

# Speak English With Vanessa

Free PDF Worksheet

## 250 Important English Phrases

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*Dear English Learner,*

*Get ready to speak confidently with these common English phrases. I recommend reading these sample sentences out loud and using the blank space on the last page to answer my challenge question using the vocabulary. Thanks so much for learning English with me!*

*Your teacher,  
Vanessa*

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## 50 Most Important Idioms

### Nature

1. You rock! *You are great*

Thank you for watching my cats while I went on vacation. **You rock!**

2. Calm before the storm: *a quiet period before chaos*

I like to wake up at 6am, before my children wake up. It's the **calm before the storm**.

3. Under the weather: *to feel sick*

I wish I could go apple picking with you, but I feel a bit **under the weather** today.

4. When it rains, it pours: *bad things happen at the same time*

2020 was a crazy year. **When it rains, it pours!**

5. Rain or shine: *to do something in any weather*

My family likes to go hiking every Friday, **rain or shine**.

6. Every cloud has a silver lining: *something good in every bad situation*  
Lockdowns were really tough during the pandemic, but I guess **every cloud has a silver lining**.
7. Go with the flow: *go along with whatever happens*  
When you have kids, you need to be able to **go with the flow** every day.
8. Down to earth: *practical, human, relatable*  
Even though she is a celebrity, she seemed really **down to earth**.
9. Tip of the iceberg: *small part of something bigger, usually negative*  
When a parent yells at their child at the park, this is probably just the **tip of the iceberg**.
10. Nip something in the bud: *stop a bad situation from becoming worse by taking quick action*  
When my 3-year-old son first lied to me, I knew that I needed to **nip it in the bud**.
11. Beat around the bush: *speak indirectly without getting to the main point*  
Stop **beating around the bush** and tell me: do you want to date me or not?
12. The best of both worlds: *an ideal situation*  
This is **the best of both worlds** because we can be fulfilled by our job and also by taking care of our children.
13. Get wind of something: *hear news about something secret*  
If the media **gets wind of** the political scandal, they are going to be talking about it for days.

14. Plain as day: *obvious to see*

It's **plain as day** that she loves you. Why don't you ask her on a date?

15. Up in the air: *no definite plans*

I want to visit Switzerland, but because of Covid, our travel plans are **up in the air**.

16. Call it a day: *to stop working on a project for the day*

I'm so tired, I'm ready to **call it a day**.

## Animals

17. Go cold turkey: *suddenly quit a bad habit*

If you want to quit smoking, you need to **go cold turkey**.

18. Go on a wild goose chase: *to do something pointless*

I **went on a wild goose chase**: I went to four stores to find molasses.

19. Crying wolf: *to lie many times so no one believes you*

Weather forecasters **cry wolf** about dangerous hurricanes so many times that people stop believing them.

## Food

20. Bring home the bacon: *to make money to support your family*

When I was growing up, my dad **brought home the bacon**.

21. Two peas in a pod: *two people who are a perfect pair*

My son and his friend are **two peas in a pod** when they play together.

22. Butter me up: *to flatter someone in order to get something*

They are probably trying to **butter you up** to get some money.

23. Spill the beans: *to tell a secret*

When I was pregnant with my first son, we didn't **spill the beans** for the first couple months.

24. Take it with a grain of salt: *don't believe something seriously*

**Take it with a grain of salt**, I'm just an amateur gardener.

25. Spice things up: *to make something more interesting*

I try to **spice things up** by going for a walk down a different road.

## Body

26. Lose your touch: *stop having an ability or talent for something*

If you don't speak English for months, you will **lose your touch**.

27. Rule of thumb: *a general rule or guideline*

Texting your friend before you go to his house is a good **rule of thumb**.

28. By the skin of my teeth: *to just barely make it*

You passed **by the skin of your teeth**.

29. Get something off your chest: *to talk about something that is bothering you*

You seem upset, is something bothering you? Would you like to **get something off your chest**?

