

Small Talk

- How has everything been with you? Been having fun?
- What's the weather forecast for tomorrow?
- Have you seen my glasses?

Conversation

- Who has been the biggest influence in your life? How have they changed you?
- Is the environment more important than the economy? Is a clean, poor country better than a rich, dirty one?
- You are the new mascot for the local football team. Choose your costume, and think of a way to entertain everyone.

**Vocabulary:
Accessories**

necklace
bracelet
wallet
handbag
purse
earrings
stud

Phrase Book: TaxiWe need to...

find a cab
hail a cab
flag down a cab
book a cab
find a taxi rank

Where to?

... and ...
The corner of ...and ...
..., between ...and ...
..., then... (*if making two stops)
Do you know where this is?
Follow that cab

Getting help from the driver

Could you help me with my case?
Could you open the boot? (*UK English)
Could you pop the trunk? (*US English)

Theme: Deserts

Sahara, Arabian Desert, Gobi Desert, Kalahari Desert, Great Victoria Desert, Atacama Desert, Antarctica, Mojave Desert



Travel Clinic (pt 2)

Anna: Umm, hi. I'm heading out to **sub-Saharan Africa** in a couple of weeks. I'm pretty sure I need some vaccines, or tablets, **or something**. I don't want to **keel over** with malaria.

Receptionist: **Indeed** you will need some vaccines. Hep B, yellow fever, rabies, malaria; **all the nice ones**.

Anna: **Quite**. I also need to pick up some other stuff, you know **in case** I get **stomach issues** and **whatnot**.

Receptionist: OK, we sell a selection of traveler's medicines, and also first aid kits.

Anna: What sort of medicines are we talking about?

Receptionist: **Nothing too dramatic**: stuff to stop diarrhea; rehydration tablets; aspirin and paracetamol. Plus a few **preventive measures**: iodine and chlorine for water, sunscreen, insect repellent. **You know**.

Anna: OK, **let's get to it**. First, let's schedule the shots, then I'll **get on to** the shopping.

Grammar: The Passive Voice (Past Perfect)

The Past Perfect Tense

The past perfect is for a past that has happened before another past.

had + p.p. (+ past tense event)

She had cooked dinner by the time he got home.

The Passive Voice

To make the passive voice:

had been + p.p. (+ past tense event)

Dinner had been cooked by the time he got home.



Western Culture: Isambard Kingdom Brunel

When did he live?

Isambard Kingdom Brunel was born on 9 April 1806. He died on 15 September 1859.

Why was he famous?

Brunel was the most famous engineer of Britain's industrial revolution. His work on railways and bridges changed the UK's transport system.

Arguably Brunel's most well-known achievement was developing the Great Western Line leading up the west coast of the UK, which connected an area of the country previously not on the railway map.

He built numerous bridges, and the first tunnel beneath a navigable river.

He also designed the first propeller-run boat to cross the Atlantic, because he wanted to get trains to run to America.

Brunel also, vitally, set the standard railway gauge, meaning trains all over the UK began running on the same tracks.

What was his mark on history?

Brunel's work can still be seen all over Britain: there are numerous bridges across the country designed by him and still in working order, and the Great Western Line remains one of the UK's most important railways systems.

His idea of expanding Britain's transport links to other countries and continents was one of the catalysts for modern international transport.

In 2002 the BBC had a vote for the greatest Britons in history. Brunel finished second.

Notes

Brunel's father was also an engineer, albeit one who struggled for money. Brunel helped on his father's attempt at building the Thames tunnel. His father's idea of a tunnel shield to protect workers (after a fatal accident) became important in tunnel building. Isambard would later take over the project.

Brunel was always willing to try new ideas, not all of which worked out. One example of an ambitious failure was a train line run by a vacuum system. The system worked, but it was not efficient and Brunel himself called a halt to the project.

