

School Holidays

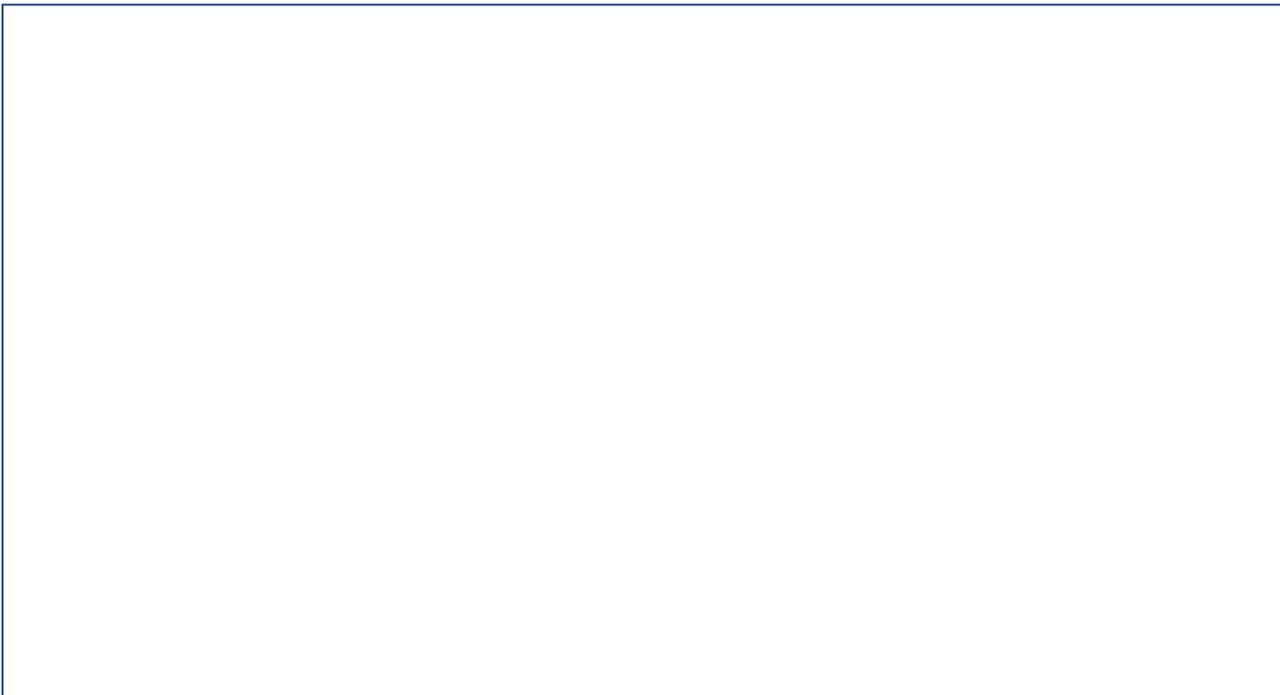
Task 1 – Thinking about the last school year.

Before you start the school holidays, let's think about the last school year. Use your memory and complete the sentences on your own. Then compare your answers with some of your classmates.

1. The best subject was _____ because.....
2. The worst subject was _____ because
3. I think I made the most progress in _____ because....
4. The funniest thing that happened in a class last year was
5. The class I remember most from last year is.....

Task 2 – It's nearly the school holidays!

Close your eyes for a moment and think about the school holidays. Then write the words or draw the pictures of the things you thought of here:



Task 3 – Class survey

Look at the questions in the survey. Add two more questions of your own to the survey. Then interview four of your classmates and make notes of their answers.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Name: | | | | |
| 1. What did you do during the last school holidays? | | | | |
| 2. Do you have any plans for the next school holidays? | | | | |
| 3. What's the best thing about being on holiday? | | | | |
| 4. What's the worst thing about the school holidays? | | | | |
| 5. | | | | |
| 6. | | | | |

Task 4 – Reading – Hobby or Holiday?
Hobby or Holiday?

Ever wanted to go gorilla spotting or is wine tasting more up your street? Find out what is popular in the UK.

Experiential holidays

'Experiential' holidays are the new vogue. Brits are no longer content with two weeks spent sunning themselves on a beach, they require something more to fulfil their holiday needs – whether trying something new in familiar places or going to somewhere completely different. Even though Spain is still the UK's number one holiday destination, it is themed holidays such as riding, dancing, golfing and trekking that are popular rather than the beach. France attracts people interested in golf, cultural, gastronomic and spa holidays. Further afield there is gorilla spotting in Uganda, whale spotting in Iceland, and white-water rafting in New Zealand.

Survey results

A report commissioned by a leading UK insurance agency has found what Brits thought the most important considerations when going on holiday and heading for unusual resorts and short breaks were.

Walking holiday

Philip, a librarian from Gloucester, enjoys walking holidays. He goes to a country specifically to go walking in the countryside. If there are mountains or lakes nearby, this is even better. With a dislike of beach holidays, national parks are the ideal holiday location. He prefers short breaks as he dislikes being away from work for too long, but tries to see as much of the local countryside as possible. Philip's favourite rural destinations are Germany and Romania as they both offer excellent walking and lots of different landscapes.

Yoga holiday.

Natalie is a shop assistant. Her priority for a holiday was to relax and improve her yoga moves. She chose to go to Ibiza as it is a beautiful place offering fantastic beaches and is a world-renowned yoga retreat. She says 'As a single person, I was nervous about going on my own but found that most other people on the holiday were also single and of a similar age.' Not only did she find like-minded people but also improved her mental and physical well-being. The world is feeling smaller. With cheaper flights and flexible holidays it is getting easier for us to follow our dreams and attain the ultimate holiday experience.

Text written by Nelly, British Council's Trend UK Team.

Answer the questions below. Make some notes on your own first, then discuss your answers with a partner.

1. If you could choose an 'experiential holiday' and combine a holiday with a hobby, what would you do? Why?
2. Do you know anyone who has gone on a holiday like those mentioned in the text?
3. Why do you think the typical holidays taken by British people are changing?
4. Do lots of British people visit your country for their holidays? Are they generally good guests? Why/why not?

Task 5 – Holiday Jobs

In the UK it's quite common for teenagers to have holiday jobs and/or jobs they do at the weekend. Is it common for teenagers to work in your country? If so, what type of jobs do they do?

Look at the list of common holiday jobs and add one more. Then discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each. Make notes as you discuss.

| Job | Advantages | Disadvantages |
|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Babysitter | | |
| A paper round | | |
| Shop assistant | | |
| Cleaner | | |
| Waiter | | |
| Dog walking | | |
| | | |

Task 6 – Our ideal holiday

Work in groups to plan your ideal holiday – remember you can do anything you like!

- What are you going to do?
- Where are you going to go?
- Who are you going to go with?
- How long are you going to stay?