

ProTalk

Discussion Files

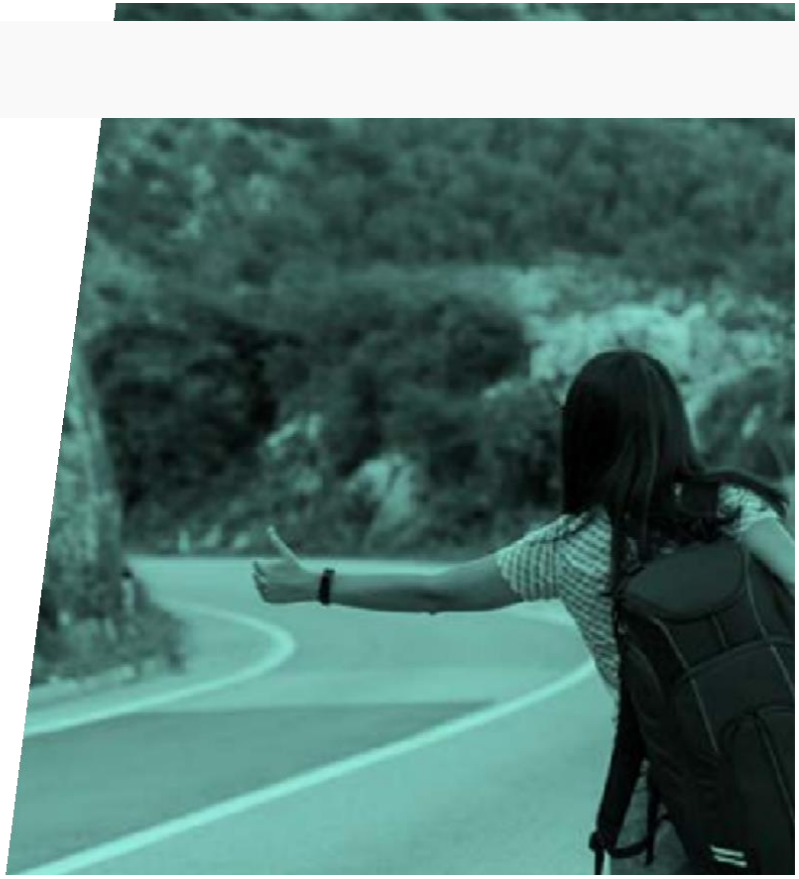
C1. Hitchhiking and adventure

Afaq Language Center

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Goals



- Can read and understand a challenging text on hitchhiking and adventure.
- Can present my own ideas on the pros and cons of adventure and explain the importance of personal safety.

Have you ever tried **hitchhiking**?

It's easy! Just make a sign, take a friend and **stick your thumb out** by the side of the road.

The only question is – where will you go on this adventure?

Travel

Do you enjoy travelling? Where are some notable places you have been? Where would you like to go?



Talk to your teacher

Adventure can mean different things to different people. Talk to your teacher – what would your ideal adventure look like? Ask your teacher about theirs.

hiking Mount Everest

sailing the Baltic Sea

road tripping around the US

exploring the streets of Barcelona

What kind of adventures are these people having?









Read the text and summarize it.

Hitchhiking



One of the most exciting and appealing options for travelling on a budget is to hitchhike. For the **shoestring** traveller, hitchhiking presents an affordable and more human way to get from one place to the next.

The feeling of not knowing what is around the corner can be addictive and it allows you to test yourself in a new situation. While it may be challenging for many to step out of their comfort zone, there are many benefits to this approach to travelling.

Read the text and summarize it.

Hitchhiking

For a backpacker looking to save money, hitchhiking is the ultimate method to travel cheaply. Despite the common notion that hitchhiking is free, there are some countries where it is **customary** to pay a small fee upon having successfully **hailed** a ride.

Some people even like to gift their drivers with something small to express their gratitude – a postcard or small travelling **memento** can spread appreciation and express goodwill for someone's turn of kindness. Some people may also choose to bring souvenirs from their home country to distribute!



New words: Discuss the meanings with your teacher and use each in a sentence.

(on a) shoestring	I'll be living **on a shoestring** until I get paid next week!
customary	In this part of the world it is **customary** to offer someone a cup of tea when they come over to visit.
to hail	Claire was finding it very difficult **to hail** a taxi in the pouring rain.
memento	This guitar is a **memento** from my time learning flamenco in Spain.

Over to you

“Hitchhiking presents an affordable and more human way to get from one place to the next”

What could be more human about hitchhiking than other forms of travel? Discuss with the teacher, comparing to the methods below.

flying

bus

driving

cycling

Discuss the meanings with your teacher and use each in a sentence.

What were these words referring to in the article? Explain your answers to your teacher.



Shoestring travel

Shoestring travel is a term that means travelling with a very limited budget. Shoestring travellers don't stay in expensive hotels, and often eat street food, at local restaurants or cook for themselves where they can.

Talk about the opinions of the travellers below.

Travelling on a budget allows you to see a more authentic side of the country you visit.





All I like to do when travelling is sit by the pool and relax.

I like to wake up clean and well-rested every day. I couldn't travel after a bad night's sleep.





I managed to travel for three years by keeping my costs low! It was such an adventure.

Hitchin’ a ride!

You’re trying to hitchhike to Sydney in Australia. It’s hot, and you’ve been on the side of the highway sticking out your thumb for three hours.

Luckily a driver has stopped! Convince your teacher to give you a ride – what will you say?



“Please take us to Sydney!”

“Hi, where are you heading?”

“Finally… we’ve been waiting here in the sun for three hours!”

“Have you got any water? We are parched!”

Pros and cons of hitchhiking

Hitchhiking has its conveniences as a method of travel. It certainly isn't for everybody, however. Brainstorm a list of the pros and cons of this approach to hitting the road.

Pros	Cons

Are there more pros, or more cons in your list?



precaution

A precaution is an action taken by somebody in advance to protect them from risk or danger.



If we follow the correct **precautions** nothing will go wrong.

Talk to your teacher

What are some precautions you can take to minimise the safety risks associated with hitchhiking?



Tell somebody where you are going

Be alert

Use eye contact

Communicate confidently

Take a friend

Warm down

How do you feel about hitchhiking after this lesson?

Is it something you would be willing to try? Why?

Transform the sentences so that you'll be more likely to get a ride. Manners and clarity go a long way!

1. Thank heavens! Someone finally stopped. Where are you going?

2. Please help us! We've been driving each other crazy our here for hours.

3. Feel like giving us a ride?

4. I'm in such a bad mood from standing here all day.

5. We really hope you will take us all the way to Sydney.

6. You are not going to believe how grumpy and smelly we are!

7. We were thinking of going to Newcastle, but decided it would be cool to stop in Nimbin along the way.

8. Would you mind taking a detour? It will only take an extra 30 mintues.

Hi, you are so nice for stopping! Mind if we join you for part of the way?

Presentation

Hitchhiking safety guide

ATTENTION!

For all guests wishing to hitchhike, please listen to the following safety guidelines.

You work for a youth hostel and have been tasked with presenting a guide for tourists on how to hitchhike safely. The language should be direct and clear, to get your message across with clarity.

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.