

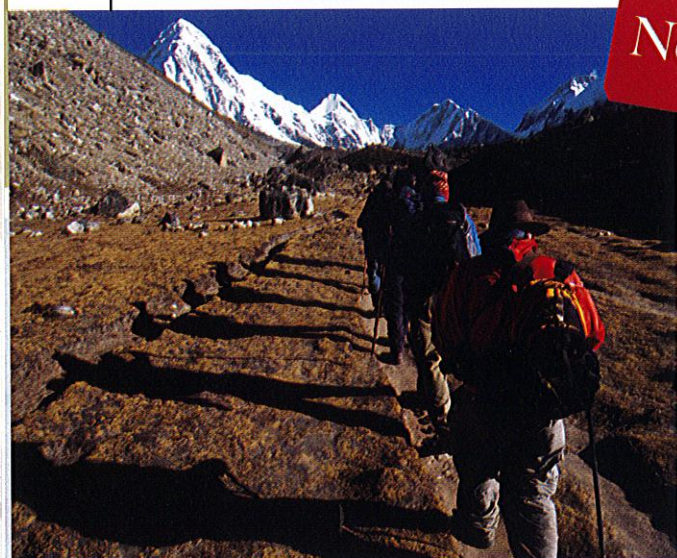
What type of traveller are you?

Nowadays more people are travelling than ever before, thanks to cheap flights. The number of destinations has also increased and there are now few countries which have no experience of tourism. In addition, there are many different kinds of holiday to choose from. Here are some advertisements for different types of holidays.



Egypt

Two-week package deal* in a luxury holiday village located near the fabulous resort of Sharm El Sheikh in Egypt, famous for its coral seas. The village offers an Olympic-size swimming pool, four tennis courts, great activities for kids, and on-site entertainment of every kind. There are two perfect white sandy beaches just a few minutes' walk away, making this an ideal resort for young families. Chalet accommodation is half-board* with full buffet breakfast.



Nepal

Three-week trekking holiday in the Himalayas. See the roof of the world on this challenging* trek, with some of the most amazing scenery on the planet. Each group, comprising eight to ten people, travels with an experienced guide with accommodation en-route in fully equipped tents. With an itinerary that includes a visit to the famous temples and monasteries in Kathmandu Valley, this is an ideal holiday for experienced trekkers and spiritual backpackers.*

package deal: holiday in which travel and accommodation are included in the price. Sometimes meals are included too

half-board: with breakfast and evening meal included in the price

challenging: requiring great effort and determination

backpackers: low-budget travellers who carry big bags on their backs

Pre-Reading & Vocabulary

1. Look at the following types of holidays. Have you ever experienced any of them? What do they normally offer?

clubbing holiday holiday village adventure trek
ethical tourism study holiday

2. Scan the advertisements and connect them with the holiday types above.

Reading

3. Read the ads again. Which type(s) of holiday
- is ideal for backpackers?
 - offers quiet and relaxation?
 - is particularly suitable for young people?
 - is appropriate for people in search of a spiritual experience?

- is good for people with children?
- offers the opportunity to learn something as well as to enjoy oneself?
- is not suitable for people who want luxury?
- is perfect for people who love adventure?
- is good for clubbers?
- is ideal for people who love sports?
- requires that people are flexible?

Speaking

4. Number the types of holidays from 1 to 5 according to your preferences. Compare your list and discuss what the advantages and disadvantages of each holiday are.
5. Imagine you are packing to go on one of the above holidays. List 5 things that you would definitely want to take with you. Compare your lists and explain the reasons for your choice.



Ireland

How would you like to spend a month in Dublin? And take advantage of the great facilities of one of Ireland's most prestigious language schools, with plenty of time to enjoy the delights of the capital? The Yeats International School offers one-month intensive study courses, including culture tours, sports and social activities, and family accommodation. With our highly experienced staff and mixed-nationality classes we have courses for teenagers of all levels of English.

Thailand

If you want to be where the party is, get yourself to Haad Rin beach on Koh Phangan island in beautiful Thailand. Better still, we'll take you there. We offer basic, but comfortable, beach hut accommodation at the nearby Sanctuary, and courses in everything, from Tai Chi to Ayurvedic Yoga, to doing nothing. Then you'll have plenty of time to get ready for the greatest beach parties on the planet – including the world-famous Full Moon Party – featuring great DJs playing music for all tastes, from Goa trance to deep house.



Africa, India and Latin America

For travellers who want something more than just a pleasure holiday, Development for Peace offers the opportunity to get involved with communities in Africa, India and Latin America, combining travel with volunteer work according to personal experience and skills. You'll stay with families and all food is provided by the local community centre. All that's necessary is an open mind and a willingness* to help; a truly rewarding* travel experience that will leave you with more than just a few holiday photos.



