

Holidays & Different Cultures



1 Everyone is different

Look at the following pieces of good advice and think about the questions.

- Remember to always respect tradition. What traditions can you think of that are different from where you live?
- When travelling, put a card in your handbag or wallet with the number of a friend or close relative and important medical information on it. Do you do this?
- When you are planning a trip abroad, read about the places you are going to visit before you go. Do you do this? If not, is there anything else that you do before you go on a holiday in a country where the culture is very different from your own native country?



2 Challenging holidays

a You are going to work in groups and read about holidays in four regions of the world. Look at the four pictures and speculate where they might have been taken.



1.



2.



3.



4.

Speculating

It may be Indonesia. *(It is possible.)*

It might be China. *(It is possible that it is China, but looks more like ...)*

It can't be in Europe. *(It is impossible that this is in Europe.)*

It must be a country in South America. *(There is no other possibility but South America.)*

b Which of the following words would you associate with which country listed in the chart on the next page? You might associate some words with more than one country. Use a dictionary or ask the other people in your group or the teacher if you don't know some of these words.

- pagodas • temples • lakes • saunas • wooden cabins • beaches • white-water rapids • settlers • trading • rhinos • sand dunes • ancient monuments • coffee plantations • desert • hot springs • unpolluted air • Spanish fortresses • tracks • rock paintings • midnight sun • endangered species • dinosaur fossils • snow • colourful markets*

Venezuela	Namibia	Lapland	China (Inner Mongolia)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Learning Tip – Using your senses

When you think of the words in **2b** which senses do you use? Do you see or smell or even taste something when you look at the word ‘desert’, for example? Is it a red or yellow word for you? When you read the word ‘waterfall’ do you feel anything or smell anything? Using all your senses may help you remember the words better.

- c** You are going to work in four groups. Group A is going to read the text on **page 94**, Group B the text on **page 96**, Group C the text on **page 97** and Group D the text on **page 98**. Read your text and make notes under the following headings.

What can you do?
How will you travel?
Where will you sleep?

Remember

Giving reasons

I wouldn't like this holiday

- because I don't like / I hate sailing.
- because I'm too unfit to walk 30km a day.
- because I'm too frightened to go white-water rafting / paragliding.

I would like this holiday

- because I like / love to visit ancient ruins.

- d** Now work in a new group and tell the other people what you can do and see on your holiday, how you will travel and where you will sleep.

- e** Which holiday would you like or not like to go on? Why or why not?

3 Travellers' knowledge

In how many different languages can the class say 'hello' and 'goodbye'?

In which culture should you not stand in the doorway to greet or say 'goodbye' to people?

In which culture might you bow to people when meeting them?





4 Your own holiday

a You are going to work in a group of three and decide on a country where you could all go on holiday together. Use the following model.

- Person A:* Suggest the sort of holiday you would like.
- Person B:* Disagree and give your reasons.
- Person C:* Suggest another idea.
- Person B:* Agree.
- Person A:* Disagree, give your reasons and make another suggestion.
- Person B:* Agree.
- Person C:* Agree.

b Now come to a decision on the points below. Think of the advantages and disadvantages of each. Use **4a** as a model and decide:

1. *how to get there:* by car – whose car; by rail, flight – scheduled flight or charter airline or a no-ticket airline that you can book via the Internet.
2. *where to stay:* campsite; youth hostel; a bed and breakfast; cheap hotel; luxury hotel; a combination of ideas.

c When your group has reached a final decision, tell the class about your holiday plans. What is your destination? How will you get there? Where will you stay?

Remember

Using if-sentences

Examples: If we go by train, it'll be cheaper but the journey will take three days.
 If we go camping and it rains, it won't be a very enjoyable holiday.

5 Describe the holiday

a Look at the texts in the **file section** on **pages 94, 96, 97 and 98**. Pick out all the adjectives to describe the places and the people you will visit and make a class list.

Examples: pretty, little mountain villages
sapphire, blue skies

Order of adjectives before a noun

In general, the order is: colour, origin, material, purpose. Other adjectives of size, quality, length, height and shape often come before these, and adjectives that express an opinion or judgement come before all the others.

- b** In groups choose five of the following nouns and see how many adjectives you can put with them. You can use adjectives that you have had in the course so far not just ones from this unit.

Example: the beautiful, huge, wooden hotel balcony

1. hotel _____
2. car _____
3. suitcase _____
4. village _____
5. mountain _____
6. sky _____
7. holiday _____
8. river _____
9. hotel receptionist _____

▶ Look in the **homestudy** section for some more work with the order of adjectives.

Remember your word bank.

6 Memorable or not so memorable?



Listen to these people talking about the best or worst hotel they have ever stayed in and as you listen make a note of their experiences.