30. Put your foot in your mouth: *say something you shouldn't have said*

I really **put my foot in my mouth** when I asked my neighbor about her husband, I didn't realize she was divorced.

31. Bite the bullet: *stop waiting and do something difficult*

I hate calling my insurance company, but sometimes I just have to **bite the bullet** and do it.

32. Get out of hand: *get out of control*

A classroom of 20 three-year-old children can quickly **get out of hand**.

33. Wrap your head around something: *understand something complicated*

As a high school student, I couldn't **wrap my head around** complex math problems.

34. To play something by ear: *to not make definite plans*

I want to go hiking tomorrow, but it might rain. Let's **play it by ear**.

35. A blessing in disguise: *something good that seemed bad at first*

Covid lockdowns were kind of a **blessing in disguise** for some people.

## Money

36. Break the bank: *to be really expensive*

Learning English on YouTube doesn't **break the bank**.

37. Give you a run for your money: *to be a challenge*

The Italian soccer/football team **gave** the German team **a run for their money**.

38. Up the ante: *to do or request more than before*

My sister brought a salad to the dinner party, but I decided to **up the ante**: I brought homemade bread and two bottles of wine.

## Action Words

39. Cut someone some slack: *to not judge too harshly*

Sorry, I forgot to call you. Please **cut me some slack**... I haven't slept in weeks.

40. Draw a/the line: *to know the difference between acceptable and not*

There are a lot of ways to raise a child, but most people **draw the line** at violence.

41. Play devil's advocate: *to argue the opposite opinion for the purpose of debate*

To **play devil's advocate**, aren't grammar books useful when you are just starting to learn a language?

42. Rings a bell: *sounds familiar but you don't know why*

Victor Hugo? That name **rings a bell**. What did he do?

43. Go the extra mile: *to make an extra effort*

My neighbors **went the extra mile** and picked up my trash when a raccoon made a mess.

44. Make a long story short: *tell a long story briefly*

We met on the first day of college and **to make a long story short**, we became friends, we dated for 5 years, and then we got married!

45. Jump on a bandwagon: *to follow a trend to be like everyone else*

A lot of high school girls were dying their hair blonde, but I didn't **jump on that bandwagon**.

## Extra Idioms

46. On the ball: *very prepared for something*

My house is often messy, the sink is full of dishes, but in my professional life, I am almost always **on the ball**.

47. 24/7: *all the time, constantly*

When you are a parent, you are busy **24/7**.

48. Easier said than done: *not as easy as it seems*

It's essential to use English a little bit every day, but **easier said than done**.

49. Better late than never: *arriving late is better than not coming at all*

So sorry that I'm late, traffic was awful. -It's OK, **better late than never**!

50. So far so good: *things are going well so far*

I've been making videos on YouTube for almost 5 years. **So far so good**!

## 50 More Important Idioms

### Animals

1. A little bird told me: *you heard something from a secret source*

**A little bird told me** it was your birthday today!

2. As the crow flies: *in a straight line or by the shortest route*

**As the crow flies**, I am pretty close to the school, but because of lots of one-way streets, it takes me a long time to get there.

3. Kill two birds with one stone: *to get two things done at one time*

I decided to **kill two birds with one stone** and I did both!

4. Curiosity killed the cat: *being curious can get you into trouble*  
Hey, **curiosity killed the cat**, don't ask questions around Christmas time.
5. Cat got your tongue: *when someone is speechless or not talking*  
What's the matter? Why are you so quiet? **Cat got your tongue?**
6. Bark up the wrong tree: *to believe or pursue something wrong*  
My sister was **barking up the wrong tree** when she accused me of taking her favorite shirt.
7. Packed like sardines: *a lot of people crammed into one place*  
When everyone got in the train, we were **packed like sardines**.