Listening 14

6. How memorable was your holiday? We asked three young people who have just come back from their holiday to talk about the most significant event that happened to them. As you listen fill in the following chart:

| | Geoff | Anne | Paul |
|------------------------------|-------|------|------|
| destination | | | |
| duration | | | |
| means of transport mentioned | | | |
| most significant memory | | | |

Speaking

7. What is the best holiday you have ever had? Describe your experience to other students.

8. What countries would you like to visit most? Why?
9. What type of people do you associate with each holiday advertised above (in terms of age group, personality, interests, social class, etc.)?

Research & Writing

10. Imagine you are working for a tour operator. Choose five destinations you particularly like. They can be anywhere in the world. Look for material on the Internet (both texts and images) and prepare advertisements for your tourist brochure. It could be useful to visit the National Geographic and Lonely Planet websites.

willingness: desire, enthusiasm

rewarding: satisfying

What do people want when they go on holiday? For the British a lot of the time the answer is simply 'a place in the sun', something they don't often have at home. Many Brits* will go away to foreign resorts that, apart from a good suntan, offer them familiar things from home – English-style pubs, food and the company of other Brits. For others it is a question of immersing themselves in a different culture and way of life. But in the rush to get away it is easy to forget the beauty, richness and variety of one's own country, something that often only people from other lands can see.

Number Crunching

Britain's favourite overseas destinations

1. Spain

Spain, including the Balearic and Canary Islands, is the number one destination for British holidaymakers. Half a million Brits have also bought properties in Spain, guaranteeing a constant number of visitors.

2. France

France is still the number one destination for British day-trippers, partly thanks to innovative incentives by the ferry companies, the Channel Tunnel and Eurostar. France is also the UK's favourite ski destination, meanwhile Paris continues to be the favourite choice for a European city break.

3. Greece

Greece is the third 'hottest'* destination for British people. Corfu, Crete and Rhodes are the most popular islands while the Cyclades and the Dodecanese are extremely popular with those who enjoy island-hopping.

4. USA

The USA remains the number one extra-European destination. After two years of decline in visitor numbers, holidaymakers are returning to pre-September 11th levels. Florida, New York, California and the New England states tend to be the favourite destinations.

5. Italy

Lovers of art, music and architecture come in great numbers to the cultural centres of Rome, Venice and Florence. Many also choose to holiday on the Ligurian coast and on the islands of Sardinia and Sicily, while Italy's Alpine mountain resorts are extremely popular with skiers.

Source: Association of British Travel Agents statistics

Brits: (colloquial) (here) abbreviation of British

hottest: (colloquial) favourite

like: (colloquial) a word used to emphasise what follows

cool: (colloquial) great

smugglers: people dealing in illegal goods

dudes: (colloquial) men

feather quills: old fashioned writing instruments

ominous: menacing

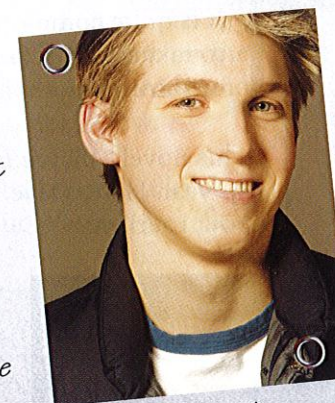
puzzle over: wonder about



An American in Britain

July 16

Here I am in Devon and Cornwall in the south west, which is, like,* the English equivalent of the California coastline. They say the surfing here is really cool* too. The landscape is wild and there are amazing cliffs and coves, which in the past were apparently used by smugglers.* Then inland you've got the moors, where there's a spectacular castle, Castle Drogo, overlooking the River Teign. It looks like something out of the Middle Ages, even though it was only built in the 1920s by a rich man, who made his fortune in tea in India.

