

Getting Started

A.1. A traveller is someone who travels. Look at the different types of travellers. Can you add any more?



T R A I N D R I V E R ¹
R A M B L E R ²
Y A C H T S M A N / W O M A N ³
N A V I G A T O R ⁴
C O M M U T E R ⁵
P I L G R I M ⁶
E X P L O R E R ⁷
E M I G R A N T ⁸
T O U R I S T ⁹

A.2. Match the travellers above to the definitions.

- This person travels to a special place for religious purposes.
- This person operates a train.
- This person visits a place for pleasure usually while they are on holiday.
- This person regularly travels from one place to another, especially between home and work.
- This person travels by water using wind power.
- This person goes on a long and sometimes dangerous journey to find new things.
- This person enjoys long walks in the countryside.
- This person uses maps to help a ship or plane take the right course.
- This person leaves their country permanently and goes to live in another one.

A.3. Fill in the gaps with the correct traveller.

- a. Many Arab [] go to Mecca because it is the holiest city in the religion of Islam.
- b. A [] enjoys nature and appreciates the plants and animals during their hikes.
- c. John is an []. He left Britain in 2010 and has settled in Australia.
- d. Many [] have to get up very early to travel into the city.
- e. Traditional [] use the sun and the stars to calculate the position of their ship.
- f. Christopher Columbus was a famous [] from Genoa who was probably the first European to reach America.
- g. A [] is responsible for making sure hundreds of rail travellers get to their destinations.
- h. When visiting other countries on holiday, [] must dress and behave appropriately.
- i. Jessica Watson is an Australian [], who was the youngest person to sail around the world on her own.

Don't forget that you are not supposed to write in this space.

Copy the exercise into your notebook and do it there.



Focus on Listening

A.1. Look at the pictures of two travellers. What differences can you see? Where do you think they travelled to? When do you think they travelled?



FERNÃO
MAGALHÃES



FREYA
STARK

A.2. Read the four short extracts about the travellers. Then, match the sentences a - f with the correct person.

Fernão de Magalhães (known as Ferdinand Magellan in English) was a 16th century Portuguese explorer who led the first expedition to sail around the world.

In March of 1521, the ships anchored in Guam. Magalhães and his crew became friends with a tribal king who had been fighting another tribe, the Lapu-Lapus. He helped the tribe kill their enemy on Mactan Island but he himself and around forty of his men were killed in the battle.

Freya Madeline Stark was a 20th century British explorer and travel writer. She wrote more than two dozen books on her travels in the Middle East and Afghanistan.

She died in northern Italy on 9 May 1993, a few months after her hundredth birthday. In her obituary, Freya Stark was called 'the last of the Romantic travellers', who had lived a long life full of adventure.

- a. This traveller's parents were members of the Portuguese nobility.
- b. This traveller was one of the first non-Arabians to travel through the southern Arabian deserts.
- c. This traveller learned Arabic and Persian, and studied history in London.
- d. This traveller set sail with over 270 men and five ships to find another route to Eastern Asia.
- e. At the age of 86 this traveller went to Annapurna in the Himalayas.
- f. This traveller devised a plan for circumnavigating the globe that King Charles V of Spain accepted.

B.1. Listen to some more information about these travellers and check your answers.

B.2. Listen again and write down other information you have learned about the two travellers.

C.1. Both these travellers were explorers from the past. Read the following sentences taken from the listening text. Underline all the verbs that refer to the past time.

Fernão de Magalhães

As Magalhães' ships were sailing south the weather turned bad and cold. On top of that, they had not brought enough food, so many died of hunger and disease. During this time of despair Magalhães found out that some of the sailors had been planning to revolt but he managed to control the situation.

Freya Stark:

She wrote more than two dozen books on her travels in the Middle East and Afghanistan. (...) In 1930, Freya Stark, who had also been learning Persian for a number of years, set out for Iran. The goal of her trip was to visit the Valleys of the Assassins, which at that time had still been unexplored by Europeans.

