

Life on the road *

Nomads

40 minutes

individual work



Introduction

In *Nomads*, you have read about the Binedell family, who have been travelling across Europe in a caravan with their teenage children and two cats. In this web task, you are going to read an article about an American family who have done the same. You are also going to visit the Binedell's own webpage and find out more about homeschooling. Finally, you are going to write about whether this nomadic lifestyle would be something for you.

Exploration

A

Unhappy with the typical suburban lifestyle, the Boyink family packed up their teenagers and hit the road. For the past five years, they've lived together in a campervan, travelling across America. Go to <https://chrisguillebeau.com/on-the-road-with-michael-boyink/> and read the article. Answer the questions in Dutch.

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| 1 | Is het oorspronkelijke plan van de familie Boyink uitgekomen? Leg uit. |
| 2 | Wat hebben ze met hun huis in West-Michigan gedaan? |
| 3 | In hoeveel staten zijn ze al geweest? |
| 4 | Waarom maakt de familie geen reisplan? Noem twee redenen. |
| 5 | Wil de familie altijd blijven reizen? Leg uit. |
| 6 | Wat inspireerde de ouders om te gaan reizen met hun kinderen? |
| 7 | Wat is het grootste verschil tussen het leven met tieners in een huis en het leven in een camper, volgens Michael? |
| 8 | Heeft deze levensstijl zoon Harrison veranderd? Leg uit. |
| 9 | Wat zijn volgens dochter Miranda de voordelen van het reizende leven? |

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| 10 | Hoe ziet 'life in the blender' eruit, volgens Michael? |
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B

Now go to the Binedell's own website:

<https://ourtravellingfamily.com/author/ourtravellingfamily270817/>. Read 'Why we travel' and decide whether the following statements are *true* or *false*. Explain what is wrong with the *false* statements.

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| 1 | The Binedell's story is one of trekking through jungles and summiting volcanoes. |
| 2 | Karen and her husband have been travelling across Europe, while earning a living online from their caravan. |
| 3 | From the beginning, their journey has been difficult but rewarding. |
| 4 | According to Karen, the Binedell children have changed for the better. |
| 5 | You can only have this kind of experience when you have enough money to pay for it. |
| 6 | At the moment, the Binedell family is back in the UK, preparing for a journey to Mount Everest. |

C

The Binedell children explain what homeschooling is really like. Watch this video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9sSBJ-ouIO. Answer the questions by making notes.

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| 1 | What has homeschooling given them the freedom to do? |
| 2 | What has homeschooling given them time to do? |
| 3 | What have they learnt from homeschooling? |
| 4 | What are the benefits of homeschooling according to Karen (the mother)? |

D

The Binedell children are enrolled in an online college called Wolsey Hall Oxford. Go to

<https://wolseyhalloxford.org.uk/> and answer the following questions.

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| 1 | What kind of course levels does Wolsey Hall offer? |
| 2 | What is the difference between IGCSE and GCSE? |
| 3 | What are the requirements for enrolling on an A level distant learning course? |
| 4 | What would it cost to do two full (two years) A level courses? |
| 5 | Could you enrol as a Dutch citizen? |
| 6 | How do you enter for your exam(s) and where can you take the exam(s)? |

Final task

Now consider whether a 'life on the road' would be something for you. What are the advantages of travelling with your family and homeschooling? And what are the downsides? Write 140-160 words to explain whether you would like this (and why), or hate this (and why).