

Idioms

16 Travellers



16.1 Other places

Vocabulary

A Extra questions Ask the members of the class which nationality they would most like to be if they could choose a different one to be. Also, perhaps, if they could choose a person of another nationality to marry, which nationality would they choose and why?

B Answers

- 1 suspicious/wary
- 2 isolated/remote/inaccessible hospitable
- 3 costume folklore customs
- 4 unspoilt commercialised
- 5 coast view
- 6 scenery/landscape
- 7 peaceful
- 8 crowded
- 9 border/frontier
- 10 journey port crossing

16.2 The travel writer

Reading

Jonathan Raban was born in 1942. Among his most interesting books are:

Arabia – about his journey in different countries in the Arabian peninsula

Old Glory – about his journey by boat down the Mississippi River

Foreign Land – a novel about a man who buys an old sailing boat

Coasting – about his journey around the coast of Britain in a sailing boat

B Answers

- 1 It has no point or pattern
- 2 Only partly – he is by turns engrossed, bored, alert, dull, happy, miserable, etc.

Unit 16: Travellers


- 3 Because he needs time for his memory to make the story interesting
- 4 He is the person who wrote in the notebook and the person remembering the events later
- 5 Because it makes him feel he is working
- 6 Because irrelevant events are forgotten, important details are enlarged upon, links and patterns are discovered, plots are constructed, etc.
- 7 A few proper names, dates and facts
- 8 In a sailing boat

C Answers

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 2 collection | 6 excessive |
| 3 by nature | 7 grumbles |
| 4 clear | 8 loses vitality |
| 5 unimportant things | |

16.3 A rendezvous

Reading

 One person looks at Activity 11, the other at 27.

Paul Theroux was born in 1941. He is a writer of both novels and travel books. His travel books include:

The Kingdom by the Sea – about his walk around the coast of Britain

The Old Patagonia Express – by train from North America to the very south of South America

The Great Railway Bazaar – by train through Asia

His best novels are considered to be: *The Mosquito Coast*, *Picture Palace*, *My Secret Life* and *The Family Arsenal*

16.4 Comparing and contrasting

Grammar

A Suggested answers

- 2 further/farther than
- 4 the closest planet to
- 8 is much further/farther from the Sun than
- 12 about half the length of / half as long as a day on

- 13 is about two and a half times
- 16 slightly shorter than a day
- 18 20 days longer than

D Suggested answers

- 1 more I enjoy coming to
- 2 more enjoyable
- 3 as comfortable and quick
- 4 about the same amount of
- 5 largest country
- 6 the largest population
- 7 of the smallest countries
- 8 I wish I had appreciated
- 9 more eventful a travel
- 10 see as much as I can of my
- 11 longer it takes to get to the
- 12 to adjust to life at home

E Suggested answers

Perhaps more informal and more similar to
is very like is similar to
is much the same as reminds
has a lot in common with
is quite different from
stands out as

Perhaps more formal and more
is comparable to is equivalent
corresponds to Similarly
is very unlike differs from
has very little in common with
In contrast, Conversely

Possibly ask everyone to use
some example sentences about
differences between spending
the country the money
a seaside resort a large

- 13 is about two and a half times as long as
 16 slightly shorter than a day on
 18 20 days longer than

D Suggested answers

- 1 more I enjoy coming home
- 2 more enjoyable
- 3 as comfortable and quick
- 4 about the same amount of time as it does to
- 5 largest country
- 6 the largest population
- 7 of the smallest countries
- 8 I wish I had appreciated being younger
- 9 more eventful a travel writer has to write about
- 10 see as much as I can of my own country
- 11 longer it takes to get to the top
- 12 to adjust to life at home again afterwards

E Suggested answers (these are debatable)

Perhaps more informal and more usual in conversation:

is very like is similar to is identical to
is much the same as reminds me of seems like
has a lot in common with In the same way -
is quite different from isn't the same as
stands out as

Perhaps more formal and more usual in writing:

is comparable to is equivalent to resembles
corresponds to Similarly, - By the same token, -
is very unlike differs from bears no resemblance to
has very little in common with On the other hand, -
In contrast, - Conversely, -

Possibly ask everyone to use the phrases above to write some example sentences about the similarities and differences between spending a holiday in:

the country the mountains abroad
 a seaside resort a large city your own country

Reading

the other at 27.

writer of both novels and

around the coast of

from North America to the

ough Asia

the Mosquito Coast, Picture

Arsenal

Trasting**Grammar**

than

as a day on

Unit 16: Travellers

lot of outdoor things to do, as you might imagine, being Texas. Um ... I guess one thing that also struck me ... er ... coming from ... er ... Europe to America is that the way people drive in ... er ... America, it's all so very disciplined, everybody sticks to the lines that are painted on the roads and ... er ... you don't see so many people ... um ... driving recklessly. Um ... I guess the ... the main thing about Austin that I like is the ... er ... the culture that the kids bring to the ... to the city ... er ... from the University. There's lots of fringe theatre, there's not so much professional theatre, but a lot of fringe theatre, and a lot of local music that's made, not just country and western as you might expect but folk music and rock music of all kinds - and classical music as well. There's a brilliant auditorium in downtown Austin. All in all it's a ... I think it's an atypical place ... er ... for Texas, which is one of the reasons I like it.

(Time: 6 minutes 10 seconds)

16.7 Come, go and run

Verbs and idioms

A Answers

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 come off | 6 going in for |
| 2 going out with | 7 run out of |
| 3 gone off | 8 went / has gone off |
| 4 came up against | 9 run over |
| 5 go ahead | 10 go over/through |

B Answers

- 1 run off
- 2 go for
- 3 go for
- 4 come up with
- 5 gone off
- 6 run out
- 7 come up to
- 8 went down with
- 9 go along with
- 10 go over gone through/over

► Some other related idioms

- | | |
|------|-----------------------|
| come | come by = obtain |
| | come off = succeed |
| | come out with = tell |
| go | go back on = fail to |
| | go down = be received |
| | go out = ebb |
| | on the go = be active |
| run | run away with = win |
| | run down = lose |

... imagine, being Texas.
... er ... coming from ...
... people drive in ... er ...
... everybody sticks to the lines
... you don't see so many
... I guess the ... the main
... the culture that the kids
... the University. There's lots
... professional theatre, but a
... music that's made, not just
... but folk music and rock
... as well. There's a brilliant
... all it's a ... I think it's an
... one of the reasons I like

Time: 6 minutes 10 seconds)

Verbs and idioms

► Some other related idioms:

come come by = obtain come forward = present oneself
come off = succeed come out = solve
come out with = utter

go go back on = fail to keep promise
go down = be received go off = proceed
go out = ebb go without = not have
on the go = be active/busy

run run away with = take and remove
run down = lose power run over = summarise