## Farm

8. When pigs fly: *something that is impossible and will never happen*  
I told my husband that I would stop eating chocolate...**when pigs fly**.
9. Put all your eggs in one basket: *to put all your efforts and/or resources in one place*  
When you're applying for a job, don't **put all your eggs in one basket**. You should apply to multiple companies.
10. Don't count your chickens before they hatch: *don't assume that something is going to happen, wait until you know for sure*  
My friend told me not to **count my chickens before they hatch**.
11. Don't put the cart before the horse: *to do something in the wrong order*  
**Don't put the cart before the horse** by quitting your job before you have another one.



12. Straight from the horse's mouth: *to get information directly from the source*

If you don't believe me, ask him and hear it **straight from the horse's mouth**.

13. A needle in a haystack: *something that is impossible to find*

Trying to find my friend in a crowd was like trying to find **a needle in a haystack**.

14. Hit the hay: *to go to bed*

After learning these fifty idioms, you are probably going to be ready to **hit the hay**.

## Body

15. Break a leg: *good luck!*

Before I went on stage for the performance, my fellow actors told me to **break a leg**.

16. Pulling my leg: *to tease or joke with someone*

I thought my dad was telling me a serious story, but it turns out he was just **pulling my leg**.

17. Keep an eye out: *be on the lookout for something*

**Keep an eye out** for snakes when you're hiking, they're everywhere!

18. Keep your eyes peeled: *be on the lookout for something*

When I go hiking, I **keep my eyes peeled** for snakes.

19. See eye to eye: *to agree on something*

We may not **see eye to eye** on all issues, but we both love cats.

20. Eyes bigger than your stomach: *when you take more food than you can eat*

When I put all this food on my plate for Thanksgiving, my **eyes were bigger than my stomach**.

21. Bite off more than you can chew: *to try to do more than you are able, to over-commit*

I think I might have **bitten off more than I can chew**. I'm going to need to delay one of them.

22. Keep your chin up: *have courage in a hard situation*

**Keep your chin up**, you can do it!

23. Chip on your shoulder: *holding a grudge or grievance or feeling wronged*

He left the game with a **chip on his shoulder**.

24. Bend over backwards: *to make a great effort*

Car companies are **bending over backwards** to sell cars nowadays.

25. Add insult to injury: *to make a bad situation worse*

I accidentally locked my keys in my car and then, to **add insult to injury**, my phone battery died so I couldn't even call a locksmith!

26. Rub salt in the wound: *to make a bad situation worse*

Seeing my friend's pictures of her kids happily playing together just **rubbed salt in the wound**.

27. Go behind someone's back: *to do something bad secretly*

She **went behind my back** and climbed out her bedroom window to go on a date with him!

## Work and Productivity

28. Burn the candle at both ends: *use energy without being efficient*

I have been **burning the candle at both ends** by working a morning job and a nighttime job.

29. Burn the midnight oil: *working long hours, usually at night*

I've been **burning the midnight oil** to finish my project on time.

30. Running on fumes: *working until you are exhausted*

Making holiday preparations has left me so tired. I feel like I am **running on fumes**.

31. Cut corners: *to do something in the quickest, easiest, cheapest way*

I tried to **cut corners** when I was making the meal, but I just ruined the whole thing.

32. Get the ball rolling: *to get something started*

You want to **get the ball rolling** on your English skills, so you're watching this lesson!

33. Back to the drawing board: *to start over on something*

My dream of having a beautiful flower garden was ruined when my neighbor's dog dug up all of my flowers. Well, **back to the drawing board!**

34. Hit the books: *to study hard*

If I want to get good grades, I need to **hit the books**.

## Transportation

35. Miss the boat: *missed an opportunity*

Don't **miss the boat** on practicing these idioms!

36. That ship has sailed: *another way to say a missed opportunity*

I wanted to buy some shoes at 50% off but when I went back to the store, I realized **that ship has sailed**. The sale is over.

37. Train has left the station: *the process is already underway*

My husband said he didn't want to go to the party but that **train had already left the station** because I told the host that we would be there.

38. Drive someone up the wall: *to make someone irritated, annoyed, or angry*

When my neighbor's dog was barking all night, it was **driving me up the wall!**

### Extra Idioms

39. On the fence: *unable to make a decision*

I'm **on the fence** about hiring a professional cleaner to help clean my house.

