

# Speaking Sample Questions

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## Holiday, Tourism and Travel

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### Part One:

- What do you do when you have a holiday?
- Who do you usually spend holiday with?
- Where do you like to spend your holidays? Why?
- Can you describe a typical day in your holidays?
- Why are holidays and important to you?
- If you could take a holiday anywhere in the world, where would you go? Why?
- What do people usually do during holidays and in your town?
- What form of transport do you prefer to use? Why?
- How much time do you spend travelling on a normal day?
- What do you do while you are travelling?
- Do you ever have problems with transport?



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## Part Two:



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Describe an interesting trip you have taken

You should say:

- Where you went
- When you went there
- Who you went with
- What you did there

And explain why you liked it.

Describe your idea of a perfect vacation.

You should say:

- Where would it be?
- Whom would you go there with?
- What would you do there?

Describe a restaurant that you enjoyed going to

You should say:

- Where the restaurant was
- Why you chose this restaurant
- What type of food you ate in this restaurant

And explain why you enjoyed eating in this restaurant.

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**Model Answer for the THIRD CUE CARD.**

About a year ago, I was invited by a friend of mine to go for lunch at a local restaurant. He actually chose it, not me, but it was very good and it is one of the best that I've ever eaten in. Everything was excellent, the service, the ambience, the food, and obviously good company as well, so it was a perfect afternoon we spent together.

The restaurant was maybe about 5km outside of the city where we live. It was in the country and situated next to a lake with a beautiful view of the surrounding countryside. Like I said, it was actually my friend who chose the restaurant. I didn't even know about it, although I had heard several people mention its name before. It truly was a spectacular location, quite breathtaking in fact. Maybe that's why so many people are enthusiastic about the place.

The food they offer is what would be classed as traditional food or 'home cooking' but it's of a very high standard and superb quality. The menu is varied and includes something for everyone. There are traditional meat dishes, different types of fish and they cater for vegetarians too with plenty of variety available for those who don't want to eat meat or fish.

I decided to have one of the local salmon, which is supposedly caught from the lake in front of the restaurant. My friend had a steak, he likes his red meat! The food was excellent; I couldn't fault it for anything. It was served quickly and was delicious. It's a place I will definitely be recommending to other people now that I've been and tried it for myself.

The whole experience was very good, from the food, the scenery and of course having an opportunity to catch up with my friend, so there were many reasons why this was a restaurant I enjoyed going to, and it was actually better than I thought it would be – which is always a nice surprise!

Describe a hotel you have stayed in.

You should say:

- where the hotel is
- why you stayed at that particular hotel
- what the view from the hotel is like

And explain what makes the hotel special.



**Model Answer**

So, about 6 months ago I was sent by my company to solve a problem for a client. The client was located in a remote island off the mainland and so I had to drive to the coast and then take a flight to the island. It was the first time I had ever been in such a small plane – there were only six passengers and there wasn't much room – but the most amazing thing was that the plane actually landed on the beach when we arrived at the island, well, when I say beach it was

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more like a field which was beside the sea – with a bit of sand.

Anyway, the plan had been to go there early in the morning and then fly back late afternoon because there were only two flights that day; one in and one out. Unfortunately, while I was there the weather turned really bad and a really strong storm moved in from the sea and so it was impossible to fly out in the afternoon.

So someone at the company I had been visiting arranged a local hotel for me to stay at until the next day, when hopefully I would be able to fly out again. The hotel, like the plane, was really small – I think there were only four rooms, but it was so cool! It was like an old farmhouse with a big open fire, and the owner, a middle-aged lady, was really friendly and made sure I was comfortable and had everything I needed.

When dinner was served in the evening I met another guest and we chatted while eating and then had a coffee afterwards and the owner also joined us and told us a little more about life there and her hotel. It was really fascinating – I'd never stayed anywhere so remote before, so it was quite an adventure.

As for the view from the hotel, that night it wasn't very impressive because all you could see was the rain and some of the lights along the coast – but early the next morning when the sun came up it was quite spectacular to see the light bouncing off the ocean and the birds flying around. The storm had passed but the waves were still crashing onto the shore and you could see some of the fishing boats in the harbor as well, so it was really quite picturesque.

Anyway, by about midday the pilot had gotten the all clear to fly again and shortly after that we were off and flying back to the mainland.

I've stayed in quite a few hotels over the years, but I'll never forget that one – it was just so different; more like staying with an old friend in their house because the atmosphere was very homey and not like most commercial hotels.

## Part Three:



- What problems can people have when they are on their daily journey to work or school for example? Why is this?
- What do you think people can learn from travelling to other countries? Why?
- Can travel make a positive difference to the economy of a country? How?
- Do you think people like to stay at hotels? Why?
- Do you think hospitality jobs are desirable?
- Do you think the hotel industry should be regulated? Why?
- What are the most important things that a good hotel should have?
- Do you think the tourist industry is a good industry to work in for young people in your country?
- Should there be any restrictions on the travel business?

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- Should there be any restrictions on the tourism industry?
- Should there be any restrictions on business travel?
- What are some of the benefits of international tourism for a country?
- What are some of the problems that can be associated with international tourism?
- Are there any differences between travelling in the past and now?
- How do you think tourism in your country will develop in the future?
- What should the government do to attract more tourists?
- Is there anything people can do to support the tourist industry?



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