C.2. The verbs you underlined are in different tenses but are used to talk about the past. We call these past tenses, narrative tenses, because we use them to tell stories. Complete the “Example” column in the table below with one example of each verb tense taken from the texts you have just read.

Don't forget that you are not supposed to write in this space.

Copy the exercise into your notebook and do it there.



Tense	Example	Use/ Meaning
Past Simple (regular verb)	<i>died</i>	
Past Simple (irregular verb)		
Past Continuous		
Past Perfect Simple		
Past Perfect Continuous		

C.3. Now, read the four uses and meanings and match the correct one with each tense in the table above. Note that Past Simple regular and irregular have the same use/meaning. If you need help, go to the grammar box.

- To describe a longer continuous past activity that was in progress when another action happened – the background and context for actions in a story.
- To talk about a longer continuous activity that was going on before the main actions in the story.
- To talk about consecutive actions in the past – the main actions in a story.
- To talk about actions that happened at an earlier time than the main actions in a story.

C.4. Read this personal story.

One day my father woke us up early and told us that he had planned a special trip for us. We got into the car. We left the city and drove into the countryside. While my father was driving, my mother told us stories to keep us amused. After we had been driving for about two hours we stopped for a meal at a roadside café. After lunch, we got back in the car and travelled for two more hours. We arrived at a beautiful house, where some people were waiting for us at the door. I jumped out of the car and ran over to greet my uncle and aunt, who I hadn't seen for years because they had been living abroad. We had a lovely family reunion.

Using this story as a model, write about a special trip you made with your family.

A.1. One of the reasons people travel is to experience things they haven't experienced before. Tell a colleague about something you did for the first time when you were travelling somewhere.

Example:

The first time I tried a McDonald's hamburger was when we went to Jakarta.

I slept in a hotel for the first time when I went to Dili with my father.

A.2. You are going to read a text about Lauren's gap year experience in Africa, India and Thailand. Here are some of the activities she did. Would you enjoy any of these? Tell a colleague.

FACT FILE: GAP YEAR

A gap year is a one-year break students take from formal education to travel, volunteer, study or work. Typically it is taken between finishing school and starting university.

This practice of taking time out developed in the United Kingdom in the 1960s.

Many parents think a gap year is a good idea because it helps their children to grow up and become more independent, while giving them the experience of a lifetime.



B.1. Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

LAUREN AUSTIN'S GAP YEAR IN AFRICA, INDIA AND THAILAND

**A levels = Final year exams at school in the UK*

In 2008, after finishing my A levels*, I waited a year before going to University and spent this year travelling. Taking a gap year was the best decision I've ever made and I'm so happy that I gave myself the opportunity to visit Africa, India and Thailand.

My first stop in my travels was Africa. We did too much to list in this article so I'll tell you some of the best parts! Our time in Africa was split between working and doing activities, but the work was strangely fun as well! We took care of a sick deer every morning and got to play with lion cubs! We went on a jeep trip to a lion enclosure to see the lions.

It was the rainy season while we were there, so we got caught in a lot of rainstorms. One day, half of the group went quad-biking through the game reserve* and a thunderstorm started! Four of us got separated from the rest of the group so we carried on along the path that we thought was the right way. We ended up 'quadding' about two miles in the wrong direction past two huge rhinoceroses that were about twenty metres away from us! Extremely scary!

**game reserve = a protected area for wild animals*

We were all given the opportunity to go to Cape Town by bus for a long weekend and most of us went. Sara and I went sky-diving. It was a 12,000 feet jump and we both got very excited when our plane took off. As we got higher and higher, the view of Cape Town got more and more breathtaking. Unfortunately, we were told that the wind had become too strong and we could no longer jump. I was really disappointed but we got a free flight around Cape Town and an afternoon to go shopping!

After a quick stay at home in England after Africa, I went to India. It was definitely a unique experience. We spent our first week working in a cow sanctuary and the second week in a zoo. Cows are considered holy to many people in India.

