

COUNTRIES AND NATIONALITIES

Vocabulary

country – an area of land that is controlled by its own government, president, king, etc.

state – a country considered as a political organization OR one of the areas with limited law-making powers that together make up a country controlled by a central government, such as the US and Australia

continent – one of the seven large land masses on the earth's surface, surrounded, or mainly surrounded, by sea and usually consisting of various countries

nation – a country, considered especially in relation to its people and its social or economic structure, OR a large group of people of the same race and language

nationality – a large group of people with the same race, origin, language, nation

language – a system of communication by written or spoken words, which is used by the people of a particular country or area

indigenous – indigenous people or things have always been in the place where they are, rather than being brought there from somewhere else

aborigine – someone who belongs to the race of people who have lived in Australia from the earliest times

travel – the activity of travelling

journey – the act of travelling from one place to another, especially in a vehicle

trip – a visit to a place that involves a journey, for pleasure or a particular purpose

return trip – the journey back to a place

traveller (BrE)/ **traveler** (AmE) – someone who is travelling a long distance

tourist – someone who is travelling somewhere for a holiday

explorer – someone who travels through an unknown area to find out about it

native – someone who lives in a place all the time or has lived there a long time

sea – the large area of salty water that covers much of the Earth's surface

ocean – one of the very large areas of sea on the Earth's surface

day off – a day's holiday from work or school, on what would normally be a working day

holiday – a time of rest from work, school

vacation – especially American English a holiday OR time spent not working

border – the official line that separates two countries, states, or areas, or the area close to this line

neighbouring country (BrE)/ **neighboring country** (AmE) – a country that is on the border with another country

customs – the government department that checks goods coming into a country and collects any taxes on them

region – a large area of a country or of the world, usually without exact limits

fortnight – a period of 14 days, two weeks

Verbs

to travel – to make a journey, usually over a long distance

to cross – to go from one side to another

to book – to make arrangements to stay in a place, eat in a restaurant, go to a theatre, etc. at a particular time in the future

to hop on something – to jump or get onto something that is moving

to explore – to travel around an area in order to find out about it

to head off to somewhere – to leave to go to another place

to rent – to pay money for the use of something for a short period of time

to roam – to walk or travel, usually for a long time, with no clear purpose or direction

to end up – to reach some conclusion, state, or situation due to a particular course of action

to look through – to have a glance at something, to read something

to review – to study facts again in order to learn them before an examination

to powerstudy – to study (something) very intensely, especially within a short period of time

Phrases

to go on a trip OR to make a trip – to go somewhere and come back

to take some time off – to take a vacation from work for some period of time

to cause problems – to make difficulties

to go sightseeing – to visit famous or interesting places, especially as tourists

I am worn out – I am very tired

to work like a dog – to work very hard

to come up with a plan – to think and suggest a plan

to cost a pretty penny – to be very expensive

a couple of nights – two nights

cheap as chips – something is very inexpensive

to make dreams come true – to make your dreams real

to travel overseas – to travel to another country or countries, especially across the sea OR to travel from one continent to another

to study for something – to learn or memorize information in order to prepare for some upcoming quiz, test, examination

to study up on someone or something – to learn a lot of information about someone or something, especially in a short span of time

to try one's best – to do all that one can

to shoot from the hip – to speak or say directly
to go the extra mile – to make a special effort or try very hard to achieve your goal
I didn't have a clue – I had no knowledge or idea
It blew me away – when something blows you away, you are extremely impressed by it

Grammar Corner

We use the present perfect continuous when we talk about an action (normally quite a long one) which began in the past and has continued to the recent point in time. The present perfect continuous usually emphasizes duration, or the amount of time that an action has been taking place.

*e.g. I've been dreaming of going to Brazil for years!
 Sarah hasn't been studying lately, she's been very lazy.*

We use the preposition *by* with transportation options. However, if we walk, we use *on foot*.

*e.g. Travelling is so easy now – you can go **by** plane, **by** train, **by** car. Our options are unlimited.*

*I'd rather go **on foot**. It's easier to take pictures and appreciate whatever you see on your way.*

Real Life Situations

(P1 – Person 1, P2 – Person 2)

Neighbouring Countries

P1: I am dead tired!

P2: Honey, what happened?

P1: I'm worn out! I've been working like a dog for three months without a vacation. Ten hours per day, without a day off. And you ask me what happened? I want to go on a trip somewhere. I just need to take some time off.

P2: Hey, hey, breathe! Relax, darling. I promise you, we'll make a trip.

