

Unit 4, Reading, exercise 3

Living in extreme places, by Mateo Romero.

Some people live in the wettest places in the world, others in the driest, coldest or windiest. I live in one of the highest.

My city, La Paz, isn't the largest city in Bolivia, but at 3,640 metres above the sea, it's one of the highest cities in the world. Our closest city, El Alto, is higher at 4,150 metres. The fastest way to get there is by the Mi Teleferico cable car. It takes about ten minutes – the bus takes an hour!

When my cousins visit, they often feel terrible at first because we live so high up but after a few days, they feel better. And when we go to their city, we also don't feel well for two or three days.

There are some other interesting things about living in a high city. Vegetables and rice cook faster. Other food like cakes and biscuits are not the same here because our air is different. They also say we are thinner because we aren't always hungry like people who live nearer the sea.

Our winter (May to October) is the dry season. Chacaltaya Mountain isn't far by car and the views are amazing. November to March is summer, the rainy season, and it's often cloudy.