Place	What happened – what made it so good or so bad
1. _____	_____ _____
2. _____	_____ _____
3. _____	_____ _____
4. _____	_____ _____

7 I have a complaint to make

Work with a partner. Look at **page 91** and from the list of situations about making a complaint at a hotel choose three. You will then have fifteen minutes to make up a conversation for each situation.

Perform your dialogues to the rest of the class.

Complaining

I'm afraid I have a complaint to make.

There isn't a ... in my room

The ... in my room doesn't work.

This is not good enough. What are you going to do about it?

Apologising

I'm very sorry about that.

I assure you it won't happen again.

8 Sounding angry or friendly

- a** Listen to the first part of a dialogue at the reception desk of a hotel.
What does the guest want? What sort of problem do you think he has?



- b** Now look at the **tapescript** of the rest of the conversation on **page 150**.
Which words do you think the guest will stress? Underline them.
Now listen and see if you were right.



9 For your comfort and convenience

- a** When you arrive at a hotel what information do you usually want to find out? Do you read the brochures or watch the television with hotel information on the screen?

Look at the brochure below. When you read about information and services it is not important who offers them and so the brochure will contain a lot of passive forms.

Welcome to the Seaview Hotel that was completely refurbished in 1999 and now has 45 en-suite rooms each with mini-bar, cable TV and telephone. Telephone calls are charged at a rate of 35p per unit.

There are two restaurants in the hotel: The Veranda where breakfast is served from 6-10.30 a.m. from Monday to Friday and from 6.30-11.30 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and the Regency Room where dinner is served from 7-12 in the evening. Drinks and light snacks are served all day in the pool bar.

A same-day laundry service is provided for guests. Clothes should be left in the plastic bag provided and placed outside the door before 11 a.m.

The boutique in the lobby is open daily from 10 a.m. where you can buy souvenirs and clothes to relax in.

Rooms must be vacated by 12 noon or an additional overnight charge will be made.



The passive

You form the passive with the verb 'to be' in the relevant tense and the past participle of the main verb.

Example: Telephone calls **are charged** at the rate of 35p per unit.

With modal verbs the passive is formed with a modal + 'to be' + the past participle.

Example: Rooms **must be vacated** by 12 noon.

- b** You are staying at the Seaview Hotel and have just read the little brochure. Work in pairs and answer your partner's questions. When you are speaking you use the active more often than the passive form.

Examples: Can I get up late and have breakfast at 11 before we leave on Friday? –
No, I'm afraid you can't. They only serve breakfast until 10.30 on weekdays.

1. Will I have to buy some more T-shirts at the local market or is there a laundry?
2. If we miss breakfast, can we get anything to eat?
3. Will it be OK to leave at 1 o'clock on Saturday?
4. I've forgotten to bring my mobile phone. Are calls from the room very expensive?
5. Bob and Jan can't get here for dinner until 9. Will we be able to have a relaxed meal?
6. Can you buy a new bikini on a Sunday?

10 At the airport



You have talked about possible problems at a hotel. What problems might you have at an airport? Read the following situations at an airport and the questions. Then listen to the recording and decide if the answer to the questions is 'yes' or 'no'.

- | | | | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|----|
| 1. You are booked on the flight to Palma. Should you go to gate 17 in the departure lounge? | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| 2. It is Monday morning at 11 o'clock and you are in Frankfurt waiting for your son who is arriving on a flight from Toronto that has been delayed. Will you have to wait for another twelve hours? | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 3. You are booked on the Easy Jet flight to Geneva. Will you have time to phone your mother before you board the aircraft? | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 4. You are travelling business class with your wife and teenage daughter on the flight to Bangkok. Can you board the aircraft immediately? | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 5. You are booked on the flight to Cape Town. Can you order a gin and tonic while you are waiting? | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Speculating

Certain modal verbs can be used to say how likely something is.

Examples: The picture **may** be in Canada.

The picture **can't** be in Peru.

This picture **must** be in South Africa.

The passive

You use the passive form when the action is more important than the person who performs the action. The passive is formed with the verb 'to be' + the past participle or with a modal + 'to be' + the past participle.

Examples: Breakfast **is served** between 7 and 10.30 a.m.

Rooms **must be vacated** by 12 noon.

Making complaints and apologising

I have a complaint to make. The central heating isn't working.

I'm very sorry, sir. I'll ring the heating engineer immediately.

Order of adjectives before a noun

In general the order is: opinion or judgement, size, length, height, colour, origin, material, purpose and finally the noun.

Examples: He took a **relaxing, long, hot** shower.

You will walk across **amazing, huge, golden** sand dunes.