



1. What is happening in the photograph?

2. What was your best holiday experience? How did you travel?

3. What was your worst holiday experience? Why?

4. How do you like to commute (=travel) when:

- going to school? _____
- going on holiday? _____
- going out with friends? _____

Reading Comprehension

Before the second World War, travel was difficult to organize, expensive and sometimes dangerous. Nowadays, people can easily organize their next trip anywhere in the world through a *travel agent*. If you shop around, many travel agents can offer you cheap *package tours* to many *popular destinations* depending on the season. Air travel is generally more expensive towards the end of the year, during the Christmas and holiday season. This is the *peak* period for travel, and people often make travel *reservations* several months in advance. If you want to avoid peak travel periods, make your travel arrangements during the *off-peak* periods. Off-peak periods are as a good time to travel as it is usually quieter and a lot cheaper. Sometimes, you can get air, sea or train tickets to see many popular *tourist attractions* around the world for half price!

Many young people try to avoid the crowd when they travel, and they often prefer to travel *off the beaten track*. They often have *shoestring budgets*, and travel by *hitch-hiking* rather than by public transport. They also like to stay at *youth hostels* and meet other young travellers. Older people and families often have a bigger budget. They usually like to go on *packaged tours* and have all of their travel arrangements organized by the tour operator. Families prefer to book their holidays at a *resort*, often near a lake or close to the beach, where there are lots of activities for the children to enjoy.

Vocabulary Practice

travel agent - a person who organizes trips and tours.

package tours - a tour that is organized so that the food, accommodation and travel are all included in the one price.

popular destinations - a place where tourist like to visit.

peak - the busiest period.

reservations - booking a place or passage in advance.

off-peak - the least busy period.

tourist attraction - a popular place where tourist like to visit.

off the beaten track - a remote or not so well traveled road.

shoestring budgets - a very small budget.

youth hostels - an inexpensive lodging for youths.

hitch-hiking - to travel by asking for free rides.

resort - a place, hotel or town where people go to relax and enjoy their holidays.

After reading the text, do these exercises:

Compare:

| TRAVEL | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Before the second World War | Nowadays |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Check () the correct box

| Period | peak season | off-peak season | more expensive | cheaper |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|
| End of the year | | | | |
| August | | | | |
| Christmas | | | | |
| March | | | | |
| November | | | | |
| Holiday season | | | | |
| May | | | | |

Match according to the text and according to your knowledge:

● Travel off the beaten track

● Book their holidays at a resort

Young people ●

● Go on packaged tours

● Meet other young travellers

● Stay at youth hostels

Older people ●

● Travel by hitch-hiking

● Use public transport

● Have bigger budgets

● Have shoestring budgets

● Avoid the crowd