

## Monologue 2 "Travel"

The world is a book and those who travel read only one page. If people want to improve their vision and knowledge, there are only two choices: reading and traveling. Reading is a low-cost investment that doesn't necessarily pay off right away, but it pays off a lot. Comparing with reading, traveling requires some money and a certain amount of time. However, if reading brings a flat world, traveling gives a three-dimensional one.

We often confuse tourism and travel, even though they mean very different things. Tourism is a process of recreation and consumption, spending money to enjoy a remote scenery, food and services. Traveling is a process of perception and experience. To experience nature, to perceive life, not to be afraid of an encountering rain, snow, winds, frost and difficulties, and to regard everything as a life experience.

Different types of trips have different appeals and purposes, such as family trips, cultural trips, faith trips, themed trips, and so on. Each kind of travel has different companions, different outcomes, and different final meanings. A purposeless trip may have more surprises, and a purposeful one will be more rewarding.

I live in St. Petersburg, the second largest city in Russia. Known as the "Venice of the North", there are artificially excavated river channels in the urban area, and it is famous for its many bridges. The culture capital is not like some Western European countries that are suitable for traveling all year round. St. Petersburg in summer is the most beautiful and comfortable city, but the golden colour in Autumn and the pure white shade after heavy snow in Winter are a scene. The city has a hospitable side as well as a no-nonsense side, and the best example is Russia.

There is a special kind of traveler who travels in order to explore new things and go deep into dangerous or unknown places. They are called explorers. The purpose of an expedition varies from person to person and may include military, commercial, academic, travel, religious, and other factors. For example, the Hollywood director James Cameron is a great explorer. In 2012 he drove his single-person submarine "Deep Sea Challenger" to successfully dive into the deepest part of the oceans - the Mariana Trench at a depth of 10,898 meters. He successfully returned to the sea level after completing the corresponding data collection at the 10,000-meter seabed, becoming the third person in the world to reach this bottom and the first person to dive alone.

The most beautiful place I have ever been to in my memory is West Lake in Hangzhou, China. This lake often appears in Chinese films and television dramas and textbooks. West Lake has influenced poets and painters throughout the Chinese history for its natural beauty and historic relics, and it also has been among the most important sources of inspiration for Chinese garden designers. When I see West Lake with my own eyes, I understand that poetry and painting cannot describe its grandeur. After that trip, whenever I think of "West Lake", it is no longer a painting on the screen, but a memory that can immerse you in it.

If I have an opportunity to go to another country one day, I will go to Japan to see it. Japanese cartoons accompanied my childhood and even now I sometimes watch them. Just like West Lake, I am curious about Japan in cartoons, and I also want to know how different Japan is in cartoons and reality.

In my opinion, the point of travel is not the destination, but the process. Go away out of the

boxes of normal life and be yourself.

Traveling is a process of recording the world with your eyes, and every scene you see will be imprinted in your mind and become your precious memory.

*Active Vocabulary: 2, Grammar Structures: 24, Linkers: 11. Total: 636 words.*