

This is the story of Santiago, an Andalusian boy who dreams of travelling the world in search of a treasure as extravagant as any ever found. From his home in Spain he journeys to the exotic markets of Tangiers and then into the Egyptian desert, where a fateful encounter with the alchemist awaits him.



*The Alchemist* is a transforming novel about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts and following our dreams.

Paulo Coelho was born in Brazil and has become one of the most widely-read authors in the world today. His best-loved book, *The Alchemist*, has been translated into 42 languages. Paulo Coelho is a storyteller with the power to inspire nations and to change people's lives.

### 3. Discuss with a partner.

1. Do you like travelling? Have you seen a lot of different places?
2. Have you been to Spain? Would you like to go? Why?
3. What is your purpose in life?
4. Do you think it is more important to make your dream come true than to have food, drink and shelter?
5. Would you like to read *The Alchemist*? Why (not)?

## LESSON 9. Guiding a tour

**Communicative area:** talking about the aspect of a tour guide job

### 1. Read the jokes about tour guides. Do they have anything in common?

A bus of tourists arrives at Runnymede. They gather around the guide who says, "This is the spot where the barons forced King John to sign the Magna Carta."

A fellow at the front of the crowd asks, "When did that happen?"

“1215,” answers the guide.

The man looks at his watch and says, “Damn! Just missed it by half an hour!”

\* \* \*

A tourist was being led through the swamps of Florida. “Is it true,” he asked, “that an alligator won’t attack you if you carry a flashlight?”



“That depends,” replied the guide, “on how fast you carry the flashlight.”

\* \* \*

A tour guide is leading a group through a museum in London.

“This mummy here is over 5,000 years old,” the guide told the group. “It’s possible that Moses saw it.”

A tourist raises her hand and asks, “When was Moses ever in London?”

**2. a)**   Listen to the interviews with tour guides. What kind of tours do they offer?

**b)**   Listen again and find the answers to the questions below.

	Hugh	Margot	Luis
1. Where do you work?	...	—	...
2. What does your job involve?	...	...	...
3. What are your job responsibilities?	...	—	...
4. Why did you choose this job?	—	...	...
5. What is the best / the worst part in your job?	...	...	—

**c) Discuss the questions below in small groups.**

1. Have you ever been on a guided tour? Share your experience. 2. Do you think a tour guide is a good job? Why

(not)? 3. What kind of personal qualities and skills does this job require? 4. Can you think of any perks of the job? 5. Would you like to be a tour guide? Why (not)?

**3. a) Imagine your friend was going to visit your town for the first time and asked you to be their tour guide. Plan your tour. Use these ideas to help you get ready.**

1. Think about what places your friend would like to visit.
2. Think of the activities that your friend is doing.
3. Get all the necessary information including opening hours, admissions fees, etc.
4. Find interesting facts, stories or jokes to tell about the places you are going to visit.
5. Plan your itinerary.

**b) Present your tour plans to the class. Vote for the best tour.**



## A QUEST TOUR

**1 Work in pairs or small groups. Create a quest tour for people who visit your town for the first time or for those who have already been there.**

**2 Think of the topic of the quest and whether all the tasks will be connected or not.**

**3 Think about what you would like your tourists to get at the end of the quest. For example, a guide on the town's spookiest places, a map of the best locations to take selfies, a biography of a famous person from your town, etc.**

**4 Prepare photos, videos, riddles and some realia to make your quest tour more entertaining.**

**5 Take your classmates on the tours you have created.**

**To ex. 2a p. 194:** a) yoga tourism; b) voluntourism; c) health tourism; d) film location tracing; e) slum tourism; f) space tourism; g) ecotourism; h) gastronomy tourism; i) jailoo tourism.

**To ex. 3a p. 206:** all of them are true.