Our weekends were free time so one weekend Harriet and I rented a car and went to Pushkar, a city about two hours away from where we were staying in Jaipur. We were very excited about the expedition. We were going to ride a camel! However, after three hours on the camels we were very excited about getting off because they were so uncomfortable! We camped in the desert that night and it was surprisingly cold.

The experience only got better when I went to Thailand. When we arrived, we spent a week trekking in the jungle, which was such hard work. We went through caves and up a VERY steep hill. It took two hours of constant uphill climbing to get to the top but the view we got from up there was so worth it.

After a very exhausting week of trekking we got to spend our last week in Thailand relaxing at the beach and travelling to an island called Koh Samet by boat. It was a beautiful little island.

Travelling has been the greatest experience of my life and I can't wait to do more. I strongly advise everyone to consider travelling, even if you only do it for a summer. It'll be the best time of your life and you'll probably end up wanting to do more!

Adapted from: <http://www.maryhare.org.uk/my-gap-year>



B.2. Answer these questions about the text.

- a. What work did Lauren do in Africa and in India?
- b. What “scary” situation happened to her in Africa?
- c. Why was Lauren disappointed in Cape Town?
- d. Why was Lauren excited about her expedition to Pushkar, India?
- e. How was Lauren’s experience in Thailand both exhausting and relaxing?
- f. What is Lauren’s opinion about travelling?

B.3. Lauren used many forms of transportation on her travels. Make a list of all these forms of transportation. How many of these have you experienced? Which forms of travel do you enjoy or not enjoy?

C.1. Would you like to take a gap year? Why or why not? Where would you like to go?

C.2. Interview someone who has travelled to another country. Write down 5 questions you would like to ask this person about their travelling experience. You may want to ask them:

- their reasons for going on the trip.
- information about the place they visited.
- the things they did while they were there.
- what forms of transportation they use, etc.

Carry out the interview and report your findings to the class.



Focus on Speaking

A.1. In this unit we have looked at different ways of travelling (e.g. by car, by plane, by bus, by quad bike, by boat, on foot, etc.). Here is a list of other ways of travelling. Match the pictures to the form of transportation.

Horseback
Helicopter
Cruise ship
Ferry

Taxi
Cable car
Hot air balloon



A.2. With a colleague, order the list above from most expensive to cheapest way of travelling. Try to come to an agreement.

Example: *I think the most expensive way of travelling is by cruise ship. What do you think?*

B.1. Different ways of travelling are more suitable than others in different situations. Take a look at the situations below. What would be the best way of travelling in each? Give your reasons.

