

CONVERSATION CONNECTION ACTIVITIES

TOPIC	Travel
ACTIVITIES:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. OPENING ACTIVITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Share brochures and postcards from students' countries. ○ Have students locate their countries on a class map and describe their favorite tourist place in their country. ○ Display souvenirs and travel guides. 2. VOCABULARY-BUILDING ACTIVITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review vocabulary words – definitions and pronunciation. ○ Review expressions. 3. CONVERSATION STARTERS – Small group discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Choose a facilitator for each group to throw out questions to promote discussion (see below), or post each group of questions by topic on an overhead or smart classroom computer. Allow sufficient time for small groups to view and discuss questions. ○ Encourage students to generate their own follow-up questions. ○ Rotate the topics so that all groups have an opportunity to discuss them. 4. CLOSING ACTIVITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review song lyrics. ○ Discuss use of reduction – 'cause for because. ○ Listen to the song. ○ Sing along with the song.
VOCABULARY EXPRESSIONS REDUCTIONS	<p><u>WORD LIST</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. traveler 2. tour 3. tourist 4. journey 5. leisure 6. baggage

7. backpacking
8. souvenirs
9. foreign

EXPRESSIONS

1. *armchair traveler*: Remote from active involvement
2. *travel abroad*: To take a trip out of one’s own country
3. *travel light*: Take little baggage
4. *off the beaten track*: On an unusual route or in an unknown area
5. *round trip*: A journey to a given place and back again, usually over the same route; also a ticket for such a trip

REDUCTIONS

‘Cause - because

ADDITIONAL SPEAKING ACTIVITY

Find someone who... vacations like you! An ESL speaking and CALL activity (See resources)

MATERIALS/ ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- **Questions** <http://iteslj.org/questions>
- **Song:** *Leaving On a Jet Plane* – John Denver
http://www.lyricsfreak.com/j/john+denver/leaving+on+a+jet+plane_20073310.html
- **Reading:** Share travel magazines, brochures, postcards.
Budget Travel Online (printable articles) <http://www.budgettravelonline.com>
- **Activity:** Find someone who... vacations like you! An ESL speaking and CALL activity:
<http://www.eslgo.com/resources/sa/fswvacation.html>
- **Listening:**
“Sightseeing Around Town” – Easy-level listening activity (audio, script, and exercises)
<http://www.esl-lab.com/travel/travelrd1.htm>
“Flight Arrangements” – Medium-level listening activity (audio, script, and exercises)
<http://www.esl-lab.com/flight/flightrd1.htm>

“Airport Announcement” – Difficult-level listening activity (audio, script, and exercises)

<http://www.esl-lab.com/airport/airportrd1.htm>

Travel with Rick Steves: Program Archives (Windows Media Player or podcast)

<http://www.ricksteves.com/radio/archive.htm>

○ **Internet Resources:**

Budget Travel <http://www.budgettravelonline.com>

Lonely Planet <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/textexpress>

○ **Dictionaries:** <http://encarta.msn.com/encnet/features/dictionary/dictionaryhome.aspx> (with audio)

<http://www.yourdictionary.com> (with audio)

○ **Reductions:** Etymology, pronunciation, and part of speech explained at

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reduction_\(linguistics\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reduction_(linguistics))

CONVERSATION STARTERS – Group discussion questions

TOPIC 1 – Preferences

1. Do you prefer active or relaxing holidays? Why?
2. Which is better, package tour or a tour you organize and book yourself?
3. Do you like to travel with children? Why or why not?
4. Do you like to travel with your mother? Why or why not?
5. Do you prefer summer vacations or winter vacations?
6. Do you prefer hot countries or cool countries when you go on holiday?
7. Do you prefer to travel alone or in a group? Why?
8. Do you prefer to travel by train, bus, plane or ship?
9. Do you prefer traveling by car or by plane?
10. Do you prefer traveling on a hovercraft or a ferry?
11. Would you prefer to stay at a hotel/motel or camp while on vacation?
12. Would you rather visit another country or travel within your own country?
13. Would you rather go to a place where there are a lot of people or to a place where there are few people?
14. What is the best kind of vacation for different ages of people? i.e. Children, teenagers, adults, elderly people
15. Do you think it is a good idea to travel with friends, or alone? How about with your family?
16. Do you find more fulfillment from your leisure activities including vacations than from your job?
17. Do you prefer a budget or first class hotel? Why?
18. Do you travel with a lot of baggage or do you like to travel light?
19. What is your favorite method of travel at your destination? Train? Bus? Boat? Bicycle? Backpacking?
20. When you are on a long car journey do you play games or sing songs to occupy your time? What kind of games? What songs?

**CONVERSATION-
STARTER
QUESTIONS**

TOPIC 2 – Memorable Trips

1. What's the best place you've been to in Florida? Why?
2. Have you ever been abroad?
3. Where have you been?
4. Describe the most interesting person you met on one of your travels.
5. Describe your best trip.
6. Describe your worst trip.
7. Did your class in high school go on a trip together? If so, where did you go? How long did you stay? How did you get there?
8. Have you ever been on an airplane? How many times? What airlines have you flown with?
9. Have you ever been to a foreign country?
10. Have you ever gotten lost while traveling? If so, tell about it.
11. Have you ever hitchhiked? If so, how many times?
12. Have you ever taken a package tour?
13. How many countries have you been to? How many states?
14. How many times have you traveled abroad?
15. What are popular tourist destinations in your country? Have you been to any of them? Which would you recommend if you could only recommend one? Why?
16. When you were a child did your family take a vacation every year? If so, where did you go?

TOPIC 3 – Fantasy Trips

1. If you traveled to Asia, what country would you visit? Why?
2. If you traveled to South America, what countries would you like to visit? Why?
3. If you traveled to Africa, what country would you visit? Why?
4. If you could visit any island in the world, which island would you visit? Why?
5. If you went to ___(Insert a country name)___, what kind of souvenirs would you buy?
6. If you were going on a camping trip for a week, what 10 things would you bring? Explain why.
7. If you had \$100,000, where would you go on holiday? How about if you had \$10,000? What about \$1,000?
8. What are some countries that you would never visit? Why would you not visit them?
9. What country do you most want to visit? Why? Do you think you will ever go there?
10. What countries would you not like to visit? Why?
11. Would you like to take a cruise? Where to? With whom?
12. If you could choose one place to go this weekend, where would it be? (in Florida)
13. Are you planning on going anywhere for your next vacation? If so, where? Who with? How long will you stay?
14. Do you consider yourself an armchair traveler? What do you do that makes you an armchair traveler?