

ProTalk

Discussion Files

C1. Travelling and technology

Afaq Language Center

Language Center

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Goals

- Can read and understand a challenging text about how technology will change tourism.
- Can maintain an in-depth discussion about the future of tourism and evaluate the pros and cons of virtual holidays.



What do you think?

Technology has become an essential part of our existence. These days it's difficult to imagine life without smartphones, computers and the internet.

In this class you will learn about how technology might influence holidays of the future.

Your relationship with technology

How much do you use technology? Do you rely on your phone or certain apps? If so, how do they help you? Discuss these questions in relation to the subjects below.



communication with friends and family

work and education

leisure and holiday time

daily tasks

Dream holidays

Discuss the best and worst holidays you have ever had.

What made these trips so memorable? Describe your dream holiday.



It would be great if...

Imagine a future where anything is possible! What changes and inventions would improve your holidays? You can be as imaginative as you like!

Read the example below for inspiration and then share your ideas.

> "It would be great if you could somehow teleport your luggage directly to the hotel, then you could pack as much as you wanted and you wouldn't have to worry about carrying it. I hate carrying luggage, I find it so stressful!"

Read the text and summarize it.

Travelling and technology



What might our holidays of the future look like? How will they be influenced by technological advances? Technology has already had a huge impact on tourism and travelling. Hotels, restaurants and resorts no longer rely upon **word of mouth** recommendations or listings in travel guidebooks in order to attract guests. An up-to-date website along with outstanding online reviews are now the best way to guarantee customers.

Read the text and summarize it.

Travelling and technology

In the past, people might have **opted for** tried and tested holiday destinations or asked travel agents for tips and advice on places to go. Now, thanks to the internet, it's become much easier to carry out your own holiday research. As a result, there's been an increasing trend in recent years for travellers opting to holiday in more adventurous and **far flung** locations.

Read the text and summarize it.

Travelling and technology



According to **industry insiders**, technological advances will soon **pave the way** for even more extraordinary holiday experiences. It's predicted that hotels of the future could rely heavily on robotics. Rather than checking in with a human receptionist upon arrival at a hotel, in the future you might be greeted by a friendly robot!

Advanced technology could personalise your hotel room to a high degree. Using specific devices you could **opt** to have photos of friends and family projected onto the wall. Alternatively, the advent of smart beds could see your needs met to a higher degree. Beds of the future could include special **sensors** to adapt to your body temperature, offer gentle massages or even to wake you up without an alarm clock!

Look at the words and phrases below. Check your understanding and try to use each in an example sentence of your own.

word of mouth

sensor

industry insider

far-flung

impact

to opt for something

Different hotel accommodations

Look at the different kinds of holiday accommodation suggested below. What are the pros and cons of each type of accommodation? How do you think advances in technology might improve holiday experiences, for both guests and owners?



caravan

bed and breakfast

campsite

self catering holiday home

luxury hotel

3 star hotel

Online reviews

Think of the best or worst hotel you have ever stayed in.
Discuss what review you would have given your stay.
Try to include the topics below when making your review!

- cleanliness
- value for money
- comfort and location
- organisation of booking

Hotels of the future



Technology might greatly change our hotel experiences in the future. Imagine you are on holiday in London and you are a guest in a futuristic hotel.

Describe your expectations of this futuristic experience. How do you think the review process might be different from today?

Virtual reality holidays

The prospect of people taking virtual reality holidays in the future. What do you think are the pros and cons of this type a holiday? Give three reasons why the idea immediately does or doesn't appeal to you.

pros	cons





Negotiating holiday plans

Have you ever been on holiday with a friend? Did you encounter any problems? What do you think are important factors to consider in planning a successful holiday with a friend?

budget

comfort standards

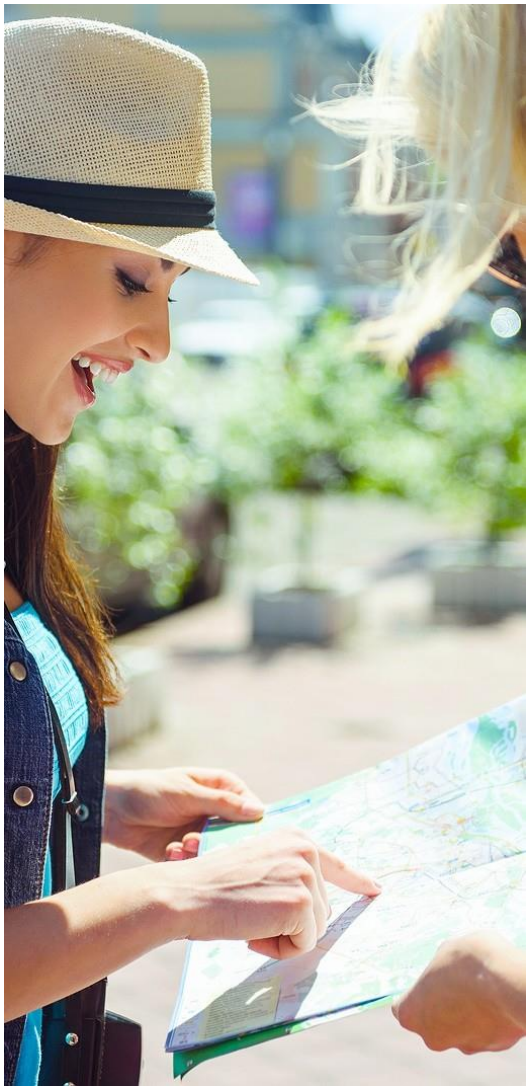
activities planned

food choices

When friends disagree...

Oh dear! You are planning a holiday with a friend and you disagree on what you want to do. Your friend wants to try a new virtual reality holiday because it is cheaper and less dangerous than going trekking in the Amazon jungle. The problem is, you really want to escape technology.

Debate the issue with your friend, talk about the pros and cons of virtual reality holidays, and see if you can reach a compromise!



Thinking about the future

Taking into account the potential changes you have discussed in this lesson, what changes do you expect we will see in how technology could impact our holidays in the future?



Presentation

Technology and the impact on travel

What excites you about how technology might be used for travelling in the future? Do you have any concerns about the impact of technology on travel?

Prepare a two-minute presentation. Include several reasons to support your point of view.

Give your presentation to the class. Answer questions and get feedback.