

Staycation

Task 1 – What is a ‘Staycation’?

- Have you ever heard of the word ‘Staycation’ – which words is it similar to? Can you guess what it might mean?
- Read the ‘Wikipedia’ definition of a ‘Staycation’ to check your ideas. Can you explain what it is in your own words?

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:

A staycation (or stay-cation, or stacation) is a period of time in which an individual or family stays at home and relaxes at home or takes day trips from their home to area attractions. Staycations have achieved high popularity in current hard economic times in which unemployment levels and gas prices are high.

Common activities of a staycation include use of the backyard pool, visits to local parks and museums, and attendance at local festivals.

(Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Staycation>)

Task 2 – Question time

- Why do you think lots of British people are staying at home, or going on holiday in the UK in recent years?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of holidaying at home?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of going away on holiday?
- Tell your partner about your last holiday.

Task 3 – Find people who....

Talk to your classmates to find two people who....

	NAME 1	NAME 2
...stayed at home during the last holidays		
....prefer staying at home to going away		

.....love travelling		
....are afraid of flying.		
...have been abroad recently.		
...		
...		

Task 4 – are Brits really having ‘Staycations’ this summer?

A radio programme wanted to find out if their listeners really were following the ‘staycation’ trend. They asked their listeners to phone in and give their opinions. This is what they said. Read the listeners’ comments and then answer the questions below.

Are Brits really having ‘Staycations’ this summer?

Johnny: ‘I’m not going on holiday this year. My mortgage has just gone up and I can’t afford a holiday abroad. I’m going to go to Wales though for a friend’s wedding so I’ll have a little holiday then.’

Mary: ‘I’ve heard a lot about ‘staycations’ but I’m going on holiday like I do every year. I always go to Spain for a week. You just can’t trust the British weather and I need at least a week of sunshine every year! In fact, all my friends are going on holiday as normal.’

Nicole: ‘I’m not going on holiday this summer, but not because of the economic crisis. I decided not to fly so much because I want to help the environment. It’s crazy that everyone is flying around the world when there are beautiful places to visit here in our own country. I’m going to Cornwall for a fortnight.’

Steve: ‘Staycations?! What a lot of rubbish! People are still going on holidays. In fact, it’s cheaper to get a flight and leave Britain than to stay here for your holidays. Everything here is so expensive, especially in London where I live. I’m going to get a cheap flight somewhere and have a real break.’

Michael: ‘I’m staying at home this year. I’ve just moved house so I want to spend my holiday getting

organised, painting, decorating etc. I think we should learn to enjoy what we have close to home. If everyone travelled less the world would be a lot simpler.'

Angelina: 'We're going to go on holiday to the south of Portugal as normal. The risk with staying in the UK is that you'll have terrible weather. I mean, a holiday in the rain just isn't as much fun as being somewhere hot, is it? It's expensive to travel abroad at the moment, so we're only going for one week rather than two, but I think it'll be worth it.'

- Which listeners are going to have staycations?
- Which listeners are going on their normal holidays?
- What reasons are given for having 'staycations'?
- Who doesn't believe in the 'staycation' trend?
- Do you agree with Angelina, that to have a good holiday you have to have good weather?
- Is there a similar trend in your country?

Task 5 – Plan your ideal 'Staycation'.

Work in groups. Imagine that you are going to spend your next holidays at home. What would you do? Where would you visit? Who would you spend it with? Plan your perfect 'Staycation'. Write your ideas here: