**Tourism and Hospitality**

**LIST OF EXAMINATION TOPICS**

1. Our University. My studies at the University.
2. The Republic of Belarus (general information: geographical position, population, history, political system, places of interest, outstanding representatives, etc.).
3. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (general information: geographical position, population, history, political system, places of interest, outstanding representatives, etc.).
4. What is Tourism.
5. History of Travel & Tourism.
6. Types of Tourism.
7. Careers in Tourism.
8. Tourism in Belarus.
9. Travel and Tourism in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
10. Travelling around the USA.
11. Travelling and Transport.
12. My Future profession.

**ORAL TOPICS**

**OUR UNIVERSITY**

Brest State University was founded in 1945. It was called the Teachers’ Training Institute then. In 1995 it became a university. Its full name is Brest State University named after Alexander Pushkin.

The University occupies several academic buildings: an old building at the crossing of Savetskaya and Mickevich’s Streets, the Sports Complex with gymnasiums, a swimming pool, several lecture halls and tutorial rooms, and a seven-storeyed building in Kasmanautau Boulevard with a canteen, a library, reading halls, laboratories, lecture halls and subject rooms. At the disposal of students there are four hostels, a winter garden, a garden of successive blossoming, and an agricultural and biological station. The University has three museums: of biology, of geology, and of physical culture and sport.

The University educates about 4,500 students at the day-time department and about 4,000 students acquire higher education at the correspondence department. There are 12 faculties at the University: Language and Literature, Foreign Languages, Psychology and Pedagogics, Social Pedagogics, Geography, Biology, Mathematics, Physics, Physical Education, History, Law, and Pre-University Preparation. Students are educated in 50 specialities.

Teaching is maintained at a high level. About 600 professors, associate professors and tutors at 55 chairs teach students at the University.

The course of study lasts four-five years. Each year consists of two terms (autumn and spring) with examination periods at the end of each term. The term is divided between theoretical and practical work: students have a few weeks of lectures followed by seminars. When students have seminars they spend a lot of time in the reading room revising the material, fortunately the Internet helps now a lot.

Students do not only study, they are also engaged in various forms of research work. They write course papers and diploma theses, participate in scientific conferences and publish their articles. This work helps them to better understand the subjects they study and the current requirements of the national economy, to see the results of their work put into practice.

**THE IMAGE OF BELARUS**

The Republic of Belarus lies in the centre of Europe. It occupies an area of 208 thousand square kilometers. Belarus shares its border with five states: the Russian federation, Lithuania, Poland, the Ukraine, and Latvia. The population of Belarus is about 10 mln.

Belarus has a cool continental climate moderated by maritime influences from the Atlantic Ocean.

The first written documents of the Belarusian statehood go as far back as 980 AD when Prince Rogvold began his reign on Polotsk lands, which are the historic and religious center of Belarusian nation and culture. From the 13-th till the 16-th century the territory of contemporary Belarus was the center of a medieval polyethnic state – the Grand Duchy of Litva. The lands of contemporary Belarus, Lithuania, the Ukraine and a part of Russia comprised this state. In 1569 the Grand Duchy of Litva and the Polish Kingdom established a political union according to which the Litva – Poland confederation – Rzecz Pospolita – emerged. As a result of three divisions of Rzecz Pospolita in 1772, 1793 and 1795 between three empires – Russia, Austria and Prussia – the Belarusian lands were incorporated into the Russian Empire.

On March 9, 1918 Belarus was declared a democratic Peoples' Republic. On January 1, 1919 the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic was created. On December 30, 1922 the Communist governments of Belarus, Russia, the Ukraine and Caucasus created the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. In August 1991 Belarus declared its independence.

Now Belarus is a presidential republic. State power in the Republic of Belarus is formed and realized through three main branches – legislative, executive and judicial.

According to the Constitution of 1994 and its modifications of 1996, a two-chamber parliament is the supreme standing and exclusive legislative body of state power in the Republic of Belarus. The President of the Republic of Belarus is the chief of the state. The executive branch is represented by the Council of ministers headed by the Prime Minister. Courts perform the judicial power in the republic.

The present National Emblem and Flag of the Republic of Belarus symbolize historical adherence of the Belarusian people to constructive labor, their faith in the triumph of justice and attainment of a worthy place in the world community.

The sources of Belarusian culture come from the pre-Christian times and have a lot of common with traditions of the other Indo-European cultures, Traditional rites, music and art elements are widely used in contemporary cultural life, thus illustrating symbols of the old and young Belarusian culture.

Belarus is rather a highly developed industrial country. The main branches of Belarusian industry are machine building, instrument making, chemical, wood processing, light and food industries. Over 100 large enterprises are the basis of Belarusian economy.

Minsk, the capital of Belarus, is one of the most beautiful and significant cities. It is first mentioned in chronicles as a fortress in the Principality of Polotsk in connection with the battle on the river Nemiga in 1067.

People of Belarus are proud of their country. The proverb says, "what you give returns to the giver. Love for love, trust for trust". Belarus entrusted itself to the people and they in their turn enjoy its beauty and glory.

**POLITICAL AND SOCIAL PORTRAIT OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Great Britain has a parliamentary government based on the party system. Parliament has two parts: the House of Commons and the House of Lords. Members of the House of Commons are elected by the voters of 650 constituencies. The Prime Minister, or leader of the Government, is a Member of Parliament (MP), usually the leader of the political party with a majority in the House of Commons. The chief officer of the House of Commons is the Speaker. The House at the beginning of each Parliament elects him. His chief function is to preside over the House in its debate. When elected the Speaker must not belong to any party.

The House of Lords is composed of about 1,200 members. They are the Lords Spiritual, and the Lords temporal, consisting of all hereditary peers, all life peers and 21 law lords, to assist the House in its judicial duties, because for a long time the House of Lords was the highest court of law in the land, and it still is the supreme court of appeal.

A Cabinet of about twenty other ministers advises the Prime Minister. The Cabinet includes the ministers in charge of major government departments or ministries. Civil servants, who are permanent officials, run departments and ministries. Even if the Government changes after an election, the same civil servants are employed. In the performance of its functions the Cabinet makes considerable use of a system of committees. The Cabinet is the centre of the political power of the United Kingdom at the present time. Normally it meets for about two hours once or twice a week during parliamentary sitting.

The main political parties in the UK are the Conservative party (right wing), the Labour party (left wing) and the Liberal Democrats (centre).

The Conservative party believes in free enterprise and the importance of capitalist economy, with private ownership preferred to state control. The Labour party believes that private ownership and enterprise should be allowed to flourish, but not at the expense of their traditional support of the public services. The Liberal Democrats believe that the state should have some control over the economy, but that there should be individual ownership.

Great Britain is a constitutional monarchy, and the Crown is a permanent and continuous institution. The Queen is the official Head of State and, for many people, a symbol of the unity of the nation. According to the Constitution the powers of the Crown are very great. Every action of the government is carried in its name. But the Queen cannot act independently. She reigns but does not rule. Although the Queen is deprived of actual power, she has retained many important, though formal functions.

**WHAT IS TOURISM?**

Humans have travelled since the beginning of time. Food, water, safety and acquisition of resources (trade) were the earliest travel motivations. But the idea of travel for pleasure or exploration soon emerged. Travel has always depended upon technology to provide the means or mode of travel. The earliest travellers walked or rode domesticated animals. The invention of the wheel and the sail provided new modes of transportation. Each improvement in technology increased individuals' opportunities to travel. As roads were improved and governments stabilized, interest in travel increased for education, sightseeing, and religious purposes. One of the earliest travel guides was written by Pausanias, a Greek, which was a 10 volume Guide to Greece, for Roman tourists in 170 A.D.

Tourism is a set of activities, services and industries that delivers a travel experience, including transportation, accommodations, eating and drinking establishments, retail shops, entertainment businesses, activity facilities and other hospitality services provided for individuals or groups travelling away from home. The World Tourism Organization (WTO) claims that tourism is currently the world's largest industry with annual revenues of over $3 trillion dollars. Tourism provides over six million jobs in the United States, making it the country's largest employer.

Mathieson and Wall (1982) created a good working definition of tourism as "the temporary movement of people to destinations outside their normal places of work and residence, the activities undertaken during their stay in those destinations, and the facilities created to cater to their needs."

According to Macintosh and Goeldner (1986) tourism is "the sum of the phenomena and relationships arising from the interaction of tourists, business suppliers, host governments and host communities in the process of attracting and hosting these tourists and other visitors."

Essential Requirements for Tourism are as follows:

Time, as the hours for leisure increase so does the opportunity for travel. Changes in work days or hours, school calendars will affect how and when people can travel. The overall travel pattern has moved from a two week vacation to 6-8 three or four day mini-vacations per year;

Money, the majority of travel requires discretionary income. Discretionary income is money left over after all monetary obligations (food, rent and taxes) have been paid;

Mobility is the access to transportation (car, bus, plane, train or ship) and the hours required to get to their destination;

Motivation is the reason people travel. Motivations may include seeking novelty, education, meet new people, adventure or stress reduction.

**HISTORY OF TRAVEL & TOURISM**

Travel for trade was an important feature since the beginning of civilisation. The earliest form of leisure tourism can be traced as far back as the Babylonian and Egyptian empires. The Egyptians held many religious festivals that attracted the devout and many people who thronged to cities to see famous works of arts and buildings. In India, as elsewhere, kings travelled for empire building. The Brahmins and the common people travelled for religious purposes. Greek tourists travelled to sites of healing gods. The Greeks also enjoyed their religious festivals that increasingly became a pursuit of pleasure, and in particular, sport. Athens had become an important site for travellers visiting the major sights such as the Parthenon. Inns were established in large towns and seaports to provide for travellers' needs. Courtesans were the principal entertainment offered.

This era also saw the birth of travel writing. Herodotus was the worlds' first travel writer. Guidebooks also made their appearance in the fourth century covering destinations such as Athens, Sparta and Troy. Advertisements in the way of signs directing people to inns are also known in this period.

With no foreign borders between England and Syria, and with safe seas from piracy due to Roman patrols, the conditions favouring travel had arrived. First class roads coupled with staging inns (precursors of modern motels) promoted the growth of travel. Romans travelled to Sicily, Greece, Rhodes, Troy and Egypt. From 300 AD travel to the Holy Land also became very popular. The Romans introduced their guidebooks (itineraria), listing hotels with symbols to identify quality.

Adventurers sought fame and fortune through travel. The Europeans tried to discover a sea route to India for trade purposes and in this fashion discovered America and explored parts of Africa. Strolling players and minstrels made their living by performing as they travelled. Missionaries, saints, etc. travelled to spread the sacred word.

From the early seventeenth century, a new form of tourism was developed as a direct outcome of the Renaissance. Under the reign of Elizabeth 1, young men seeking positions at court were encouraged to travel to continent to finish their education. Later, it became customary for education of gentleman to be completed by a 'Grand Tour' accompanied by a tutor and lasting for three or more years. While ostensibly educational, the pleasure seeking men travelled to enjoy life and culture of Paris, Venice or Florence. By the end of eighteenth century, the custom had become institutionalised in the gentry. Gradually pleasure travel displaced educational travel. The advent of Napoleonic wars inhibited travel for around 30 years and led to the decline of the custom of the Grand Tour.

Spas grew in popularity in the seventeenth century in Britain and a little later in the European Continent as awareness about the therapeutic qualities of mineral water increased. In the nineteenth century they were gradually replaced by the seaside resort.

Highlights of travel in the nineteenth century

· Advent of railway initially catalysed business travel and later leisure travel. Gradually special trains were chartered to only take leisure travel to their destinations.

· Package tours organised by entrepreneurs such as Thomas Cook.

· The European countries indulged in a lot of business travel often to their colonies to buy raw material and sell finished goods.

· The invention of photography acted as a status-enhancing tool and promoted overseas travel.

· The formation of first hotel chains; pioneered by the railway companies who established great railway terminus hotels.

· Seaside resorts began to develop different images as for day-trippers, elite, for gambling.

· Other types of destinations-ski resorts, hill stations, mountaineering spots etc.

· The technological development in steamships promoted travel between North America and Europe.

· The Suez Canal opened direct sea routes to India and the Far East.

· The cult of the guidebook followed the development of photography.

 The First World War gave first-hand experience of countries and aroused a sense of curiosity about international travel among less well-off sector for the first time. The large scale of migration to the US meant a lot of travel across the Atlantic. Private motoring began to encourage domestic travel in Europe and the west. The sea side resort became annual family holiday destination in Britain and increased in popularity in other countries of the west. Hotels proliferated in these destinations.

The wars increased interest in international travel. This interest was given the shape of mass tourism by the aviation industry. The surplus of aircraft and growth of private airlines aided the expansion of air travel. The aircraft had become comfortable, faster and steadily cheaper for overseas travel. With the introduction of Boeing 707 jet in 1958, the age of air travel for the masses had arrived. The beginning of chartered flights boosted the package tour market and led to the establishment of organised mass tourism. The Boeing 747, a 400 seat craft, brought the cost of travel down sharply. The seaside resorts in the Mediterranean, North Africa and the Caribbean were the initial hot spots of mass tourism.

A corresponding growth in hotel industry led to the establishment of world-wide chains. Tourism also began to diversify as people began to flock alternative destinations in the 70s. Nepal and India received a throng of tourists lured by Hare Krishna movement and transcendental meditation. The beginning of individual travel in a significant volume only occurred in the 80s. Air travel also led to a continuous growth in business travel especially with the emergence of the MNCs.

**TYPES OF TOURISM**

There are different types of tourism that can be enjoyed. Some are listed below:

Extreme tourism or shock tourism is a type of niche tourism involving travel to dangerous places (mountains, jungles, deserts, caves, etc.) or participation in dangerous events. Extreme tourism overlaps with extreme sport. While traditional tourism requires significant investments in hotels, roads, etc., extreme tourism requires much less jump-starting a business. Tourist’s firms actively offer rafting, traveling on horseback, by bicycle and motorcycle. More and more people are attracted by rafting, diving, pleasure flight on balloon and many others. Diving is very popular in the whole world. It is underwater diving with special apparatuses, providing a swimmer with breathing. Diving is both a sport and entertainment.

Cultural tourism involves visiting historical or interesting cities, such as [Paris](http://www.articleworld.org/index.php?title=Paris&action=edit), [Shanghai](http://www.articleworld.org/index.php?title=Shanghai&action=edit), Rome or [Warsaw](http://www.articleworld.org/index.php?title=Warsaw&action=edit). This is when tourists engage in cultural experiences, like visiting an art [museum](http://www.articleworld.org/index.php/Museum), [theatre](http://www.articleworld.org/index.php/Theatre) or [opera](http://www.articleworld.org/index.php/Opera). Cultural tourism is the subset of tourism concerned with a country or region's culture, especially its arts. It generally focuses on traditional communities who have diverse customs, unique form of art and distinct social practices, which basically distinguishes it from other forms of culture. Cultural tourism includes tourism in urban areas, particularly historic or large cities and their cultural facilities such as museums and theatres. It can also include tourism in rural areas showcasing the traditions of indigenous cultural communities and their values and lifestyle. It is generally agreed that cultural tourists spend substantially more than standard tourists do. This form of tourism is also becoming generally more popular throughout Europe. On the positive side are the unique cultural practices and arts that attract the curiosity of tourists and provide opportunities for tourism and economic development. On the negative side is the issue of how to control tourism so that cultural amenities are not destroyed and the people do not feel violated.

[Ecotourism](http://www.articleworld.org/index.php?title=Ecotourism&action=edit) involves travelling that does not pose a threat to the environment, such as safariing in [Kenya](http://www.articleworld.org/index.php/Kenya). Ecotourism integrates tourism with ecology, offering wide varieties of landscapes and activities. Ecotourism (also known as ecological tourism) is a form of tourism that appeals to ecologically and socially conscious individuals. Generally speaking, ecotourism focuses on volunteering, personal growth and learning new ways to live on the planet. It typically involves travel to destinations where flora, fauna and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. Many locations have bеcоmе popular because of the growing worldwide interest in ecology. Ecotourism integrates tourism with ecology, offering wide varieties of landscapes and activities, including unspoiled bеасhes and coral reefs with productive marine systems, for scuba-diving enthusiasts; vast limestone caverns in highlands with trekking, mountain biking, sailing, rafting and other travel opportunities and miles and miles of empty beaches. Responsible ecotourism includes programs that minimize the negative aspects of conventional tourism on the environment and enhance the cultural integrity of local people. Therefore, in addition to evaluating environmental and cultural factors, an integral part of ecotourism is the promotion of recycling, energy efficiency, water conservation and creation of economic opportunities for the local communities. Number of fans of ecotourism grows everywhere every year.

Educational tourism developed because of the growing popularity of teaching and learning, and enhancing technical competency outside the classroom. In the educational tourism, the main focus of the tour or leisure activity includes visitation of another country to learn about the culture of the visited country (Student Exchange Program and Study Tour) or to work and apply their learning inside the classroom in different environment (International Practicum Training Program).

**CAREERS IN TOURISM**

Many people live for their vacations. Have you ever thought of making vacations your life? If you love working with people and helping them enjoy themselves, consider working in travel and tourism.

Travel and tourism careers actually consist of many different industries, all combining to create a vibrant and exciting whole. Hotels, transportation, recreational parks and restaurants are just a few of the different areas that use the services of travel and tourism specialists.

The most obvious course of joining the travel and tourism industry is to become a travel agent. As a travel agent, you work with your customers and clients to help them design the perfect trip for their needs, whether it is business or pleasure. You might help them chose a destination, purchase tickets, make hotel or car rental reservations, and advise them on tours and other recreational activities in an area.

Hospitality jobs are abundant and include working in a hotel, resort or on a cruise ship. This can be a wonderful and fulfilling career for someone who really enjoys meeting new people and helping them enjoy themselves. With the most important part of their job making sure that visitors have everything they need and advising them on what to do in an area, it can be the perfect field for somebody who is both enthusiastic and articulate with a strong attention to detail.

There are also an abundance of travel and tourism jobs, such as working at a car rental agency, as a tour guide, or in casinos, spas or convention centres. And there are some unique perks to be found in working in travel and tourism! Hotels, airlines and resorts often partner with one another, offering discount packages or reduced rates for travel or lodging.

Travel and tourism is an area in which there always seems to be activity, making it an exciting world to work in! Whether you enjoy helping somebody live their dream vacation or working to make sure that a hurried businessperson gets everything they need to accomplish their trip, a career in tourism is your best choice.

**TOURISM IN BELARUS**

A largely undiscovered part of Europe with charming wooden architecture, vast marshlands, idyllic rural landscapes, and Soviet-style cities, Belarus is a varied and fascinating East European travel destination. Yet undiscovered by the travel world, it is a country of rolling hills, vast marshlands, and interesting cities such as the capital, Minsk. This yet undiscovered East European capital is a place where the new blends with the old, creating a unique attraction over this city with nearly two million inhabitants. Outside the monumental capital of Minsk, Belarus offers a simple yet pleasing landscape of cornflower fields, thick forests and picturesque villages. The country also offers two excellent national parks and is home to Europe’s largest mammal, the aurochs (or European bison). While travellers will always be subject to curiosity, they’ll also enjoy warm hospitality and genuine welcome.

The appeals of Belarus are little known to the average traveller, but the off-the-beaten-track character of this unfamiliar country is exactly what makes it special to the ones that make it here. Much of the historic heritage was lost to World War II violence or to post-war communist planning, but there's more to see than one might expect at a glance. Take Minsk, the country's surprisingly modern yet fiercely Eastern European capital, bustling with nightclubs and modern restaurants but at the same time monument of Communist architecture and city development, as it had to be reconstructed completely in the war. It's home to the fine Belarus State Museum, the Independence Square, the former KGB Headquarters but also the humbling Zaslavsky Jewish Monument. Farther west is the border city of Brest, where you'll find the 19th century Brest Fortress, the site of a long and severe Operation Barbarossa battle and a monument to the Soviet resistance against the Germans. One of the oldest towns in Belarus, Brest dates back to the 11th century and is full of historical sites such as its massive fortress or the numerous historical monuments reaching the sky of this south-western Belarusian city.

There are four World Heritage Sites to see, although one, the Struve Geodetic Arc which provided the basis for the first meridian measurement, offers little more than an inscription to see. Of more interest for visitors however, are the late medieval Mir Castle Complex and the Nesvizh Castle of the same time. They are the best of the country's castles, but a few more can be found if you're interested. For a glance of 19th century life, head to the Dudutki Open Air Museum. Situated near the village of Dudutki, this place brings traditional crafts, such as carpentry, pottery, handicraft-making and baking to life in old-style wood-and-hay houses.

The fourth World Heritage Site is a natural one. The primeval Białowieża Forest covers part of both Belarus and Poland, with the Belarus side known as Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park. Few foreign visitors make it here, but the park is home to European bison, moose and other wildlife, and there's a small museum. Other good picks for a natural experience are the Pripyat Reserve and the Braslau Lakes.

Foreigners that are not citizens of CIS countries need a visa to visit Belarus. Travelling to Belarus is easiest through Minsk, which receives flights to Belarus from many European countries. In addition to airways, Belarus (Minsk) is also easily reachable by train from Warsaw in Poland and Berlin in Germany. Note that if you are flying to Belarus via Russia, you need a Russian transit visa as well. For travelling around in Belarus, trains and buses are well available. Travelling in Belarus is also possible with a rental car.

Tourism services in Belarus are influenced by the relative obscurity of this rarely visited country, and the complicated Belarusian bureaucracy can sometimes also concern them. However, in addition to massive dormitories left behind by the Soviet Era, other kind of accommodation is also available in Belarus. When it comes to Belarus restaurants, they follow the standard Eastern European tradition. Some Russian skills are needed for independent travel in Belarus. Safety situation in Belarus is quite good, but since crime does happen here, do keep your valuables hidden and be careful if walking outside after dark.

At the end of 2014, 1 254 companies were operating in tourism sector in Belarus, whose services were used by more than 934 thousand organised tourists and 647.5 thousand excursionists.

In 2014 the number of organised tourist departures from Belarus abroad was 740.5 thousand, up 4.5% compared with 2013.

There were 79.9 thousand organised travels to the CIS countries (37.4% of the 2013 level), and 660.6 thousand travels to non-CIS countries, which is 33.4% more than in 2013.

The most frequently visited foreign countries in 2014 traditionally were Russia, Bulgaria, Greece, Egypt, Spain, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Turkey and Czech Republic. These countries accounted for 82.7% of total organised tourist travels abroad.

The number of organised tourist travels abroad was still prevailing over the number of visits. In 2014 there were five travels of Belarusian nationals abroad (six in 2005) per each visit of foreign tourists to Belarus.

The number of organised visits was 137.4 thousand in 2014, which is 0.5% more than in 2013. There were 115.6 thousand visits from the CIS countries (up 1.3% over 2013). The leadership in terms of organised tourists among the Commonwealth states remained with Russia – 113.2 thousand visits (up 1.7% compared with 2013) and Ukraine – 1.8 thousand visits (down 10.3% compared to 2013).

Among the non-CIS countries, the largest number of visitors came to Belarus from Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, United Kingdom, and Turkey. In 2014 these countries made up 48.3% of total tourist arrivals from non-CIS countries (56.4% in 2013).

The average duration of stay of foreign tourists in Belarus in 2014, as in 2013, was 4 days.

To accommodate tourists in the country, the services of hotels and similar accommodation facilities were provided by 331 hotels, 37 hotel complexes, 7 tourist and hotel complexes, 4 motels and 151 accommodation facilities of other types. Their capacity at the end of 2014 was 35.4 thousand beds.

The average occupancy rate of these accommodation facilities in 2014 was 34%, and fell by 7 percentage points compared with 2013.

According to the quality of the provided hotel services and available facilities 54 hotels and hotel complexes (14.4% of their total number) had the following categories: “5 stars” − 3 hotels, “4 stars” − 5 hotels and 1 tourist and hotel complex, “3 stars” − 23 hotels, 8 hotel complexes and 1 tourist and hotel complex, “2 stars” − 12 hotels, and “1 star” − 1 hotel.

24 out of the total number of hotels and hotel complexes which have a category according the international star rating are located in the city of Minsk.

**TRAVEL AND TOURISM IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

Travel and tourism in Great Britain is booming - both for residents of the UK and for visitors from North America. Great Britain is the island that encompasses England, Wales, and Scotland. Visitors will enjoy the beautiful scenery of the English, Welsh, and Scottish countryside as well as the friendly and welcoming people and a host of activities. The cities - London, Edinburgh, Liverpool, and more - boast world-class dining, shopping, and centuries of history. Here is just a sampling of what Great Britain has to offer.

London, England's capital city, invites visitors to explore hundreds of years of history. Sights, such as the Tower of London, the Houses of Parliament, and Kensington Palace, offer a glimpse of British life in other centuries. Shoppers visiting London will delight in Harrods department store, known for its singular service, January clearance sales, and spectacular food department.

The Cotswolds region of England, west of London, is a picturesque district, home to Oxford, Bath, and Stratford-on-Avon. The university town of Oxford is home to the oldest English-speaking College in the world. In addition to visiting the school, tourists can tour the 13th century Carfax Tower; visit Christ Church Cathedral, built by King Henry VIII and Cardinal Woolsey in the mid-16th century; and enjoy the many shops, restaurants, and nightlife in this vibrant town.

The town of Bath was once a Roman spa, built over a natural hot springs. In fact, remnants of the original Roman buildings still exist. Stratford-on-Avon was the home of William Shakespeare. His cottage still stands and welcomes visitors. In addition, Stratford is home to a theater that features the Bard's plays.

The northwest of England is home to the country's "Lake District." This beautiful countryside has inspired poets and writers from Wordsworth to Daniel Defoe to Beatrix Potter. True to its name, the region is home to dozens of lakes and is a popular spot for boating, hiking, and enjoying nature.

The nation of Scotland comprises the northern third of Great Britain. United with England for political and economic reasons, Scotland stills functions independently in regards to laws and education. The majority of the population lives in or around the cities Glasgow and Edinburgh. In addition to exploring the history, cuisine, and shopping in these two metropolises, visitors will want to venture into the countryside, up to the highlands and the whisky (the Scottish drop the "e") trail, where much of the world's Scotch whiskey is produced.

Wales on the west coast of Great Britain is a rugged country that maintains a distinct cultural, though not political, identity from the rest of the island. The Welsh have their own language (a derivation of the original Celtic language) and a rich tradition in arts and literature. Much of the country is rural and visitors will enjoy visiting its many historic castles as well as the beautiful coastline.

There is a wealth of history to see in Northern Ireland. Some of the attractions that are popular include:

The Navan Centre and Fort in Armagh

The Beaghmore Stone Circles in Cookstown

The Belfast Castle and Belfast Zoo in Belfast

Harry Avery's Castle in Strabane

Devenish Island Monastic Site in Enniskillen

**TRAVELLING AROUND THE USA**

On our tour we crossed the country from East to West and from North to South by bus, plane and by car, only both of us; and I must say - this tour was one of the most exiting experiences we ever had. The USA is a country of exceptional natural beauty and fascinating cities. Also the people were very friendly and happy to assist us. We've got such pleasant and great impressions, that I'm very sure - we will return one day!

We began our tour with New York. This fascinating, powerful and gigantic world metropolis with its pulsating life captivated us soon and got us in the proper mood for our American tour. Most memorable experiences were a visit of the Empire State Building and the World Trade Center in Manhattan Downtown. New York with all the skyscrapers, its super Malls and pulsating life was a very new and great experience. We stepped in at "Macy’s" and “Manhattan Mall” and have been absolutely impressed by the dimension of these shopping centres and the unimaginable range of goods. Never before have I seen anything like that. Now we know, what it means “shopping in New York”.... A special highlight was a ride by bus through the island district Manhattan, the industrial, commercial and financial centre and the heart of this grandiose city. Here is the Wall Street with the New York Stock Exchange and here is the place, where two years later, on Sept. 11th, the terrorist attack happened, in the course of which the World Trade Center with its famous twin towers was destroyed - what a tragedy! The most exciting event for us was the visit to the Empire State Building. The outlook onto the city is absolutely impressive and makes you feel the pulse of this powerful and gigantic world metropolis. It is strange for us to realize, that the district of Harlem is a black enclave, where white tourists should not step in, as we have been told by the guide.

After a few exciting days we took the Greyhound bus and left for Washington, the elegant, spacious capital of the United States, with magnificent buildings and well-tended parks. Washington is an elegant city with spacious parks, broad streets and magnificent buildings, especially in the government district. Grand Museums invite to study the political, cultural and natural history of the country. In particular the exhibits of natural history are amazing and fascinating. The famous Capitol is open to the public and we took the chance to have a look into the interior. Under the far visible dome is a magnificent entrance hall. The huge rotunda shows with a frieze under the dome, with sculptures and paintings important personalities and historic scenes of the American history.

Another highlight was the Niagara Falls - what a breathtaking experience, to ride along the bottom of the Falls and to watch them by night under coloured floodlight! The 25 miles long Niagara River is the connection between the Erie Sea and the 62 miles long Ontario Sea, which forms the Niagara Falls: in the East the American Fall (height: 180 ft / 55 m, width: 1148 ft / 350m), in the North the Canadian Fall, also called the "Horseshoe Fall", (height: 161 ft / 49 m, width: 2788 ft / 850 m. The falls are best viewed from the Canadian site, where also is located the "Skylon Tower", an observation tower, which offers a breathtaking panoramic view of the whole area and enables you to watch, how the water of the Ontario Sea pours into the Niagara Falls. Most impressive for us has been a boat ride along the bottom of the falls. In this way we experienced this raging force of nature with all our senses. We heard and saw the thunderous water masses fall down from the height and the sea spray sprinkled on our raincoats. These were unforgettable and unimaginable impressions - one simply must have experienced this.

Next destination was Los Angeles. Already the landing approach by night was an unforgettable experience - an endless sea of lights for more than half an hour. Highlights of a sightseeing tour were Beverly Hills, Hollywood and Mann's Chinese Theatre, Santa Monica, Venice Beach and not least the unimaginable traffic system... Los Angeles - this is not simply a gigantic metropolis, but a monstrous union of 168 cities, where more than 13 million people live. An area, with the size of the German Federal country Schleswig-Holstein, including for example Hollywood and Beverly Hills but as well the fine sandy Californian beaches with attractive seaside resorts like Santa Monica or Venice Beach, the so-called "muscle beach" - a place for intensive fitness training. We were most impressed with the dimension of the city and the terrific traffic system. There are more than 1600 miles city highways. Once we passed a place, where 5 highways cross and the guide said, we just would ride in the 6th storey! All in all very interesting and exciting sites, but not places to live... A special highlight was the experience of old Hollywood with its loud colours and the crazy, outsized advertising. While visiting all the famous places we also walked along the "Walk of Fame". The famous sidewalk fixes with more than 2000 stars from brass the names of the Great in the show business and is leading right to the Mann's Chinese Theater, Hollywood's most famous and exotic cinema, where all the famous Hollywood stars left their Hand- and footprints as well as autographs - just see below. You can walk around and compare the size of your hands and feet...

The Greyhound brought us to Las Vegas then, where we rented a car for a round-trip though the Canyons in Arizona and Utah - what indescribable and unforgettable experiences! At first this world of imagination, this fascinating glamorous fairyland Las Vegas and then the breathtaking beauty of the Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Zion NP, Lake Powell.... The absolute highlight of the entire tour! Las Vegas is truly beyond human imagination. No one can fancy the incredible wealth and variety of fantasy and ideas. It is breathtaking and fascinating - a glamorous fairyland! Unbelievable as well, the multitude and dimension of the splendid, bright illuminated gambling dens in each hotel - they are the soul and real essence of Las Vegas! Of course most casinos offer as well special poker facilities and here you may find some of the best poker rooms. With their special attractions the hotels try to excel each other and to lure as much gamblers as possible. In front of the hotel "Treasure Island" for example, two huge sailing ships ride at anchor and perform piracy, and within the MGM casino you'll even find a cage with lions! Incidentally - there is no clock in any gambling den and if yet, without hands, for - the lucky one doesn't care for time....

**TRAVELLING AND TRANSPORT**

Transport or transportation is the movement of people, cattle, animals and goods from one location to another. Modes of transport include air, rail, road, water, cable, pipeline, and space. The field can be divided into infrastructure, vehicles, and operations. Transport is important since it enables trade between peoples, which in turn establishes civilizations.

Transport infrastructure consists of the fixed installations necessary for transport, and may be roads, railways, airways, waterways, canals and pipelines, and terminals such as airports, railway stations, bus stations, warehouses, trucking terminals, refuelling depots (including fuelling docks and fuel stations), and seaports. Terminals may be used both for interchange of passengers and cargo and for maintenance.

Vehicles travelling on these networks may include automobiles, bicycles, buses, trains, trucks, people, helicopters, and aircraft. Operations deal with the way the vehicles are operated, and the procedures set for this purpose including financing, legalities and policies. In the transport industry, operations and ownership of infrastructure can be either public or private, depending on the country and mode.

Passenger transport may be public, where operators provide scheduled services, or private. Freight transport has become focused on containerization, although bulk transport is used for large volumes of durable items. Transport plays an important part in economic growth and globalization, but most types cause air pollution and use large amounts of land. While it is heavily subsidized by governments, good planning of transport is essential to make traffic flow, and restrain urban sprawl.

A mode of transport is a solution that makes use of a particular type of vehicle, infrastructure and operation. The transport of a person or of cargo may involve one mode or several modes, with the latter case being called intermodal or multimodal transport. Each mode has its advantages and disadvantages, and will be chosen for a trip on the basis of cost, capability, route, and speed.

Terminals such as airports, ports and stations, are locations where passengers and freight can be transferred from one vehicle or mode to another. For passenger transport, terminals are integrating different modes to allow riders to interchange to take advantage of each mode's advantages. For instance, airport rail links connect airports to the city centres and suburbs. The terminals for automobiles are parking lots, while buses and coaches can operates from simple stops. For freight, terminals act as transhipment points, though some cargo is transported directly from the point of production to the point of use.

The financing of infrastructure can either be public or private. Transport is often a natural monopoly and a necessity for the public; roads, and in some countries railways and airports are funded through taxation. New infrastructure projects can involve large spending, and are often financed through debt. Many infrastructure owners therefore impose usage fees, such as landing fees at airports, or toll plazas on roads. Independent of this, authorities may impose taxes on the purchase or use of vehicles.

Private transport is only subject to the owner of the vehicle, who operates the vehicle themselves. For public transport and freight transport, operations are done through private enterprise or by governments. The infrastructure and vehicles may be owned and operated by the same company, or they may be operated by different entities. Traditionally, many countries have had a national airline and national railway. Since the 1980s, many of these have been privatized. International shipping remains a highly competitive industry with little regulation, but ports can be public owned.

Passenger transport, or travel, is divided into public and private transport. Public transport is scheduled services on fixed routes; while private transport is vehicles that provide ad hoc services at the rider's desire. The latter offers better flexibility, but lower capacity, and a higher environmental impact. Travel may be as part of daily commuting, for business, leisure or migration.

Short-haul transport is dominated by the automobile and mass transit. The latter consists of buses in rural and small cities, supplemented with commuter rail, trams and rapid transit in larger cities. Long-haul transport involves the use of the automobile, trains, coaches and aircraft, the last of which have become predominantly used for the longest, including intercontinental, travel. Intermodal passenger transport is where a journey is performed through the use of several modes of transport; since all human transport normally starts and ends with walking, all passenger transport can be considered intermodal. Public transport may also involve the intermediate change of vehicle, within or across modes, at a transport hub, such as a bus or railway station.

Taxis and Buses can be found on both ends of Public Transport spectrum, whereas Buses remain the cheaper mode of transport but are not necessarily flexible, and Taxis being very flexible but more expensive. In the middle is Demand responsive transport offering flexibility whilst remaining affordable.

International travel may be restricted for some individuals due to legislation and visa requirements.

***TEXTS FOR HOME READING***

**THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME**

Are you looking for a holiday that has that perfect mix of adventure and luxury? If so then an African safari resort is the one you have been searching for.

There are so many different choices you can stay at a resort, which offers fantastic safari trips giving you the opportunity to see lots of different regions and villages whilst taking in the sights of some of the most magnificent animals in the world. Then on your return enjoy the facilities of the resort such as: saunas, Jacuzzis, everything you need to wind down and really pamper yourself will be available to you.

Most people think of going on safari when visiting Africa but there is so much more to this beautifully wild and exciting country. There are some fantastic beach resorts as well that boast miles and miles of stunning white sandy beaches, sheer heaven for all you sun worshippers. Africa truly has it all so whatever you are hoping to get from your holiday you will not be disappointed if you stay in one of the African resorts.

In the southern parts of Africa you will find some amazing safari resorts with luxury abounding and no shortage of adventure. In the Kruger National Park, here it is believed you will come across some of the largest animals to be found in Africa such as the elephant, rhino, buffalo, and lion to name just a few. There are two outstanding lodges in this area known as “Boulders Lodge” and “Ebony Lodge” the amenities and luxurious quality of these lodges is second to none. With private plunge pools, baths, game viewing decks, each lodge has nine suites and every one of them are rated first class, and the staff are of the same high standard and will provide you with all you could possibly want from fine foods to vintage wine.

The difference between an African safari resort and a mobile safari of course is the luxury and convenience of everything and knowing you can be part of this wonderful experience without the stress or worry of for example “tent camping”. No matter whether you have a physical disability or perhaps think you are too old to do something like this then by going to an African safari resort you can be sure they will cater for everything. The whole family can enjoy this holiday with you as there will be no worries regarding safety or comfort, the vehicles at these lodges are fully air conditioned so while on your safari you will be completely comfortable and be able to totally enjoy the fantastic sights you will see. Many of these resorts will have a swimming pool if you and the kids fancy a dip or perhaps a round of golf is more your cup of tea, whatever your pleasure an African safari resort will deliver so go for the experience of a lifetime you won't regret it!

**CULTURE SHOCK**

Culture shock is precipitated by the anxiety that results from losing all familiar signs and symbols of social intercourse. These signs are the thousand and one ways in which we orient ourselves to the situations of daily life: when to shake hands and what to say when we meet people, when and how to give tips, how to give orders to servants, how to make purchases, when to accept and when to refuse invitations, when to take statements seriously and when not.

These cues, which may be words, gestures, facial expressions, customs, or norms are acquired by all of us in the course of growing up and are as much a part of our culture as the language we speak or the beliefs we accept. All of us depend for our peace of mind and our efficiency on hundreds of these cues, most of which are unconsciously learned.

When an individual enters a strange culture, all or most of these familiar cues are removed. He or she is like a fish out of water. No matter how broad-minded or full of good will he may be, a series of props have been knocked from under him. This is followed by a feeling of frustration and anxiety. People react to the frustration in much the same way. First they reject the environment which causes the discomfort: "the ways of the host country are bad because they make us feel bad."

For example Americans who are in a strange land get together to grouse about the host country and its people, you can be sure they are suffering from culture shock.

Another phase of culture shock is regression. The home environment suddenly assumes a tremendous importance, everything becomes irrationally glorified. All difficulties and problems are forgotten and only the good things back home are remembered. It usually takes a trip home to bring one back to reality.

Some of the symptoms of culture shock are: excessive concern over cleanliness and the feeling that what is new and strange is "dirty." This could be in relation to drinking water, food, dishes, and bedding; fear of physical contact with attendants or servants; a feeling of helplessness and a desire for dependence on long-term residents of one's own nationality; irritation over delays and other minor frustrations out of proportion to their causes; delay and outright refusal to learn the language of the host country; excessive fear of being cheated, robbed, or injured; great concern over minor pains and irruptions of the skin; and finally, that terrible longing to be back home, to be in familiar surroundings, to visit one's relatives, and, in general, to talk to people who really "make sense."

Individuals differ greatly in the degree in which culture shock affects them. Although not common, there are individuals who cannot live in foreign countries. Those who have seen people go through a serious case of culture shock and on to a satisfactory adjustment can discern steps in the process. During the first few weeks most individuals are fascinated by the new. They stay in hotels and associate with nationals who speak their language and are polite and gracious to foreigners. This honeymoon stage may last from a few days or weeks to six months, depending on circumstances. If one is very important, he or she will be shown the show places, will be pampered and petted, and in a press interview will speak glowingly about goodwill and international friendship.

But this mentality does not normally last if the foreign visitor remains abroad and has seriously to cope with real conditions of life. It is then that the second stage begins, characterized by a hostile and aggressive attitude toward the host country. This hostility evidently grows out of the genuine difficulty which the visitor experiences in the process of adjustment. There are house troubles, transportation troubles, shopping troubles, and the fact that people in the host country are largely indifferent to all these troubles. They help, but they don't understand your great concern over these difficulties. Therefore, they must be insensitive and unsympathetic to you and your worries. The result, "I just don't like them." You become aggressive; you band together with others from your country and criticize the host country, its ways, and its people. But this criticism is not an objective appraisal. Instead of trying to account for the conditions and the historical circumstances which have created them, you talk as if the difficulties you experience are more or less created by the people of the host country for your special discomfort. You take refuge in the colony of others from your country which often becomes the fountainhead of emotionally charged labels known as stereotypes. This is a peculiar kind of offensive shorthand which caricatures the host country and its people in a negative manner. The "dollar grasping American" and the "indolent Latin Americans" are samples of mild forms of stereotypes. The second stage of culture shock is in a sense a crisis in the disease, if you come out of it, you stay; if not, you leave before you reach the stage of a nervous breakdown.

If visitors succeed in getting some knowledge of the language and begin to get around by themselves, they are beginning to open the way into the new cultural environment. Visitors still have difficulties but they take a "this is my problem and I have to bear it" attitude. Usually in this stage visitors take a superior attitude to people of the host country. Their sense of humour begins to exert itself. Instead of criticizing, they joke about the people and even crack jokes about their own difficulties. They are now on the way to recovery.

In the fourth stage, your adjustment is about as complete as it can be. The visitor now accepts the customs of the country as just another way of living. You operate within the new surroundings without a feeling of anxiety, although there are moments of social strain. Only with a complete grasp of all the cues of social intercourse will this strain disappear. For a long time the individual will understand what the national is saying but is not always sure what the national means. With a complete adjustment you not only accept the food, drinks, habits, and customs, but actually begin to enjoy them. When you go home on leave, you may even take things back with you; and if you leave for good, you generally miss the country and the people to whom you became accustomed.

**PETS ON BOARD**

TAP Portugal allows transporting animals in the cabin or the hold, according to the weight, size and species of animal. Each country’s laws governing the import and export of animals must be respected, and therefore the relevant embassies or consulates must always be contacted. Passengers are responsible for submitting all the animal’s documents, such as health certificates, passports, among others. A signed declaration for expediting live animals must be submitted, which will be supplied when the animal’s transport is paid for. Food and water for the entire trip must be provided.

The booking must be made well in advance. If you would like to transport your pet, you must inform us at the time of booking, or at least 24 hours before departure. If the journey involves more than one airline, they must all authorise transporting the animal.

You will be required to provide information on the size of the box in which the animal is to be carried, total weight (box plus animal), and the species and number of animals to be carried. Animal transport boxes have to comply with TAP's definitions. Only cats and dogs are allowed in the cabin. The maximum weight of the animal transport box plus animal is 7 (seven) kg. The transport box may not exceed 48cm in length, 32cm in width and 25cm in height. Each passenger may only bring one animal transport box. However, the transport box may contain more than one animal of the same kind. The appropriate box (rigid or malleable) for transporting animals may be used as long as it does not exceed the dimensions defined above and is water-tight (capable of retaining the animal’s fluids).

Requests for transporting animals in the cabin will be approved subject to the availability of space, the type of plane allocated and the passenger’s cabin class. The animals must be clean, healthy, and free of odours and must not constitute a threat or disturb other passengers. Females may not be pregnant.

If the animal fulfils the cabin transport conditions and the application is approved, the animal transport box must be placed under the seat of the passenger responsible, so that it does not obstruct free movement in the cabin. A passenger seat may not be used and the animal may never move inside the cabin.

Animals may be carried in the hold of the plane on which the passenger responsible for them is travelling, under the following conditions:

 - Advance notice and confirmation of the animal in the hold;

 - Transport in the appropriate rigid box;

 - The passenger must provide enough food and water for the whole journey, as it will not be possible to feed or exercise the animal during stopovers or in transit.

The animal's box is delivered when the passenger is accepted on the flight and will be placed in the ventilated area in the hold of the plane.

**A DEFINITION OF AN ADVENTURE TOUR**

Many people dream of having amazing adventures like the one might see in the movies. Other vacationers decide to vacation at the same unadventurous location. If you are looking for a change from the ordinary and want to bring some real adventure into your life, you might want to consider taking an adventure tour for your next vacation. An adventure tour can be made up of a number of different components, but the end result is that you get to explore the best that the world has to offer in a hands-on way. Keep in mind that adventure tours are not for everyone; read these examples of common adventure tour components to see if one is right for you and your family.

Most adventure tours involve hiking at one point or another, generally in conjunction with camping. Some of the hikes may be relatively short, serving as a down-to-earth method of transportation between larger components of the tour. Other hikes can be quite long, comprising a major part of the tour's attraction. Many of the longer hikes have basic recommendations for your fitness level or they may require that you have a certain amount of hiking experience before you take them simply because the distances would be difficult for an out of shape individual to cover safely and in time with the rest of the group.

White water rafting is a common component of an adventure tour. Tours exist that take you on all grades of rivers, though the higher grades usually require a certain amount of rafting experience, which helps prevent you from being a danger to yourself and others. Some tours may even take you across different grades on different days, letting you build up experience over the course of the tour, allowing you to be ready for larger rapids later. Most rafting tours involve camping and may include hikes in between river sections as well.

Although not as common as rafting, a number of tours include a kayaking component as well. A number of these tours are featured in Alaska, where kayaking has somewhat of a cultural component; Alaskan kayak tours are often done in the open ocean. Kayaking is generally not the largest component of the tour, though dedicated kayaking tours do exist.

Another element that is incorporated into a number of adventure tours is rock climbing or rappelling. There is a larger element of danger involved with rock climbing than with a standard hiking tour, but the sense of accomplishment and adventure is well worth it. Many adventure tours that feature rock climbing or rappelling are centered in mountainous regions where climbing may be the primary focus of the tour. There are some hiking tours, which feature rock climbing as just a single component of the tour.

Other extreme sports may also be featured in adventure tours, though they are not as common as the elements that have already be mentioned. Some adventure tours incorporate bungee jumping, cliff diving, hang gliding, and similar activities in addition to hiking and more common components. Finding these tours may be a bit more difficult than finding a basic hiking tour, but if you are looking for a major thrill, these tours can definitely provide that extra sense of excitement.

It should be noted that not all adventure tours are wilderness based; many adventure tour companies have packages, which allow you to experience the adventures of modern life. Tours to cities like Las Vegas and San Francisco are relatively common, and some of them even manage to mix city entertainment components with wilderness adventure in the outlying natural parks as well. Other tours are based on an RV, which you take from one location to the next for each daily event. Some adventure tours contain components such as paintball or other team competitions as well. These are all exciting activities, which are excellent if you are looking to escape from the traditional trip to the beach. Although these may not be as relaxing as the beach, they sure provide excitement and a new thrill to your life.

Regardless of which type of adventure tour you choose, you can expect to have a great time while on the tour. Many adventure tours consist of hiking and camping, but they may also have secondary components such as kayaking and rock climbing. If these are not what you are looking for, there are adventure tours that include extreme sports such as bungee jumping, cliff diving or hang-gliding. The length of the tours can vary from 2-3 days to up to 2 weeks or more, so you should be able to find a tour that meets your exact requirements. If you are looking for a non-traditional vacation, it is highly recommended to try an adventure vacation because it provides an experience that should last a lifetime.

**"GREEN" COLORADO: ECO-FRIENDLY TOURISM**

Here in Colorado, we know that natural beauty makes our state an ideal place to live and work. Because of this, many Colorado businesses make it a priority to be eco-friendly—including those that make Colorado a truly “green” vacation destination.

Cultural attractions, hotels and resorts across the state are getting green from the ground up through the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certification Program fostered by the U.S. Green Building Council. Denver’s Museum of Contemporary Art is the nation’s first contemporary art museum to receive a gold level certification. And several properties are seeking or have been awarded LEED certification, such as The Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa in Avon and the Viceroy Hotel in Snowmass. Vail Valley’s Ever Vail will be the largest LEED-certified project for resort use in North America, complete with nature-sensitive roofs covered with soil and planted with local grasses to reduce solar heat retention, insulate the buildings and aid in drainage.

Colorado’s smaller lodging properties are also on the forefront of the green movement. Las Manos Bed & Breakfast in Buena Vista was recognized by ForbesTraveler.com as one of America’s 10 Greenest Hotels in 2007, and Devil’s Thumb Ranch, outside of Winter Park, was the only U.S. property to be included on Travel & Leisure’s 2007 list of the Top 20 Eco-Friendly Resorts in the World.

All 26 Colorado ski resorts have extensive recycling programs. Keystone, for example, offers creative composting efforts combining vegetable kitchen scraps with wood shavings to create rich fertilizing soil used in their landscaping. Silverton Mountain is entirely recycled—literally. The mountain resort was built with reclaimed products either donated or purchased from around the country, including lifts, mountain vehicles, ski patrol toboggans, furnishings—even handheld radios.

The resorts are also reducing greenhouse gas emissions with their public transportation systems. In 2007, more than 700,000 Winter Park visitors took advantage of its free community shuttle system. The Roaring Fork Transit Authority in Aspen/Snowmass recently added four additional hybrid buses to its fleet. In Telluride, access to the gondola has virtually eliminated the need for cars. Moreover, through the purchase of wind power, Colorado resorts are annually saving more than 241 million pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the earth’s atmosphere. A total of 11 resorts, including Aspen/Snowmass and Beaver Creek, offset 100 percent of their energy by purchasing wind power. In 2006, Steamboat Ski Resort opened the world’s first combined solar-wind powered ski lift, the Sunshine Express.

Colorado’s green movement grows with each business that acts on its environmental conscience and with each passionate visitor who walks through their doors. Consider these environmentally friendly tourism options, where protecting the earth is as integral to business as ensuring an enjoyable visit.

 ***TEXTS FOR ANNOTATION***

 More and more people all over the world prefer to spend their holidays travelling. Rich or poor, old or young, they strive to leave the place where they live or work, and move to another spot of our planet — at least for two to four weeks a year. They travel to cities and towns, mountains and lakes, across oceans and seas.