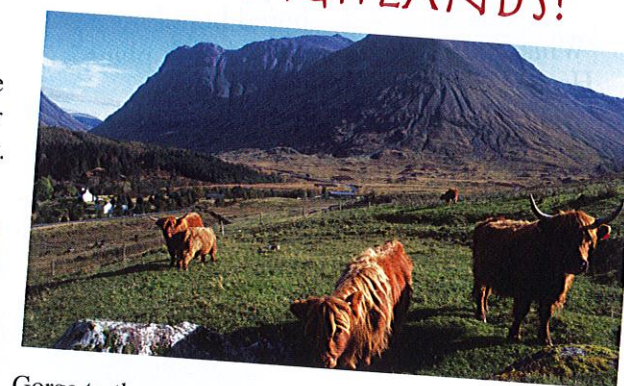


July 20

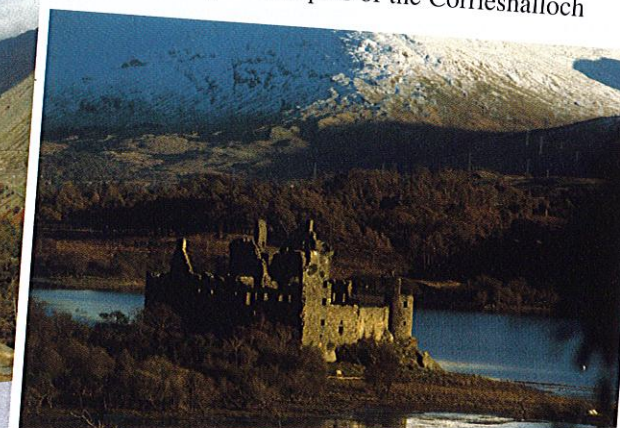
So this is the Lake District, inspiration to those Romantic poet dudes,* Wordsworth and Coleridge, they make us read at high school. These guys were revolutionaries, the Jimi Hendrixes of poetry, only they had feather quills* instead of electric guitars. They were passionate about flowers, streams, lakes and clouds, which I guess is why they came here. Talking of clouds, it's been raining the past two days and the sky's still looking pretty ominous.* The weather here is certainly 'interesting', adding tension and drama to the hills. Tomorrow I'm off further north to Scotland...

HOLIDAYING IN THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS!

Part of the attraction of the Highlands is the variety of its mountain landscape. Without even leaving your car you can immerse yourself in the marvellous atmosphere of Glencoe, see the rock terraces of the Torridon hills or puzzle over* the strange mountain profiles of Inverpolly. From the vertiginous depths of the Corrieshalloch



Gorge to the spectacular waterfalls of Glomach and Eas Coul Aulin, the Highlands have something for everyone – including the opportunity to have fun (weather permitting) on the beaches of Morar or Nairn. But remember to bring your raincoat, just in case!



Pre-Reading

1. What are the most common types of holidays in your country? What are the 'hottest'* destinations among your friends?
2. In pairs, look at the list of Britain's favourite destinations abroad and summarise the results.

Vocabulary

3. Scan the texts. Identify the following words referring to the British landscape and match them with their definitions.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| a cliff | 1 small river |
| b cove | 2 high steep rock |
| c moor | 3 water that falls from a great height |
| d stream | 4 wide area of uncultivated ground often covered with rough grass |
| e waterfall | 5 small inlet of the sea |

Reading

4. Read the texts again. In which place(s)
 - a can you experience a wide variety of landscapes?
 - b can surfers catch a wave?
 - c did a number of English Romantic poets live and work?
 - d can you see wild landscape and impressive cliffs?
 - e can you go walking in the hills?
 - f can you see a modern castle?
 - g can you go to the beach?

Speaking

5. Look at the diary entries again. With the help of the glosses underline expressions typical of young people. Have you heard such expressions before, either in films or on TV?

6. Look at the pictures on the page. Which place attracts you most? Why?

7. If you have been to any of these places tell the class about it.

Research

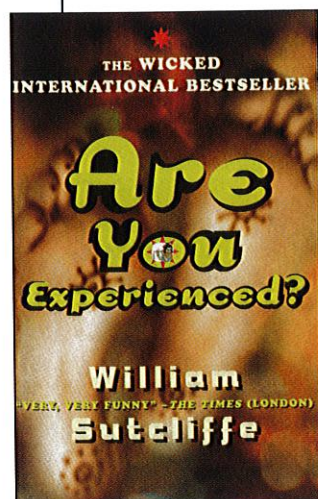
8. Search the web and look for more information about Scottish tourist attractions. Imagine you are going to go there. Make notes about places you would like to see and try to collect pictures as well.

LINKS United Kingdom p. 8 – United States p. 12



It is quite common in the English-speaking world, in Britain and Australia in particular, for young people to take time off (a 'gap year'). They do this when they finish secondary school, before starting university or starting work, in order to travel to various destinations around the world.

In his novel, *Are you Experienced?*, William Sutcliffe describes the experience of Dave's travels to India on his gap year. Here, Dave meets a journalist from a slightly older generation, who is planning to write an article about tourism.



'I might do an article on you,' he said.
 'What?'
 'I might write about you.'
 'About me? What have you got to say about me?'
 'I'm not sure. Tell me – what do you do all day?'
 [...] 'You know – I'm travelling. I'm a backpacker.'
 'But what do you do all day? How come* you don't get bored?'
 'Bored? You could never get bored here.'

'What do you *do*, though? In each place.'
 He looked genuinely interested.

