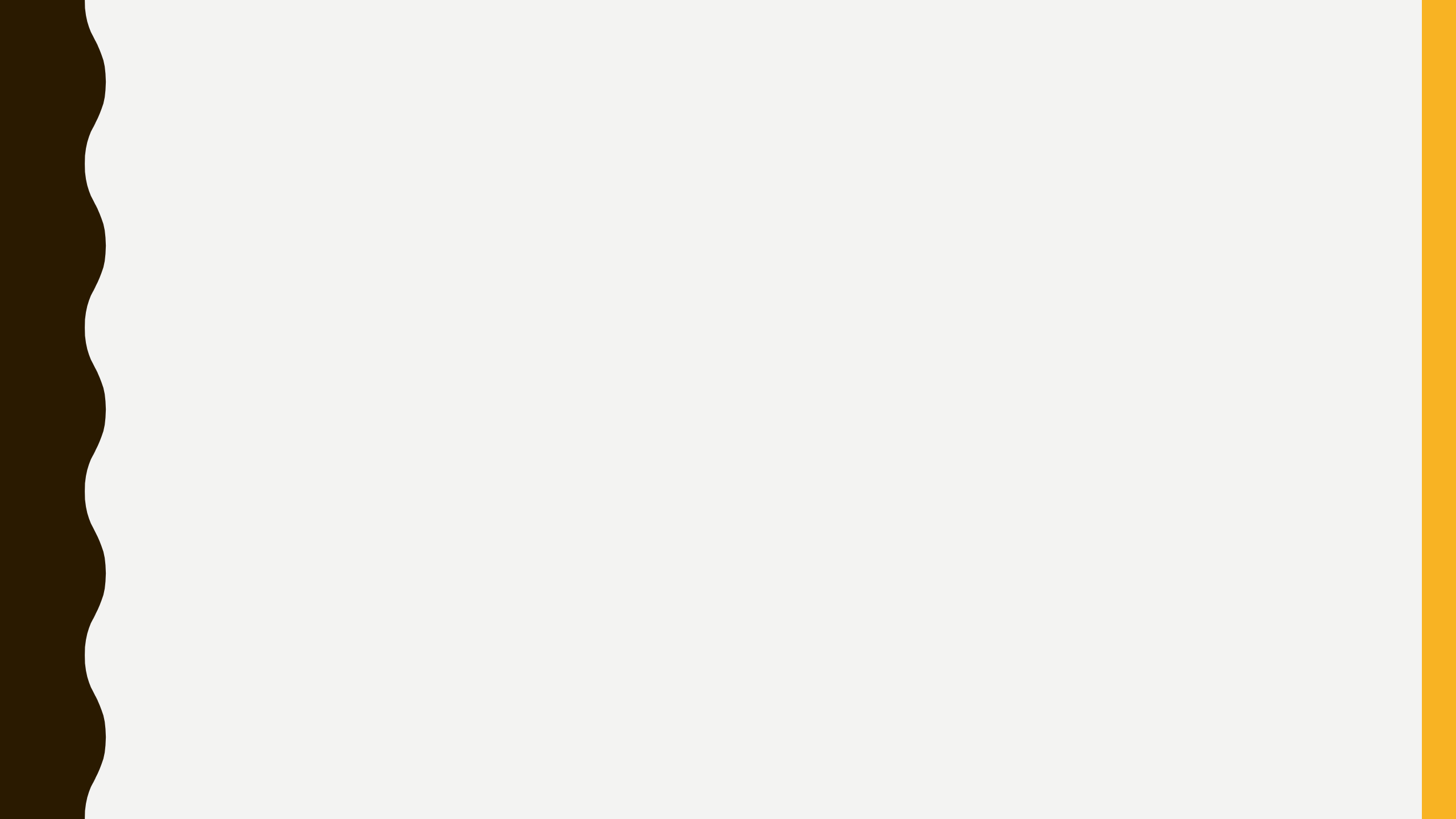


**1º ANO**

**SEMANA 25**



your classmates.

Answers will vary.

2. You are going to read about couch surfing. As you read, decide where the headings listed in the box go in the following excerpt.

- How to be a good couch surfer
- Is couch surfing safe?
- The benefits of couch surfing
- What is couch surfing?



[...]

While the term “couch surfing” loosely refers simply to staying with hosts while you travel, most people associate the concept with couchsurfing.com – a social site to help budget travelers meet hosts in different countries.

Hosts, who are often former travelers or expatriates that want to meet and interact with travelers, sign up on couchsurfing.com to share their homes. You can find free accommodation ranging from simple couches to spare bedrooms and guest cottages. Not only is your place to sleep free, you can befriend a local who knows your new destination well – a huge asset while on the road!

Couch surfing can dramatically lower your expenses when traveling in expensive places such as Hong Kong, South Korea, and Singapore. Hosts are usually interested in learning about your culture, practicing English, or just enjoying your company as a break from their regular routine.

Kong, South Korea, and Singapore. Hosts are usually interested in learning about your culture, practicing English, or just enjoying your company as a break from their regular routine.

