

Are you a tourist or a traveller?

As another holiday season approaches, it's time to defend tourists. They need it. Scarcely anyone has a good word for them. They overrun places, ruining them, and among the cultured classes, no one admits to being a tourist. They are all travellers. As if we weren't all tourists most of the time. So, well, the case for the defence:



By Anthony Peregrine

Exploitation

- 1 Tourists are renowned for spoiling places. However, travellers are the people that got there first. If they didn't wander off to unexplored spots, writing and talking about them on their return, the rest of us would be in ignorance. Later, at some stage – generally around the opening of the first Holiday Inn franchise – volume **turns** travellers **into** tourists. Then travellers get very upset – hear them complaining about the crowds at Machu Picchu. But why would, or should, travellers deny such obviously enriching experiences to others? There is no evidence – merely the arrogance of travellers – to suggest that the quality of appreciation is any the less because tourists **turn up** in large groups.

Economics

- 10 No surprise that the locals worldwide have embraced tourism – going to work in the new hotel, opening guest rooms of their own, and running pleasure trips in their fishing boats. Obviously, they lost something in the process, but they were going to lose it anyway. They gained financial security – their families doubtless have health insurance and flat-screen TVs, just like you and me. It is easy to romanticize shepherds and fishermen when you're only **passing through**. Then you go home, and they're still selling single goats and bringing fresh water from five miles away. By wishing to leave the world untouched, travellers do nothing for economic development. By contrast, tourists – with all their varying needs – bring cash in buckets.

Fun

- 20 A short time ago, I saw a documentary following a group travelling around Mongolia. They were eating yak. This looked to me like the worst holiday ever. They maintained, though, that they were having a wonderful time. I was thrilled for them – until one started **going on about** how this was a real experience, far better than the second-hand superficiality of the tourist holiday. Now, as far as I'm aware, there's no moral or qualitative hierarchy of holiday pleasures.
- 25 Flying to Alicante is in no way inferior to flying to Ulan Bator. It's just a different departure gate. If people wish to go riding in Mongolia, that's fine, and a matter of personal taste. Just don't let them look down on my holiday activities, for example, playing midnight crazy golf in Benidorm. We all enjoyed ourselves; none of us was a better person for it, just happier – and that's all there is to say.

Conviviality

- 30 Tourists like one another. Travellers apparently don't like anybody, unless they are natives. The presence of other visitors at the temple, mountaintop, or jungle clearing compromises the authenticity. And they get especially irritated if the other visitors are fellow Britons. I'm generally delighted to **run into** other Britons, especially in places where I don't master the language (in other words, almost everywhere). They represent the possibility of conversation, a considerable relief from pointing at stuff and smiling stupidly.

- And, while travellers are busy **standing off from** humanity, tourists are having a great time together. The purest expression of the tourist experience is, perhaps, the package holiday – reviled by all, except anyone who has ever been on one. I have had
- 40 the best of times on coach trips throughout Europe. There's no room here to detail the benefits, except one – and that's built-in good company. I've lost count of the occasions I've been in a hotel bar after a fine day, sharing most convivial moments with fellow passengers. Across the bar, lone-travelling couples have **looked on**, as jealous as hell. We coach-trippers have been moved by the Alhambra or Delphi,
- 45 we're doing our bit for the hotel trade, quite a lot for the bar trade, and generally we are an economic good.

The tourist is me. I feel no shame.

The Daily Telegraph

- c Read the article again. According to the writer, are the following sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false)? Underline the parts of the text which show his opinion.

- 1 Travellers are responsible for places becoming tourist sites.
- 2 A traveller is better able to appreciate a tourist site than a group of tourists.
- 3 Local people have lost more than they have gained from tourism.
- 4 Tourists have benefited the local people more than travellers.
- 5 The group who were travelling round Mongolia were not really having a good time.
- 6 The more exotic a holiday is, the more people enjoy it.
- 7 Travellers are far more antisocial than tourists.
- 8 It's best to try to avoid meeting other people from your country when you are travelling.
- 9 Many people think that a package holiday where you travel by coach is the worst way to travel.
- 10 In fact, travellers are often aware that tourists are having more fun than they are.

LEXIS IN CONTEXT

- d Look at the **highlighted** phrasal verbs and try to work out their meaning. Then match them to 1–8.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 keep apart from | _____ |
| 2 change sb / sth into | _____ |
| 3 meet by chance | _____ |
| 4 watch from a distance | _____ |
| 5 talk about sth for a long time, often in a boring way | _____ |
| 6 stop in a place for a short time, but not stay there | _____ |
| 7 appear, arrive | _____ |

- e Work in groups and answer the questions.

