

Topics

Holidays, holiday destinations

Aims

- To use a 'word cloud' as a way of accessing a listening text
- To listen for specific information
- To write sentences about a listening text (pre- and post-listening)
- To write a story about a holiday based on a listening text and a photograph

Age group

14+

Level

B2+

Time

Approximately 40-60 minutes

Materials

1. [Audio file](#)
2. [Image](#) (Remote house in the west of Scotland)

Introduction

This activity is designed to encourage students to develop their higher-level critical-thinking skills to speak about images.

Apart from listening skills, the focus in this lesson is on vocabulary and writing skills.

Procedure

1. Make a word cloud using the audioscript, or use the one below.

Image bank: Remote house in the west of Scotland (higher)

as a text. If you wish, play the recording a final time for students to compare their text with the original.

Ask students to choose a photo from the Holiday Time set
(<http://www.flickr.com/photos/eltpics/sets/72157626527253332/>)

Tell them to imagine they are the photographers and to write a short monologue explaining:

- Where / when the photo was taken.
- What the holiday was like, in general.
- Why they took the photograph and what it was that caught their eye.
- If they like or dislike what is in the photograph and why.

Extension/homework: Once they have finished, they can create their own word cloud using their text.

Contributors

Activity by: Fiona Mauchline
Photograph by: Stephanie Stanger

Transcript**Carol**

This photo was taken during a family holiday we had on the coast, on the west coast of Scotland, just south of a town called Oban, which is about, oh I don't know, about two hours north of Glasgow, um, Scotland's biggest city, and it must be about probably about eight years ago now since I took it. Eight or nine.

We were staying in a self-catering cottage, a great wee house it was, with a lovely kitchen, and very comfortable... and we'd been spending time just, you know, relaxing and wandering around the beaches, visiting the local villages and pubs and things, and on this particular day we had taken a boat trip so there was myself, ehm, my husband and our two children, who were about ten and twelve at that time.

Most of the photos I took on that holiday were of us, that's me and my husband, and the children having a go at driving the boat and things, but I also took photos of the coastline, which is amazingly beautiful, and this house drew my attention, totally caught me, you know?, just for its remoteness, which quite appealed to me at the time.

Interviewer

It really does look totally alone, doesn't it? Very, you know, isolated or...or far away from everything.

Carol

Yes, but that's what I like about it, it's.. it's, ah, very remote, but that's a good thing sometimes, isn't it? I mean, I wouldn't want to live there permanently but every now and again the remoteness is appealing. Don't you think?

Word cloud