Aside from the obvious benefit of finding a free place to stay, couch surfing can enhance your trip far beyond simple accommodation. A good host will show you the sights, offer advice on where to go, and will provide you a deeper insight on a destination beyond what guide books give.

Rather than being a tourist in a horde of other tourists, your local friend will know the insider hotspots and can offer money-saving advice for sights and activities. Friends made through couch surfing are often friends for life.

[...]

Another often-overlooked benefit of couch surfing is the fact that you may have access to a kitchen. Grocery shopping and cooking meals at “home” are cheaper and healthier alternatives to eating out every day as travelers often do.

[...]

While constant bombardment of bad news from the media makes staying with complete strangers seem inherently dangerous, couchsurfing.com's ingenious system makes sure that the bad hosts are weeded out.

First, you can choose what type of host you wish to stay with (e.g., male, female, couple, etc.) and can get a feel for their personalities based on their public profiles. You can see reviews left by other travelers who they have hosted before you, and even contact those travelers to see if they had a good experience and would stay with that particular host again.

Hosts know that acting poorly toward guests will result in negative ratings and reviews, and will eliminate their chances of hosting people in the future. The bottom line is that if couch surfing wasn't safe, it wouldn't be going strong with three million members!

[...]

Although couch surfing is completely free, remember that your hosts do not have to offer up their homes and time – they are doing so to meet people and to form new friendships. Be a good couch surfer by getting to know your host; plan to spend a little time with them rather than just turning up when it is time to sleep.

Consider bringing a small gift or token from your home to give to friendly hosts, and always leave a nice referral for them on couchsurfing.com if your experience was positive.

[...]

RODGERS, Greg. *What is couch surfing?* Available at: <<http://goasia.about.com/od/wheretostay/qt/what-is-couch-surfing.htm>>. Accessed on: 6 June 2015.

3. Read the excerpt again and decide if the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- a) Hosts are often people who have been prohibited from living in their own country. (  )
- b) Some hosts like to practice their English with couch surfers. (  )
- c) The only benefit of couch surfing is finding a place to stay. (  )
- d) There's only one type of host on couchsurfing.com. (  )
- e) The high number of members on couchsurfing.com indicates that couch surfing is safe. (  )
- f) Good couch surfers spend time with their hosts. (  )

4. Check ( ✓ ) the option that best replaces the words and phrases in bold.

- a) "You can find free accommodation **ranging** from simple couches to spare bedrooms and guest cottages."  
( ) varying                      ( ) traveling                      ( ) changing
- b) "Not only is your place to sleep free, you can **befriend** a local who knows your new destination well – a huge **asset** while on the road!"  
( ) become friends with/disadvantage                      ( ) marry/advantage  
( ) become friends with/advantage
- c) "Couch surfing can dramatically **lower** your expenses when traveling in expensive places such as Hong Kong, South Korea, and Singapore."  
( ) increase                      ( ) reduce                      ( ) go down

d) “Aside from the obvious benefit of finding a free place to stay, couch surfing can enhance your trip far beyond simple accommodation.”

extend

better

harm

e) “Rather than being a tourist in a horde of other tourists, your local friend will know the insider hotspots and can offer money-saving advice for sights and activities.”

large group/unpopular places

large group/inexpensive places

large group/popular places

f) “While constant bombardment of bad news from the media makes staying with complete strangers seem inherently dangerous, couchsurfing.com’s ingenious system makes sure that the bad hosts are weeded out.”

punished

warned

removed

g) “First, you can choose what type of host you wish to stay with (e.g., male, female, couple, etc) and can get a feel for their personalities based on their public profiles.”

disguise

develop an understanding of

study

h) “Hosts know that acting poorly toward guests will result in negative ratings and reviews, and will eliminate their chances of hosting people in the future.”

ranking

relationships

gifts

i) “Be a good couch surfer by getting to know your host; plan to spend a little time with them rather than just turning up when it is time to sleep.”

turning up when it is time to sleep.

arriving

calling

speaking

j) "Consider bringing a small gift or token from your home to give to friendly hosts, and always leave a nice referral for them on couchsurfing.com if your experience was positive."

memento

flag

costume

5. Use the words in the box below to complete the following sentences.

turn up	asset	token
get a feel for	ratings	hotspots

a) Please, take this as a \_\_\_\_\_ of my gratitude. Thank you for letting me stay in your house.

b) I have a friend who lives in Seoul. He knows all the \_\_\_\_\_ in town. I'll talk to him.

c) I'm getting married in London in May. I'll invite a bunch of people. I just hope all of them will \_\_\_\_\_.

d) I want to stay at this hotel, but its \_\_\_\_\_ are really low.

e) Speaking English is an \_\_\_\_\_ when traveling around the world.

f) Traveling all over the world is a great way to \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of being tolerant towards different cultures.

6. What do you think about couch surfing? Would you like to be a couch surfer or/and a host? Why? Write down your answer. [Auxilie os alunos a estruturar seus textos. Caso seja possível, corrija utilizando os marking symbols.](#)