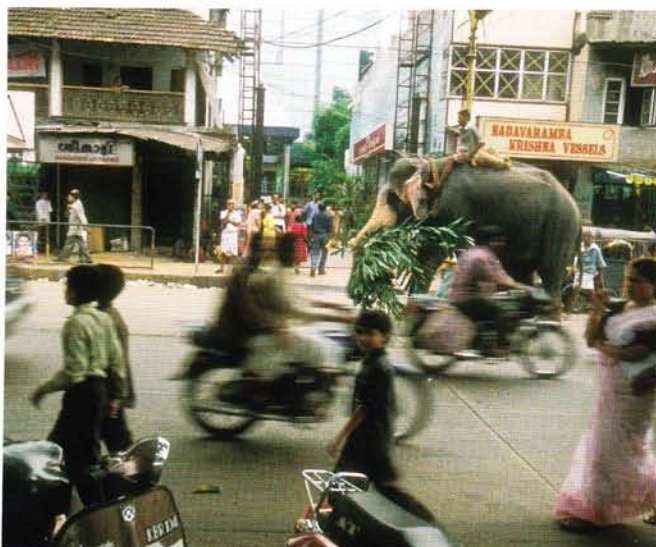
10 Replace the underlined words in the questions (1–6) with words from Exercise 9 that mean the same thing.

- 1 Have any old factories been turned into flats or houses?
- 2 Is there an area of the town that has been changed completely in your lifetime?
- 3 Is there an area of the town that has been damaged by new development?
- 4 Do you have a transport system that needs to be brought up to date?
- 5 What buildings were you sorry to see knocked down?
- 6 Is there a run-down area of the city that you would like to see rebuilt? How?

Speaking

11 Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions in Exercise 10 for your own town or city centre.

5b The Kerala model



Listening

- 1 Look at the two photos taken in the Indian state of Kerala. Which of these adjectives could you use to describe each place shown?

exotic fertile gorgeous hectic
prosperous remarkable tranquil

- 2 **1.33** Listen to an interview with a journalist who has recently been in Kerala. What is surprising about the level of social development in Kerala?

- 3 **1.33** Listen again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- The journalist went to Kerala to write an article.
- The state of Kerala has a lot of people in a small area.
- One of the signs of Kerala's social development is people's high level of education.
- Women have a superior social position to men.
- People in Trivandrum are too busy to be involved in politics.
- One of the secrets of Kerala's success is the open-minded attitude of its people.

- 4 Convert these definitions to adjectives. Check your answers in the audioscript on page 97.

Having ...

- a good rate of literacy = literate
- a good standard of living = _____
- a good education = _____
- good health = _____
- a high level of culture = _____
- strong interest in politics = _____
- tolerance of differences = _____

WORDBUILDING adverb + adjective

Adverbs and adjectives can be combined to describe people and things.

politically engaged, highly cultured

For further information and practice, see Workbook page 139.

- 5 Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- What do you think is the main reason for Kerala's success as a society?
- Could this kind of society work anywhere?

6 Pronunciation: rhyming words

- a **1.34** Work in pairs. Words that rhyme end with the same sound. Match the words from the listening (1–9) with the word that rhymes (a–i). Listen and check. Then practise saying them.

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1 state | a faced |
| 2 poor | b plane |
| 3 low | c opt |
| 4 head | d though |
| 5 course | e weight |
| 6 main | f force |
| 7 stopped | g fun |
| 8 none | h law |
| 9 waste | i said |

- b Look at these words. Can you think of a word that rhymes with each but has a different spelling?

break foot height signed walk word

Grammar: verbs with -ing and to + infinitive

7 Match each verb in bold to the correct meaning (a or b).

- 1 Have you **tried visiting** India?
- 2 I'm **trying to show** how remarkable Kerala is.
 - a attempting something
 - b experimenting with something
- 3 I was intending to **go on to tour** other parts.
- 4 The students **went on protesting** for four days.
 - a continuing an action
 - b a change of situation
- 5 It was **meant to be** a holiday.
- 6 Usually that would **mean** people **having** a fairly poor quality of life.
 - a describing intentions
 - b describing what is involved
- 7 I don't **regret changing** my plans.
- 8 No land is wasted, which I **regret to say** is not always the case in some developing countries.
 - a apologising for what you are about to say
 - b saying you are sorry about a past event
- 9 I **remember going** there in the 1990s.
- 10 Please **remember to send** me a copy.
 - a describing memories
 - b talking about things that need to be done
- 11 We **stopped to visit** an Indian journalist I know.
- 12 Keralites never **stop debating**.
 - a ending something
 - b the reason for stopping

► VERBS WITH -ING AND TO + INFINITIVE

Verbs with two meanings

remember, go on, stop, mean, try, regret + -ing and to + infinitive

Verbs with no change in meaning

prefer, continue, hate, like, love, start + -ing and to + infinitive

For further information and practice, see page 91.

8 Look at the grammar box. Then choose the correct form in these other sentences.

- 1 No one knows how long Kerala will be able to go on *to maintain / maintaining* this model society.
- 2 This is the journalist's impression of Kerala. You would have to try *to live / living* there yourself to see if it was the reality.
- 3 I regret *to tell / telling* you that getting there by plane is quite expensive.
- 4 If you stopped *to see / seeing* some other places in India on the way, it would make it more worthwhile.
- 5 But that would also mean *to plan / planning* your trip more carefully.
- 6 The other man remembers *to visit / visiting* beautiful beaches and lagoons.

9 Complete this interview with a sociologist about the Kerala model of society. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Interview

WHAT INTERESTED YOU IN KERALA IN THE FIRST PLACE?

Well, I remember ¹ _____ (read) an interesting article about it about fifteen years ago and I meant ² _____ (visit) and see for myself, but I only managed to do that last year.

AND WHAT DID YOU FIND? WAS IT THE PERFECT MODEL THAT MANY PEOPLE HAVE SAID IT IS?

I think what they have achieved is amazing. The government implemented a number of measures to try ³ _____ (improve) people's quality of life and on the whole these have succeeded.

FOR EXAMPLE?

The most important is land reforms. In the 1960s they stopped ⁴ _____ (allow) landlords to charge rent to tenant farmers. This meant ⁵ _____ (give) the land back to the people, mostly peasants, who worked on it.

SO POOR PEOPLE BENEFITTED?

Certainly. At the same time, the government also started ⁶ _____ (invest) heavily in the education systems, so poor people not only became better off, they also became better educated.

AND WHAT ARE THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF ALL THIS? THERE MUST BE SOME.

No system is perfect, I regret ⁷ _____ (say). The problem in Kerala is that the economy is still largely based on agriculture. And someone who leaves school with a good education probably doesn't want to go on ⁸ _____ (work) in the fields. So even though they prefer ⁹ _____ (live) in Kerala, they often move to another more industrially developed state in India or even abroad to get a decent job.

Speaking

- 10 Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions on page 81 to find out how happy your society is. Then compare your answer with another pair. Were people's answers very different? If so, why?