P1: I don't want an ordinary trip, I want to cross the ocean and travel across Europe.

P2: As you wish. That's not a problem. Let me come up with a plan. What countries would you like to visit?

P1: Portugal, Spain, France, and maybe if we have enough time, the UK.

P2: Wow, that's a good number of countries for one trip. We should think of transportation options thoroughly then.

P1: These are neighboring countries, so I don't think it'll cause any problems to visit all of them.

P2: Not at all, but traveling by plane would cost us a pretty penny!

P1: We can begin our journey going by a plane from the U.S. to Portugal, then after spending a couple of nights there, we can take a train to Spain. I would like to travel to Seville and Barcelona and do a lot of sightseeing there. So maybe we should book a hotel in both cities.

P2: So you want to hop on a plane from Washington to Lisbon, and after spending some time there, take a train from Lisbon to Seville, spend a night or two there and take one more train to Barcelona, right?

P1: Yes, then we can take one more plane and go to the U.K.

P2: This would be too expensive. You told me that you wanted to travel to France, what about heading off to France by bus from Spain...

P1: Boring! I want to explore the places not as an ordinary tourist, I want to feel like a native.

P2: Hmm, let me think. Oh, I've got an idea! What if we rent a car in Spain and travel to France by car?

P1: That's a brilliant idea! And we can sleep in a car so we'll save money and spend it on restaurants trying national French cuisine or going to museums.

P2: Sounds really nice! And you know what? We can go from Paris to London by train only for 15 euros.

P1: As cheap as chips! It's been my dream for so many years – to cross the ocean and travel across neighboring European countries, to roam along the medieval streets, to explore the hidden places that tourists usually don't know about.

P2: It's finally the right time to make your dreams come true. You can start packing – I am booking the tickets.

Countries and Nationalities

P1: Hey, mom!

P2: Hi, Jimmy! How are things at school?

P1: It's OK, but I have a geography test tomorrow...

P2: Oh, these tests are always so stressful. Do you need any help?

P1: I think, yes. There's this task where you should match the capital and the country, and the language with the nationality, and it's kind of difficult.

P2: My advice is to study up on all the material that you have about the countries and nationalities, look through all your notes and review everything that you have studied before. And then I'll check your knowledge.

P1: Alright, I will try my best.

some time later

P2: How is your progress, Jimmy?

P1: I think I'm ready!

P2: That's good news! Can I check then?

P1: Yes, for sure, ask any question, I'm sure I'll give a correct answer.

P2: Okay, what's the capital of France?

P1: Easy! Paris.

P2: That's right. What language do they speak there?

P1: French.

P2: Right. What's the capital of India and what do you call people who live there?

P1: The capital of India is New Delhi and people.. Hmm..Indiana!

P2: What? Indiana is a state in the U.S., Jimmy. The nationality of people living in India is called 'Indian', not Indiana.

P1: Oh, yes, I probably confused these two... Give me one more chance, ask a question!

P2: What is the nationality of people living in Austria?

P1: Australians! But it's an interesting fact that they speak German there, not Australian.

P2: That's an interesting fact that you studied for 2 hours and didn't learn anything! Australia is a separate continent and country. Austria is a European country. How is it possible to confuse them?

P2: I don't know, they all sound pretty much the same.

P1: Stop shooting from the hip with your answers and tell me that you played video games instead of studying for a test.

P2: But the game that I played is connected with geography. It's about pirates and seas and exploring the new continents.

P1: Oh Jimmy! If you really want to get a good result, you should go the extra mile and open the books!

Indigenous People

P1: Hello, Mary! What are you reading?

P2: Hi! I'm reading a book about indigenous people.

P1: Indigenous people?

P2: Yeah, have you ever heard about the First people or Aboriginal people?

P1: Yes, I think we learned it at school.

P2: They're also called indigenous people. Basically, they're ethnic groups who are the original owners of a given region.

P1: Are there a lot indigenous people living in the world right now?

P2: Yes! There are approximately 400,000 indigenous people in the world, spread across 90 countries, speaking their own languages, and maintaining their own traditions and culture.

P1: Wow, I didn't have a clue. Are there Indigenous people living in the U.S. as well?

P1: Of course! In the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand. Some of them have adapted to the modern world and learned English, but there are such people who keep leading the way of life their ancestors used to thousands of years ago.

P2: That's unbelievable! You blew me away with this information.

P1: This is our history, the history of our world, so it's important to know it. But don't worry, it's never too late to learn.