- 1 Do you agree with the writer's defence of tourists?
- 2 Do you consider yourself to be more of a tourist than a traveller, or vice versa?
- 3 Has tourism had a significant effect where you live? Has it been positive or negative?

3 WRITING

► **p.122 Writing** A discursive essay (2): *Taking sides*. Analyse a model essay and write a discursive essay about road charging or healthy lifestyles.

4 GRAMMAR expressing future plans and arrangements

- a Look at the messages and **circle** the correct form of the verbs in *italics*. Tick (✓) if you think both are possible.

¹*I'm leaving* / *I'll be leaving* for the airport soon, so I should be there in plenty of time. ²*I'll let* / *I'm going to let* you know if there's any delay.

Fingers crossed! Can't wait to see you!

Delayed! ³*It now leaves* / *It's now leaving* at 6.30. Hope they're telling the truth... 😞

Typical! Never mind. ⁴*I'll be waiting* / *I'm waiting* for you in Arrivals.

We're due ⁵*to start* / *starting* boarding at 6.00, so it looks as if it really is leaving at 6.30! 😊

😊😊😊

We're about ⁶*board* / *to board* at last! See you soon.

- b ➤ **p.155 Grammar Bank 8B**. Learn more about expressing future plans and arrangements, and practise it.
- c Are you planning any trips or journeys at the moment? Have you made any of the arrangements? If so, tell a partner.

5 LISTENING

- a You're going to listen to Clive Oxenden, who lives in Spain, describing a disastrous journey. Look at the headline. Where do you think he was trying to travel to and why? What kind of problems might he have had?

Christmas getaway crippled by storms

- b Listen to Clive's story. After each part, answer the questions with a partner.

4 29)))

- Where was Clive travelling to / from? Who with? When?
- What happened before take-off and why did it worry him?

What do you think might have happened next?

4 30)))

- When did things start going wrong?
- What did the pilot tell them?
- How do you think Clive felt and why?

What do you think might have happened next?

4 31)))

- What did the pilot decide to do?
- How did the people on the plane react?
- How did the pilot explain what had happened?

What do you think might have happened next?

4 32)))

- Where did they end up going?
- Why did the pilot think they would be able to land there?
- How did the passengers feel when they landed and what did they do?

What do you think might have happened next?

4 33)))

- What were the passengers then told to do? Why?
- What alternative were they given?

What do you think might have happened next?

4 34)))

- What did the people with children all decide to do?
- What did Clive and his family do?
- When did Clive and his family eventually get home?

LEXIS IN CONTEXT

- c Look at the **highlighted** words and expressions from the listening exercise. Explain what they mean in your own words.

- he said in the message that there was a very bad storm in London with **gale-force winds**...
- as we were **approaching** Gatwick...
- we're going to **circle** for a while...
- then we started getting the worst **turbulence** I've ever experienced...
- the plane suddenly **shot back up** in the air...
- The plane started **gaining height**...
- we're off to** Holland now.
- it was quite a good landing, little bit **bumpy**...
- everyone was very **relieved** to get down on the ground...
- So then, everyone had a bit of a **dilemma**...

- d How would you have felt in Clive's position? Do you think you would have made the same decisions?



6 SPEAKING

- a Think about a bad journey you've had (it could be when you were on holiday, or just something that happened on your way to work or school). Look at the plan below and decide what you are going to say.



1 Set the scene

One of the worst journeys I've ever had...
It happened (a few months) ago...
I was travelling...



2 Give the details

Everything was fine until...
What happened was that...
Suddenly...
So anyway...
Finally...



3 End with a comment about how you felt

It was certainly the most...
I've never been so...
I'll never forget it.



- b Work in groups of three or four and tell each other about your experience. Use the plan to help you tell your story.

7 PRONUNCIATION homophones



Homophones

The **weather** was good...

...he was asking me **whether** the flight had been cancelled...

Weather and whether are homophones. They are spelt differently and have different meanings, but are pronounced exactly the same.

- a With a partner, complete each pair of sentences with homophones.

1 /ki:/

- a We sat on the quay, watching the fishermen mend their nets.
b I can't find my room key. Could I have another one?

2 /weɪt/

- a We've got a three-hour wait before the flight leaves.
b What's the maximum weight for hand luggage on this flight?

3 /bɔɪd/

- a We're boiled! We don't want to visit any more museums!
b The passengers are waiting to board the plane.

4 /breɪk/

- a We're going to break the journey in Milan.
b The airport bus had to break suddenly when a lorry pulled out.

5 /feə/

- a My ticket cost twice as much as yours. It's not fair!
b How much is the air fare to Australia?

6 /piːpəl/

- a Where's the people of paper with our flight details?
b We're going off the beaten track for a bit of peace and quiet.

