

IELTS Speaking practice: **Travel & Holidays**

The IELTS Speaking sample has 3 parts with questions related to Holidays topic. Remember that on the real test you will get a mix of questions from different topics, but for educational reasons we used thematic questions about holidays in this IELTS Speaking sample. ***It is very beneficial to read IELTS Speaking samples with answers and remember IELTS Speaking vocabulary by topics.***

Our special formatting styles:

Useful linking phrases are in blue

IELTS speaking vocabulary is in bold

Part 1

Do you like travelling?

Yes, definitely! I think seeing the world, from great historical monuments to white sandy beaches, **is what life is all about**. It's a very interesting way to learn about new cultures and explore new places.

What is your favourite type of holiday?

I *really like* going to the countryside, **getting away from it all**. Nothing relaxes me as much as wilderness... I am tired of **tourist traps** and usually **go off the beaten track**...

What do you do on holidays?

I *prefer* visiting various museums and **places of interest**. *For instance*, on my last vacation I was to Rome and I visited 12 museums.

It was fantastic! Of course, sometimes I go shopping with my friends or relatives too... But I don't find it near as exciting...

Are there many tourists visiting your country?

Probably yes... My country has different **tourist attractions** in many cities, especially the capital... *For example*, my country has old-time religious traditions... *That's why* we have a lot of ancient cathedrals and churches that are interesting for both tourists and local citizens...

Part 2

Now, have a look at the card and prepare a monologue.

Describe a tourist attraction you once visited. You should say:

- When you visited it
- Where is it situated
- Who you went with and say what about it you like the most

A couple of years ago I went on a holiday to Paris with my parents... it is a very popular **tourist destination**, since it has various **places of interest**, *such as* ancient museums and monuments... *That's why* there are always **hordes of tourists**... So we decided to **go out of season** in the autumn... *Fortunately*, the weather was great, and we did not waste any days watching TV at the hotel... it was a memorable holiday ... we enjoyed **breathhtaking views** from the top of the Eiffel tower and dined in cozy little restaurants. *I would certainly recommend* visiting Paris, it is a **picturesque** city.

Part 3

Why do you think tourism is so developed now?

Well, because it is a lot easier to travel nowadays... you can choose **charter flights** and find various **youth hostels** all around the world, so you don't need to spend much money on the travelling. *Moreover*, you can **book a trip** via the Internet, so you don't even have to leave home.

How people choose their destination?

There are a lot of ways. For instance, you can surf the internet for all the necessary information... Or you can visit different **travel agencies** for more advice.

What kind of transport do you prefer on holidays? Why?

It depends... I usually reach my **holiday destination** by plane because it is the fastest and the least dangerous way to travel. *However*, flying can be a bit uncomfortable... So I also travel by train *from time to time*... But I never drive car on a vacation, because I do it every day when I work... I would have a **busman's holiday** otherwise.

Do you prefer travelling alone or in tour groups? Why?

I definitely prefer travelling alone because I like to plan the trip by myself... When choosing a **guided tour**, you should always conform to a set schedule... So if you are in India and, *say*, you want to spend an extra hour at Taj Mahal, you simply cannot do that with a group tour... I like independent travel. *That way* I get to see and do exactly what I want and spend as much time as I want at various stops.