40. I heard it through the grapevine: *to hear about something from a secret source*

How did you hear that she's pregnant? **-I heard it through the grapevine.**

41. A short fuse: *being quick to anger*

My geometry teacher had **a short fuse**, he would often throw chalk if a student was late to class.

42. A stone's throw away: *a short distance away*

I'm so happy that the closest grocery store is just **a stone's throw away**.

43. At the drop of a hat: *immediately, without delay*

I know that my friend will help me **at the drop of a hat**.

44. Cut to the chase: *get to the point, get on with it*

I told her to **cut to the chase**: are you going on a date or not?

45. Once in a blue moon: *not often*

When I was a kid, I flossed my teeth **once in a blue moon**. Now, as an adult, I floss them every day.

### Words of Wisdom

46. You can't judge a book by its cover: *don't form an opinion based only on appearance*

The restaurant was small, it didn't have many decorations, but the food was amazing! I guess **you can't judge a book by its cover**.

47. Cross that bridge when you come to it: *deal with a situation when it occurs, not before*

I think it might rain next week and ruin our picnic plans, but let's **cross that bridge when we come to it**.

48. No use crying over spilled milk: *it isn't helpful to feel bad about something that has already happened*

I forgot about my diet and had pizza for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Oh well! **No use crying over spilled milk**. I'll do better tomorrow.

49. Actions speak louder than words: *what you do is more important than what you say*

A lot of English learners say they want to practice their English, but **actions speak louder than words**, you're actually doing it!

50. Out of sight, out of mind: *when you are separated from someone or something, you forget about them*

I always write events on my calendar because if I don't, **out of sight, out of mind!**

## 50 Important Phrasal Verbs

1. To add up: *something that makes sense; usually negative*  
Her story didn't **add up**. I think she's lying.
2. To back (somebody) up: *to support someone*  
My parents **backed me up** when I decided to apply for graduate school.
3. To blow up: *to become suddenly angry*  
When I told her I couldn't come to her party, she **blew up**.
4. Bring it on: *to accept a challenge with confidence*  
Fifty new phrasal verbs? Yeah, **bring it on!**
5. To bring up: *to mention in conversation*  
You shouldn't **bring up** politics in this house unless you're ready for a long discussion.
6. To call off: *to cancel something that has been planned*  
Instead of **calling off** the wedding, the couple decided to elope.
7. To calm down: *to relax*  
When I have a stressful day, I like **to calm down** by taking a nice long walk outside.
8. To catch up (on): *to meet with someone you haven't seen in a while*  
I met my friend for lunch **to catch up** because we haven't seen each other in a long time.
9. To check in: *to register for a hotel stay*  
I went to the hotel **to check in** while my husband parked the car.

10. To check out: *to see or try something; or to leave a hotel*

I'm excited **to check out** the new park in my city!

11. To chip in: *to help or contribute money or energy*

I couldn't go to the party, but I still wanted **to chip in** for a gift.

12. To close down: *to close completely or forever*

Because of construction, they **closed down** two lanes of the highway.

13. To come down with: *to become sick*

I'm not feeling so well. I think I'm **coming down with** something.

14. To come up with: *to find an idea for something*

I need **to come up with** a great present for my mom's birthday.

15. To cut back on: *to consume less of something*

I need **to cut back on** fried food, but it's so tasty!

16. To cut off: *to end abruptly, usually driving or speaking*

The driver in the red car **cut me off** and almost caused a wreck!

17. To drop by/in: *to stop by for a visit*

Hey, are you home? I'm in the neighborhood and I wanted **to drop by**.

18. To end up: *to eventually decide or reach something*

We **ended up** just ordering pizza and not going to the fancy restaurant.

19. To figure out: *to understand or find the answer*

The mechanic tried **to figure out** what was wrong with my car.

20. To fill in: *to provide information, usually spoken*

I missed the meeting, can someone **fill me in**?