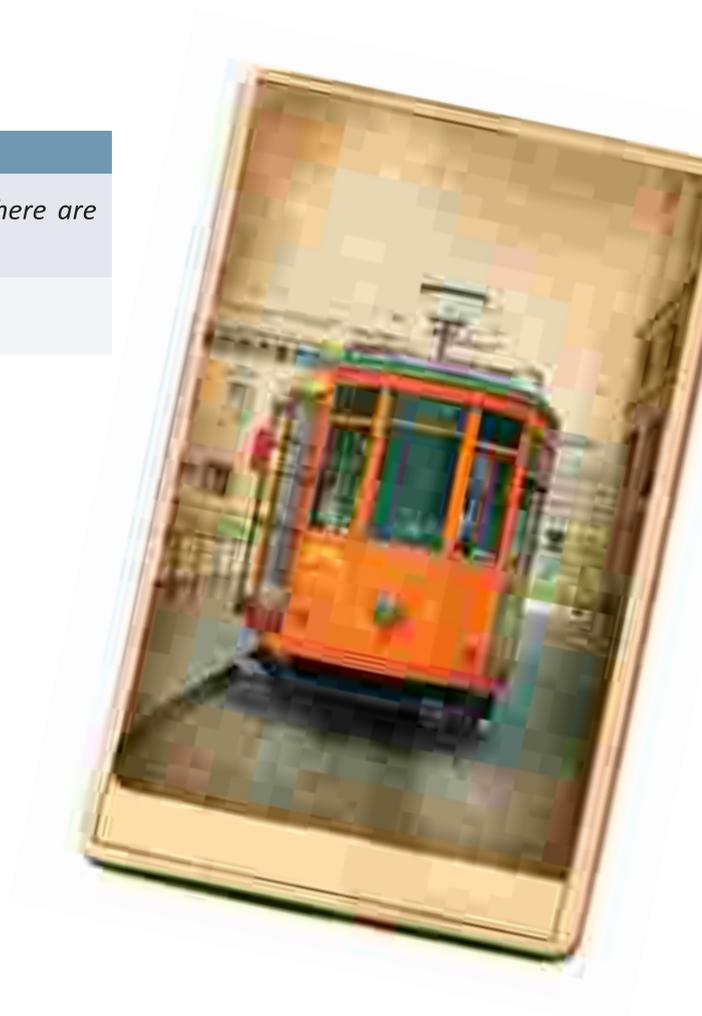
- a. You want to be in contact with nature. You want to travel in the countryside where there are no roads.
- b. You are in a city you have never visited before. You want to get to your hotel as soon as possible to check in.
- c. You are willing to go wherever your travels take you and you are interested in new experiences. You would like to see the city from a different perspective.

B.2. There are advantages and disadvantages to travelling on different kinds of transportation. Work with a colleague and choose a type of transportation. List the advantages and disadvantages.

Example: *Cable car*

Advantages	Disadvantages
<i>It's a convenient way of getting around a city.</i>	<i>It only travels where there are cables.</i>
<i>It's not very expensive.</i>	<i>It can get too crowded.</i>

B.3. Report your findings to the class.



Focus on Reading

A.1. A website called 'Open Travel Info' asked its users why they travel. Read the two posts and make a list of the advantages of travelling.



REASONS FOR TRAVELLING

Answers (10)



Helen
Joined 2006-05-20
Points 1580

REASONS FOR TRAVELLING
Travelling is a life changing experience and a 'once in a lifetime' experience! No matter how broke* you are, when you return home you will have memories, friends and experiences that no one can take away from you.
And that is exactly why people set off on trips around the world. They want to see new things, meet new people, learn about different cultures, explore the world and actually experience what others only dream about their whole lives. Sure, it requires serious saving and planning. Sure, there will be people around you who don't understand or want you to go.
These are some of the purposes of travelling. What about you? What is your main reason for travelling?

REPLY QUOTE



Andre
Joined 2005-09-26
Points 20894

REASONS NOT TO TRAVEL
I don't need a reason to travel. If I had money and no commitments*, I would do it all the time. I think someone needs to give me a strong reason NOT to travel. The first thing I would say is that travel is getting away from everything and being able to spend some time NOT working on something. Then there is the chance to see places that are new to me, places where I can meet people from different cultures and exchange laughs. One thing I always try to do is sample* things like food that each country has to offer and is often so different from what I am used to. I don't particularly like staying in a hotel, especially if it is part of a global chain that are all the same. The other thing I hate when travelling are schedules. I love it when the only thing to worry about is what to see, where to go and where to eat.
Hope this is enough
Andre

REPLY QUOTE

*broke = without money, bankrupt

*commitments = obligations

*sample = try out

Adapted from: <http://www.opentravelinfo.com/node/835>

A.2. Compare your list with your colleague's. Do you agree with these reasons? Can you think of any other reasons?

FINAL TASK



Why do people travel? Using the guide below, write a text giving your opinion about reasons for travelling, different forms of travel, and the richness as well as the challenges of the traveller experience.

Paragraph	Content
1. The journey	Background / reasons for travelling; forms of transport; people and destinations
2. The experience	New experiences; people we meet; things we can learn; how we can change
3. My opinion	Advantages; disadvantages; things to remember; recommendations

