



Lesson 1: Leisure and Hobbies

Vacation

As people make more money, often they think that now is the time to enjoy themselves more. Leisure becomes more important in their lives. As their **psychological horizons** expand beyond just earning an income, they also want to find out more about the world. So they want to travel. One problem, however, is that they don't really know where they want to go or what they want to do when they get there. So they **blindly** go somewhere, just because they think it is fashionable to do so. Often they take some package tour that offers them "10 countries in 7 days." That way, they collect a lot of stamps in their passports and a lot of predictable photographs, but they don't have much fun or relaxation, and they don't really know very much about where they've been. A much better approach would be to decide where they really to go, and why, and then plan far enough in advance in order to accomplish those goals. That way the vacation is both more enjoyable and more affordable.

Vocabulary:

psychological horizons : limits of consciousness or attitude

blindly: without guidance or relevant information

Comprehension

1. Why has travel become so popular?
2. What mistake do people sometimes make?
3. What should they do to make the most of their vacations?

Express Yourself

1. Where do you most want to go?
2. In the summer, which place do you prefer- the mountains or the sea?
3. Which do you think is the best season for a vacation?
4. Would you say "yes" if your boss asked you to sacrifice your vacation? "Work comes first, doesn't it?"
5. Describe your ideal vacation.
6. Are you willing to lose vacation time for better pay?
7. Describe your usual weekend.