

Global View - Phobias (C0302)

A: Are you excited about your trip next month?

B: Yes and no. I can't wait to go to Europe, but at the same time I am terrified.

A: Why?

B: Well, I have aerophobia. I have a chronic fear of flying.

A: Oh really? I have an uncle who is also terrified of flying. It's not that bad though, I mean, it is pretty scary to be in this big machine flying through the air at seven hundred miles per hour. I actually have arachnophobia.

B: You're scared of spiders? I actually have two more phobias. Acrophobia and glossophobia.

A: I guess that explains why you are afraid of flying, but public speaking is not that bad.

B: Are you kidding? When I get on stage, my palms start to sweat, I get really nervous and I can hardly speak.

A: Well, I must confess I am a bit claustrophobic. I hate being in an elevator for more than 5 seconds.

B: We are such weirdos right?

Key Vocabulary

trip	<i>N</i>	journey to a place
terrify	<i>A</i>	to fill with terror or alarm; make greatly afraid
aerophobia	<i>N</i>	an abnormal fear of drafts of air, gases, or airborne matter
chronic	<i>A</i>	constant, habitual
phobia	<i>N</i>	irrational fear of a specific object, activity
glossophobia	<i>N</i>	the fear of public speaking
Acrophobia	<i>N</i>	a pathological fear of heights

sweat	<i>V</i>	to excrete (perspiration, moisture, etc.) through the pores of the skin
nervous	<i>A</i>	being worried about what might happen
kidding	<i>V</i>	fool or joke
claustrophobia	<i>N</i>	an abnormal fear of being in enclosed or narrow places.
confess	<i>V</i>	To admit or acknowledge something damaging
weirdo	<i>N</i>	a strange person

Supplementary Vocabulary

Venustraphobia	<i>N</i>	the fear of beautiful women
panic	<i>N</i>	a sudden overwhelming fear
scary	<i>A</i>	causing fright or alarm.