7 /kɔːt/

- a It's a four-star hotel and it's even got a tennis court.
b We only just caught the train – it left seconds after we got on it.

8 /saɪt/

- a We visited an archaeological site on the banks of the Nile.
b My first sight of Venice completely took my breath away.

9 /θru:/

- a When we arrived in the States it took us ages to get through immigration.
b The screener at Security threw away my perfume because it was 200 ml.

10 /swɪt/

- a We've booked the hotel's bridal suite for our honeymoon.
b I don't like the local white wine. It's too sweet for me.

11 /'sɪəriəl/

- a You'll need the serial number of your laptop to make an insurance claim.
b There wasn't much for breakfast, just toast and serials.

12 /'weðə/

- a We can't decide whether to fly to Paris or to go by train.
b Our flight was delayed for three hours because of bad weather.

- b Test a partner. **A** say one of the homophones, **B** say what the two spellings and meanings are. Then swap roles.

8 4 MP3 SONG Holiday Romance



7&8 Revise and Check

GRAMMAR

a Complete the sentences with the right form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 Do you think I ought _____ to Mario yesterday? (apologize)
- 2 You'd better _____ to the doctor about that cough. (go)
- 3 You're not supposed _____ your mobile at work, but everyone does. (use)
- 4 Alex seems _____ a lot at the moment. Do you think he's studying enough? (go out)
- 5 Isn't there anywhere _____ here? (sit down)
- 6 Rick hates _____ that he can't dance very well. (admit)
- 7 I would love _____ the installation, but it finished the day before we arrived. (see)
- 8 There's no point _____ him. He always has his phone turned off while he's driving. (call)
- 9 It's important for celebrities _____ at all the right parties. (see)
- 10 Let's go and have a coffee. The meeting isn't due _____ until 10.30. (start)

b Circle the right phrase. Tick (✓) if both are possible.

- 1 It is *not allowed* / *not permitted* to wear jewellery at school.
- 2 *You should have listened* / *You should listen* to my advice, but it's too late now.
- 3 The flight was at midday so we *needn't have got up* / *we didn't need to get up* early. In fact, we got up at 9.30.
- 4 *You look* / *You seem* a bit down today. Is everything OK?
- 5 It smells *as if* / *as though* someone has burned the toast.
- 6 Is that your father upstairs? *I can hear* / *I'm hearing* his voice.
- 7 This coffee *tastes like* / *tastes of* tea. It's undrinkable!
- 8 *I'll be working* / *I'm working* at home this afternoon, so you can call me there.
- 9 You'd better get on the train now. *It's on the point of* / *It's about* to leave.
- 10 The princess *is to* / *is due to* open the new hospital early next month.

VOCABULARY

a Complete the sentences with a form of the **bold** word and a prefix.

- 1 Sorry, but you've _____ my name. It's K-A-T-Y, not K-A-T-I-E. **spell**
- 2 I get very _____ when I feel that I'm not making any progress. **motivate**
- 3 Nowadays in Venice, local residents are completely _____ by tourists. **number**
- 4 The film isn't as good as everyone says it is. I think it's very _____. **rate**
- 5 Look, I think they've _____ us. The bill should be £80, not £60. **charge**
- 6 I'm afraid this style of jeans has been _____ – we won't be receiving any more. **continue**
- 7 The staff meeting has been postponed and will be _____ for a later date. **schedule**
- 8 Trying to improve people's lives by imposing all kinds of new laws on them is _____. **logical**

b Write the expressions or idioms for the definitions.

- 1 a _____ - _____ *noun* a painting or drawing of arrangements of objects such as flowers, fruit, etc.
- 2 a _____ - _____ *noun* a painting or drawing that an artist does of him / herself
- 3 a _____ **IDM** an unimportant fact or idea that takes people's attention away from the important things
- 4 a _____ **IDM** a thing that is useless even though it may have cost a lot of money
- 5 the _____ **IDM** an illegal form of trade in which goods that are difficult to obtain are bought and sold
- 6 _____ **IDM** bureaucracy

c Circle the right word.

- 1 I wore my new shoes to work today and now I've got a *blister* / *plaster* on my toe.
- 2 That's a very deep cut. It may need *bandages* / *stitches*.
- 3 Do you know which *surgeon* / *GP* will be operating on you?
- 4 I've got a strange *scan* / *rash* on my hands. I think it might be an allergy to detergent.
- 5 My husband is as stubborn as a *horse* / *mule*.
- 6 Grandad never hears the doorbell. He's as deaf as a *bat* / *post*.
- 7 I was so tired I slept like a *fish* / *log* last night.
- 8 Now that my laptop's been mended it works like a *dream* / *flash*.

d Complete the missing words.