There are several reasons why the popularity of travel and tourism is growing. The first one is educational value of travelling. Man has always moved from one place to another in search of knowledge. Even now, in the age of technology and global communication, travelling to a different region or country can help discover new ideas, technologies and inventions. The best way of studying geography is travelling, the best way to help you master a foreign language is travelling, too. Moreover, a special kind of tourism has developed, called educational tourism when people travel to study a foreign language or to take up a course in one or several other subjects.

The second reason why people travel is entertainment and rest. To see great buildings and natural wonders, listen to national music, get some knowledge about traditions and ways of different countries, taste new cuisine gives us new emotions, helps drive away the stress.

Thirdly, there are special reasons. A lot of new types of travelling have appeared like ecotourism, educational tourism, sports tourism. A lot of people travel on business. Now, with the growth of international trade people have a lot of chances to do business with foreign partners, and they do it willingly. Some people have additional reasons to like travelling. When travelling, they do sports, or take care of their health, or get new contacts.

**Travelling by Car**

There is nothing better than travelling by a fast car. Travel by car is a more personal experience, for there you can drive yourself.

You just sit down at the steering wheel, start the motor, step on the accelerator with your foot and off goes the car. You can go as slowly or as fast as you wish, stop when and where you choose; you park the car on the side of the road, get out and go wherever you like.

It is quite true that driving a car has some disadvantages. In town it is rather a nuisance with all those traffic «jams» or «hold - ups», round-abouts, detours and so on. It is not pleasant at all when you ride on a bumpy road or get a flat tyre, or still worse, when you get stuck in the mud.

But what can be better than a spin in a car on a week-end with your friend? As soon as you get out of the crowded town and see a long wide road in full view, what a thrill it is to feel the car rush forward at a touch of your foot, to feel the wind in your face, to see houses, trees find people flash past, to feel the real joy of speed.

Then, of course, you see much more of the country than you do in a plane.

Suppose you are on vacation and have decided to take a trip in a car. What magnificent views you behold on your way — green fields, a road winding its way up the mountain with steep, grey cliffs on one side and a deep precipice on the other, a shining expanse of the sea wrapped in a blue noonday haze, the woods, the rows of acacia that stretch along the streets of the towns you pass through. Indeed your impressions are unforgettable.

**Travelling**

Millions of people all over the world spend their holidays travelling. They travel to see other countries and continents, modern cities and the ruins of ancient towns, they travel to enjoy picturesque places or just for a change of scene. It is always interesting to discover new things, to see different ways of life, to meet different people, to try different food, to listen to different musical rhythms.
Those who live in the country like to go to a big city and spend their time visiting museums and art galleries, looking at shop windows and dining at exotic restaurants. City dwellers usually like a quiet holiday by the sea or in the mountains, with nothing to do but walk and bathe and lie in the sun.
People who wish to travel either for pleasure or on business have at their disposal various means of transport. If you want to get somewhere as quickly as possible the best way is to travel by plane. It is better to book tickets in advance. On the appointed day you go to the airport by car. Soon you'll be boarding the big airliner and it will carry you to new lands. In front of you in the cockpit you'll see the pilot and the crew. Some of the passengers are already reclining in comfortable armchairs. There is a kitchen in the rear part of the plane where the stewardesses are preparing the meals. Presently the plane takes off and in a few minutes the pilot informs the passengers of the altitude. Sometimes it is possible to see land. It looks like a map in geography lessons.
Travelling by train is slower than by plane but it has its advantages. When on the train you can always see the country side around you, so you are not simply travelling, but your holidays have already begun. To have a good trip by train you must book the tickets in advance. When the day of your departure comes, you go to the railway station, which is usually closer to your home than the airport. The porter helps you with your luggage. You go to your carriage and find out if you have a lower or upper berth in your compartment. Each compartment has its own window, a table, a place for your suitcases and, of course, four berths.

**Travelling by Sea**

 Travelling by sea is mostly for those who are going on holiday and want a pleasant voyage. On board a large cruise ship people traverse oceans and visit other countries. The ship stops for a day or two in different ports and people go ashore on excursions. Crossing the ocean is a magnificent and very long voyage, with enormous waves before you and a 4-deck liner under you. The only drawback is seasickness, so before starting on a voyage you should find out whether you suffer from it or not.
Many people prefer travelling by car. This way you can explore the nearby towns and cities. The greatest advantage is that you can stop whenever you like and that you are not bound by any schedule. You start from your own front door and take any road you like.
Coach tours are not expensive and they are very popular. They are planned as holidays since you can have a chance to do a lot of sightseeing and have a good rest at the same time.
One of the cheapest and the most popular ways of travelling is hiking. It is always a great experience for a lover of nature - you feel yourself a part of nature. Walking through the wood or along the river, having a rest on the shore of a forest lake, climbing a mountain.
All means of travel have their advantages and disadvantages. People choose one according to their plans and destination. When travelling we see and learn a lot of things that we can never see or learn at home.

**Tourism**

Twenty years ago not many people travelled overseas for their holidays. The majority of people stayed to have holidays in their country. Today the situation is different and the world seems much smaller.

It is possible to book a holiday to a seaside resort on the other side of the world. Staying at home, you can book it through the Internet or by phone. The plane takes you straight there and within some hours of leaving your country, you can be on a tropical beach, breathing a super clean air and swimming in crystal warm water of tropical sea.

We can travel by car, by train or plane, if we have got a long distance tour. Some young people prefer walking or hitch-hike travelling, when you travel, paying nearly nothing. You get new friends, lots of fun and have no idea where you will be tomorrow. It has great advantages for the tourists, who want to get the most out of exploring the world and give more back to the people and places visited. If you like mountains, you could climb any mountains around the globe and there is only one restriction. It is money. If you like travelling, you have got to have some money, because it is not a cheap hobby indeed. The economy of some countries is mainly based on tourism industry. Modern tourism has become a highly developed industry, because any human being is curious and inquisitive, we like leisure, visit other places. That is why tourism prospers.

People travel from the very beginning of their civilization. Thousands years ago all people were nomads and collectors. They roamed all their lives looking for food and better life. This way human beings populated the whole planet Earth. So, travelling and visiting other places are the part of our consciousness. That is why tourism and travelling are so popular.

***ГРАММАТИЧЕСКИЙ МАТЕРИАЛ ДЛЯ САМОСТОЯТЕЛЬНОГО ИЗУЧЕНИЯ***

Существительное: множественное число существительных, притяжательный падеж.

Определенный, неопределенный, нулевой артикль.

Личные, притяжательные, указательные, относительные, вопросительные, неопределенные местоимения

Прилагательные, степени сравнения прилагательных

Наречие, степени сравнения наречий.

Формальные признаки сказуемого: позиция в предложении (повествовательном, вопросительном)

Временная система изъявительного наклонения.

Согласование времен изъявительного наклонения.

Условное наклонение.

Неличные формы глагола: причастия настоящего и прошедшего времени, отглагольное прилагательное, деепричастие.

Строевые слова – средства связи между элементами предложения

Долженствование / необходимость / желательность

Причинно-следственные отношения – придаточные предложения (причины, следствия).

Долженствование / необходимость / желательность / возможность действия – модальные глаголы

Структура сложноподчиненного предложения.

Побуждение к действию/просьба – глагол в повелительной форме