

**1. CONTEXT**

Mindmap anything you know about the topic, including vocabulary. Do some research online to help.



# Canada's West Coast

**2. QUESTIONS**

Read the listening questions to check your understanding. Look up any new vocabulary.

**Listening Questions 1**

1. When did Vancouver host the Winter Olympics?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. How far is the Sea to Sky Gondola from Vancouver?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. When is the Sea to Sky Gondola closed?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. How many gondolas are there and how many people do they hold each?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. What are two things visitors can do once at the top of the gondola?  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**3. LISTEN**

Listen and answer the questions using full sentences. Circle the number of times and % you understood.

**Listening Questions 2**

1. Is the city of Squamish north or south of the Sea to Sky Gondola?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. What activities is the city of Squamish known for?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. When did the Sea to Sky Gondola reach the 1 millionth visitor mark?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. What can visitors view in the Squamish area?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. What kind of list did Squamish appear on in 2015?  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Listening 1				
1	2	3	4	5
%	%	%	%	%

Listening 2				
1	2	3	4	5
%	%	%	%	%

**Discussion Questions**

1. What can tourists do in your hometown?
2. What are some of the negative impacts increased tourism can have on a town or area?

#### 4. CHECK ANSWERS

Read through the transcript and underline the answers. Check them against your own answers.

#### 5. CHECK VOCABULARY

Read the transcript and circle any new vocabulary you find. Look them up and add them to your list.

#### 6. READ ALOUD

Read the transcript aloud at least 5 times, focusing on intonation and pronunciation.

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5

#### 7. SHADOWING

Say the transcript aloud at the same time as the audio without reading it. Circle how many times below.

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5

#### TRANSCRIPT 1

In 2010 the city of Vancouver, British Columbia, hosted the Winter Olympic Games. In addition to Vancouver, some events were also held in Whistler, about 120 kilometers north of Vancouver. **Roughly** halfway between Vancouver and Whistler is the Sea to Sky Gondola, a cable car system that takes visitors up a local mountain and which opened in the spring of 2014. The drive from Vancouver takes about an hour and the views of the mountains and water are truly beautiful.

Sea to Sky Gondola's website explains that it takes about ten minutes to get to the top, an **elevation** of nearly 900 meters. The gondola runs all year long and as of 2019, there were 20 gondolas that can carry 8 people at a time.

Once at the top there are a number of things visitors can do, for example, walk out to the viewing platforms, walk over the suspension bridge, or stroll along various trails. While at the top visitors can also have something to eat or drink.

MATCH THE ANTONYMS BY DRAWING LINES BELOW:

Enthusiast	Doubt
Assume	Depression
Roughly	Shabby
Pop into	Stay
Majestic	Pessimist
Elevation	Definitely

#### TRANSCRIPT 2

Roughly 15 minutes further up the road from the Sea to Sky Gondola and on the way to Whistler is the city of Squamish. Squamish has been well-known for some time to outdoor **enthusiasts** for activities such as mountain biking, hiking, and windsurfing. Historically, many tourists either drove through Squamish on their way to Whistler's ski resorts or only stopped for a short time, but a visit to the Sea to Sky Gondola is a reason to also **pop into** the town and have a look around. In 2017 the Sea to Sky Gondola reached the 1,000,000 visitor mark and it's reasonable to **assume** that some of those visitors have likely spent some time and money in Squamish.

One other thing that the Squamish area has been known for for years are the eagles that gather there every year to feed on the salmon returning for the spawning season. Tourists and locals alike can view the **majestic** birds up close.

The city of Squamish made it on the New York Times list of '52 Places to Go in 2015,' and the Sea to Sky Gondola was also mentioned.