

## Reading 1 — Visiting My Sister

My elder sister, May, studies in Melbourne in Australia. She has been there for two years already, all by herself. I think she must get lonely at times, which is why my mother and I went to visit her last June.

It was winter, and even though it did not snow, it was still very cold. I had to wear two sweaters, a coat and a scarf over my usual clothing. When we landed at the airport, May picked us up and drove us to her apartment. We left our luggage there and took a leisurely drive around the city, going to some of May's favourite places. Melbourne looked very different from what I expected. There were many beautiful old buildings as well as several crazy-looking new ones. We ate at a few restaurants during our time there, and all the food was quite good. However, it was very expensive!

There was a lot of shopping to do in Melbourne. We went to Chadstone, the biggest shopping centre in Australia. We also went to some art galleries, the Royal Botanic Gardens and the Melbourne Aquarium. We woke up early one morning to take a tour down the Great Ocean Road, where we saw the Twelve Apostles and London Bridge. On our last night in Melbourne, we walked along the riverside, where tall pillars blew fire every hour.

The other day, I read somewhere that Melbourne is the second most liveable city in the world. I think that this is true. It is a very interesting and beautiful city, and I will definitely return to visit it one day.