21. To fill out: *to write information on a form*

When you go to a new doctor's office, you need **to fill out** a lot of paperwork.

22. To find out: *to learn something you didn't know before*

In the next episode, we will **find out** who the mysterious man is!

23. To get along (with): *to have a friendly relationship with someone*

I **get along with** my neighbors really well.

24. To get around (to it): *to delay doing something*

One day I'll **get around to** cleaning the garage, but not today.

25. To get back at: *to get revenge on someone*

My sister took my shoes **to get back at me** for taking her sweater.

26. To give up: *to quit*

After trying to change the oil in my car for a couple of hours, I finally **gave up** and went to a mechanic.

27. To grow up: *to become older; or to tell someone to stop acting childish*

When I was a child, I couldn't wait **to grow up**.

28. To hang on: *to pause a conversation*

Can you **hang on** for just a sec while I check this message?

29. To hang out: *to casually spend time with someone*

Do you want to come over to my house and **hang out**?



30. To hold on: *to cling to something; or to pause a conversation*

I am **holding on** to hope that someday we'll be able to travel again soon.

31. To keep on: *to continue doing something*

If you **keep on** practicing, you'll get better!

32. To look forward to: *to be excited about something in the future*

I'm **looking forward to** visiting my family over the summer.

33. To look out: *to watch out for something*

When you hike, **look out** for snakes.

34. To look up: *to research*

I didn't know the meaning of the word "to hold on" so I **looked it up** in the dictionary.

35. To pull over: *to steer the vehicle to the side of the road and stop*

It was raining so hard that I had **to pull over** and wait for the rain to stop.

36. To put off: *to postpone something*

I **put off** learning phrasal verbs for too long. It's time to start today.

37. To put up with: *to tolerate something or someone*

My sweet husband **puts up with** my terrible singing.

38. To run away: *to leave or escape*

My dog is too lazy **to run away**.

39. To run into: *to meet unexpectedly*

I don't want **to run into** a bear while I'm hiking!

40. To run out (of): *to have nothing left*

We **ran out of** milk and eggs yesterday so I need to go to the store.

41. To stick with: *to continue doing something*

I tried guitar, piano, violin, and finally, I decided **to stick with** the drums.

42. To think over: *to consider something seriously*

It's a good idea **to think over** big purchases before you buy them.

43. To turn down: *to refuse something or someone*

I was so full from dinner that I had **to turn down** dessert.

44. To turn off: *to stop the flow of something*

It's a good habit **to turn off** your phone an hour or more before bed.

45. To turn up: *to appear suddenly*

I surprised my family when I **turned up** to the party unannounced.

46. To warm up to: *to start liking someone or something*

It took my cat a while **to warm up to** me.

47. To watch out: *a caution to be aware*

**Watch out** for falling rocks!

48. To wear off: *to fade away*

The energy from my morning tea starts **to wear off** around noon.

49. To work (something) out: *to come up with a solution or compromise*

My husband likes the mountains and I like the beach, so for our next vacation, we're going to need **to work something out**.

50. To wrap up: *to end an event*

Thanks for your attention during this meeting. It's time **to wrap up**.

# 50 Important Questions

## Greetings

1. "How's it goin'?"  
*Pretty good, and you?*
2. "How ya doin'?"  
*I'm good, how are you?*
3. "You doin' ok?"  
*I'm doing alright, how about you?*
4. "How ya been?"  
*I've been doing well, how about you?*
5. "What's been goin' on?"  
*Not much, how about you?*
6. "What's new?"  
*Not a lot, what's new with you?*

## Weather

7. "What's it like out there?"  
*It's cloudy, I think it might rain later.*
8. "Crazy weather we're having, huh?"  
*Yeah! It's so [hot/cold/wet/windy]!*
9. "Is it [hot/cold/wet/windy] enough for you?"  
*Ha! Almost!*
10. "Can you believe how [hot/cold/wet/windy] it is?"  
*So crazy! I can't believe it.*

## Weekend

11. "Whatcha got goin' on this weekend?"  
*I'm going to dinner and then to the movies. How about you?*

12. "You doin' anything fun this weekend?"