- 1 It's a very quiet place, completely off the **b** _____ track.
- 2 We **s** _____ off at 7.00 and we were there by 11.00.
- 3 As soon as we get there, let's **h** _____ the shops!
- 4 It used to be an unspoilt village, but now it's really **t** _____ – there are ten hotels!
- 5 Sadly, my father-in-law died suddenly, so we had to **c** _____ our holiday.
- 6 It's been such a stressful couple of months.
I need a break to **r** _____ my batteries.
- 7 Our room had a **br** _____ view of the mountains.
- 8 On the first day we decided to go to the market and **s** _____ the local street food.

CAN YOU UNDERSTAND THIS TEXT?

- a Read the article once. What does Nick Trend conclude about travel insurance?
- b Read the article again and mark the sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false).
 - 1 The writer was surprised by Edward's letter.
 - 2 Edward takes some domestic flights.
 - 3 He sees travel problems as challenges.
 - 4 He doesn't think that he has saved money as a result of not taking out insurance.
 - 5 The writer thinks we are at the same risk of crime at home as when we are travelling.
 - 6 He thinks Edward is wrong about not taking out travel insurance because of the cost of medical treatment abroad.
- c Look at the **highlighted** words and phrases and work out their meaning. Check with your teacher or with a dictionary.

CAN YOU UNDERSTAND THIS FILM?

- 4 MP3))) Watch or listen to a short film on the history of penicillin and mark the sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false).

- 1 Alexander Fleming was the first person to find a way to prevent infection
- 2 After discovering penicillin, his problem was that he couldn't produce enough of it.
- 3 Florey and Chain weren't interested in Fleming's results.
- 4 By early 1940 they had discovered a way to produce penicillin in large quantities.
- 5 The drug was urgently needed because of World War II.
- 6 In 1945 Fleming, Florey, and Chain won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry.
- 7 Doctors are not to blame for the reduction in effectiveness of antibiotics.
- 8 Antibiotics can be bought without a doctor's prescription in some countries.
- 9 If we do not control the use of antibiotics, it will be impossible to carry out operations.
- 10 We need national legislation to restrict the use of antibiotics.



Travel insurance: do I really need it?

Regular readers of my column will know that the complications, costs, and **pitfalls** of insurance are subjects I regularly try to **tackle**. Often I get follow-up enquiries from readers as a result. But the last article, two weeks ago, drew a very unusual response. It came from a reader called Edward and here, slightly edited, is what he said:

'I am in my mid-sixties and have been travelling regularly since my late teens. At present I live in China, and take about 60 to 70 flights a year, both inside the country and abroad – including to some **dodgy** places. I have never once paid for travel insurance. Naturally, I've had **mishaps** and dozens of cancelled flights, for example: 1968 – stuck in Amman in transit when a war broke out and all flights were cancelled. I treated it as an unexpected opportunity to visit the city. 1972 – Rome. All documents and money stolen. I was repatriated by the British Embassy, by train, using a temporary document (one sheet of paper) – I had to pay back the fare on arrival, and received nothing else, surviving until Dover on fellow passengers' snacks. I've always **put these incidents down to experience**, and **dined off** some of them for years. Never once have I been tempted to pay for insurance. Indeed, it is my firm conviction that in the end I've lost far less cash than I would have paid for policies. Moreover, many people I know have been **ripped off** by insurance companies that refuse to pay or find ways of paying less than the customer expected. Do you sincerely believe that travel insurance would have been worth it for me in the past, or will be in the future?'

Obviously Edward's approach is not for everyone. He is clearly a highly experienced traveller and he apparently enjoys taking risks. But he did make me think again about the whole question of travelling without insurance. After all, very few of us **would bother** to insure ourselves if we were spending a couple of days in London, so why do we rush out and buy cover when we jump on to a train to Paris for a weekend break? We are just as likely to get mugged, or have things stolen, in London as in Paris. And it is important to remember Edward's point that even if you have insurance, you can never be sure it will pay out when you need it.

However, for all the limitations on travel insurance cover, where Edward's argument **falls down** in my eyes is on the question of medical cover. The Foreign Office travel advice pages (fco.gov.uk) are explicit in advising us not to travel without insurance, and the examples it uses to explain why are the potentially high cost of hospital treatment, and medical repatriation. It quotes £35–45,000 for an air ambulance to return to the UK from the US east coast, and £12–16,000 for an air ambulance from the Canary Islands. The chances of having to use these services are **minuscule**, but the costs are so substantial that they would be a significant issue for most of us and not one we would like to have to deal with in such circumstances. On balance, while Edward's approach sounds temptingly refreshing, he is leaving himself open to some potentially very expensive risks.

By Nick Trend in The Telegraph