*Yeah, my family is coming to visit! What about you?*

13. "What time are you gonna head over here?"

*I think I'll leave my house around 8. Does that work?*

14. "When/where do you wanna meet up?"

*Let's meet at the park at 7. Is that ok with you?*

15. "You wanna grab [meal/drinks]?"

*Sure! Where do you wanna go?*

16. "You wanna do [meal/drinks]?"

*Yeah! When is a good time for you?*

## Job

17. "What do you do?"

*I'm a teacher. I help students become confident English speakers. What about you?*

18. "What's your day job?"

*I work from home, running my own business. How about you?*

19. "What field/industry are you in?"

*I am in software engineering. What about you?*

20. "What's it like to work there?"

*I love it! It's really fun and challenging. What's it like where you work?*

## Office

21. "You got a minute?"

*Sure! What's up?*

22. "What have you got for me?"

*Here is the report you asked for.*

23. "When you have a sec, can I ask you something?"

*Sure, I'll be free in just a minute.*

24. "Are we on the same page?"

*I think so but I want to make sure I understand this correctly... is that right?*

25. "Workin' hard or hardly workin'?"

*Ha! Workin' hard, of course!*

Note: This question is surprisingly common in offices. It's one of those questions that doesn't require an actual answer, just a smile or laugh and acknowledgment will do. Of course, you don't want to say that you're hardly working, so opt for the first choice.

### Small Talk

26. "Do you come here often?"

*I do, it's the best! And you?*

27. "Do you live in this area?"

*I don't, I am here visiting friends. How about you?*

28. "How long have you been coming here?"

*This is my first time, how about you?*

29. "How do you know [person's name]?"

*We went to college together, how about you?*

### Health

30. "You don't look so hot. You feelin' ok?"

*Yeah, I think I'll be alright.*

31. "You gonna be okay?"

*Yeah, I think I just need to rest.*

32. "Where does it hurt?"

*It hurts here, between my neck and shoulder.*

## Home

33. "Can you do the dishes?"

*Sure, will you sweep the floor?*

34. "Will you make the bed?"

*Yes, after I have my coffee.*

35. "Can you get the door?" *\*This means that someone is knocking on your door.*

*Yeah, one second.*

36. "What's for dinner?"

*No clue. I thought you were cooking.*

37. "Can you give me a hand with the trash?"

*Yeah, no problem.*

38. "Will you ever clean up your stuff?!" *\*This is passive aggressive and angry.*

*Fine. I'll do it after this game.*

## Food

39. "Whatcha in the mood for?" *\*Whatcha= what are you*

*Does pizza sound ok with you?*

40. "What sounds good?"

*I feel like something light. What sounds good to you?*

41. "Actually, can I get the salad instead?"

*Sure! Anything else for you?*

## Asking for Directions

42. "Where ya headed?"

*I'm looking for the park. Is it around here?*

43. "Can you tell me where the bank is?"

*It's two streets over, at the corner of the intersection. You can't miss it.*

44. "How far is the nearest grocery store?"

*Not far--it's right down the street, on the left.*

45. "Is there a gas station around here?"

*No, you'll have to drive about 10 minutes to the next one.*

## Conversation Nudges

Similar to "How about you?" and "What about you?", these questions can help keep conversations going when you're not really sure what else to say. It can buy you time until you can find your way in a conversation.

46. "What's that like?"

47. "How did you feel about that?"

48. "What's up with that?"

49. "What's that all about?"

50. "What's the deal?"

## 50 Phrases for Travel

### Planning and Booking

1. Where would you like to go?

2. **I've never been to...** Rio de Janeiro.

3. We should **book** tickets now.

To book: *to purchase or reserve*

4. I hate making plans. Let's just do something **spur-of-the-moment**.

Spur-of-the-moment: *spontaneous, without planning*

5. We decided we will go **wherever the wind blows** us.

Wherever the wind blows: *to go without planning or thinking*

6. I need to **make a reservation**.

To make a reservation: *to save your place*

7. Do you have an **audio guide**?

Audio guide: *an audio recording of a tour of a museum or other attraction*

8. Do you accept cash or credit cards?

9. What are the hours for... the museum?

10. What should I pack for?

\*This is another way of asking what the weather/climate will be like and what activities you will be doing; the types of clothing, shoes and other gear that you need to pack.

## Transportation and Directions

TIP: I recommend saying "Excuse me..." before a question, especially if you are approaching someone and interrupting what they are doing.

11. Where are you headed? > *Where ya headed?*

To head: *to go in a direction*

12. Can you tell me how to get to the metro station?

13. How far is it to the airport?

14. Which way to the bus stop?

15. Where is the closest **ATM**?

ATM: *an automated machine where you use your debit card to withdraw cash*

16. Is there a grocery store close by?

17. When is the next train?

18. What time does the [train/bus/flight] leave?

19. Will the departure be on time?

20. You can drop me here. / This is me.

*You would say this to the driver of a car/cab when you arrive at your stop.*



## At the Airport

21. Where's the [Delta] check in?

22. When will the plane begin boarding?

23. What is your flight number?

24. Do you have your passport? / Passport, please.

25. Boarding pass, please.

26. Are you checking any luggage?

27. Do you have anything to **declare**?

\*This question applies to customs laws if you are returning home from a foreign country and bought anything while you were away.

28. I have a **connecting flight**.

Connecting flight: *when you take two or more flights to get to your final destination; not a direct flight*

29. Can you tell me where the **luggage (or baggage) claim** is?

Luggage/baggage claim: *the place where your luggage is delivered once your flight lands*

30. Are you traveling for business or pleasure?

## At the Hotel

31. Hello, I have a reservation under [last name] OR Checking in for [last name].

32. Is there somewhere I can print my [boarding pass/bus tickets]?

33. Is there a good restaurant nearby?

34. Can I get some more [towels/pillows/blankets]?

35. Do you have a map?

36. Which way to the elevators?

37. Can I get a [queen/double] bed?

38. Is breakfast available/included?

39. What time is breakfast served?

40. Can I order **room service**?

Room service: *ordering a meal from the hotel kitchen/restaurant to be delivered to your room*

## Talking About Your Travels

41. Have you ever been to \_\_\_\_?

42. What was your favorite thing about \_\_\_\_?

43. My favorite destinations are **off the beaten path**--I love finding new places to visit!

Off the beaten path: *an isolated place that is difficult to find*

44. The city has many **hidden gems** such as free museums and parks.

Hidden gem: *something incredible that not many people know about*

45. That village used to be really unique, but now it has become a **tourist trap**, so I never go there.

Tourist trap: *something designed to attract tourists and their money*

46. When I was 18 years old, I went on a **road trip** with my best friend. We drove for 3 days!

Road trip: *to make a journey by car or bus*

47. I am ready for some **R&R**.

R&R = rest and relaxation

48. It was a **whirlwind** trip. We only had 24 hours to explore the city.

Whirlwind: *a fast-paced, high energy event*

49. I am still trying to recover from the **jet lag**.

Jet lag: *extreme tiredness from traveling across several time zones*

50. I can't wait to go back!

## Vanessa's Challenge Question

Use the space below to write a few sentences answering this question: **Tell me about the last trip that you took. Try to use 5 expressions from this lesson.**

Sample answer: Last week my family took a spur-of-the-moment flight to Colorado.

Dan's grandpa isn't doing well, so we couldn't put off the trip any longer. Thankfully, he doesn't live off the beaten path, so we could also enjoy some of the most popular spots to visit near his city. We dropped by his house every day for a few hours to check on him and make him some food. Unfortunately, during the week, I got a call from my grandma that my grandpa went to the emergency room, too. Well, when it rains it pours, I guess. When we flew back home, I spent some time with him. He's doing better now. So far, so good!

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