'Well, you get there. Look for a hotel. Hang out there for a bit. Look around town for a few days. Eat. Read. Sleep. Talk to the other travellers. Think about where to go next, then – you know – it's a big hassle* to get the tickets for your next journey, so you prepare yourself for that, then bite the bullet,* spend a morning queuing for tickets, and the next day you move on.'

'Right. So the most significant and challenging thing you do in each place is to buy the tickets for getting to the next place.'

[...]
 What are you going to write about me, then?'
 'I think... something about how it's not hippies on a spiritual mission who come here any more, just morons* on a poverty-tourism adventure holiday. The real point would have to be about going to India isn't an act of rebellion these days, it's actually a form of conformity for ambitious middle-class kids who want to be able to put something on their CV that shows a bit of initiative. All the top companies want robots with initiative these days, and coming to the Third World is the ideal hoop for you to leap through.*'

how come: (colloquial) why?

hassle: (colloquial) inconvenience

bite the bullet: get the courage to face an unpleasant situation

morons: idiots

hoop for you to leap through: (here) test for you

William Sutcliffe was born in London in 1971. *Are you Experienced?*, was published in 1997.

WORD WATCH

Borrowed words

English has borrowed many words from other languages. The following come from the period of British colonial rule in India. Other languages then borrowed them from English.

pyjamas: a loose suit for sleeping in (from Urdu *pāyjāma*, 'loose trousers')

shampoo: a liquid for washing your hair; to wash your hair with shampoo (from a Hindi imperative verb, *cāmpo!*, 'press!')

curry: spicy Indian meat or vegetable dish (from Tamil *kari*)

bungalow: a house with only one floor (from Hindi *banglā*, 'from Bengal')

jungle: a dense tropical forest (from Sanskrit *jangala*, 'desert')

veranda: an open portico on the side of a house (from Hindi *varandā*)

guru: a popular, influential teacher or expert (from Sanskrit *guru*, 'teacher')

Pre-Reading

1. Would you like to go to India? Why/Why not?

Reading & Speaking

2. Read the extract and find out:
 - a what the journalist asks Dave
 - b Dave's initial reaction
 - c Dave's typical day in India
 - d the journalist's opinion of travellers like Dave and his friends
3. Do you think the journalist is fair towards Dave? Why/Why not?

Speaking

4. Is it common in your country for students to take a gap year? Do you think it is a good idea?
5. Look at the Word Watch and note down where the words come from.

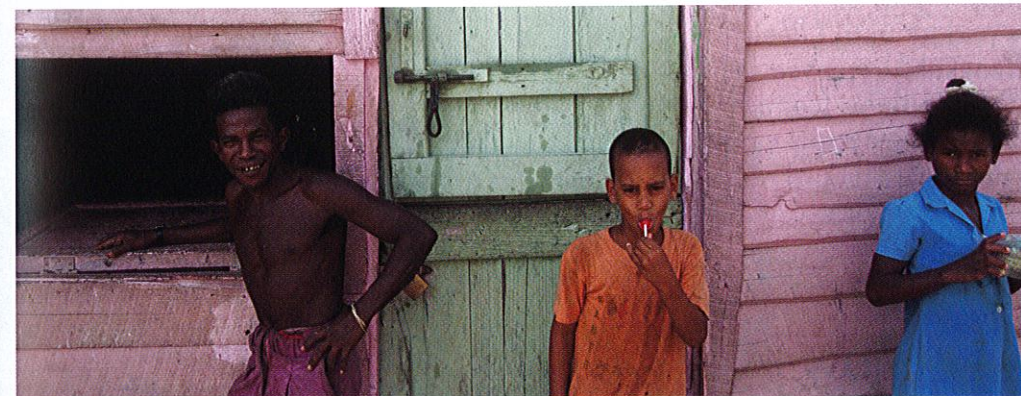
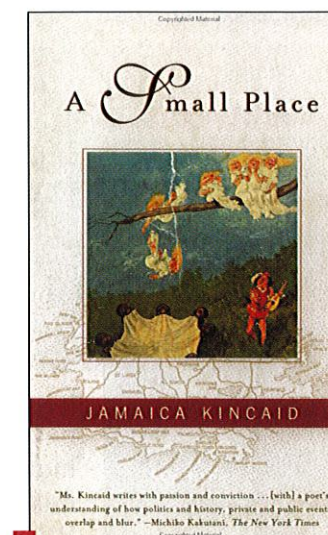


Jamaica Kincaid was born in 1949 in Antigua in the Caribbean. *A Small Place* was published in 1988. She currently lives in North America.

When we are on holiday, especially when we are staying in a 'remote', 'exotic' destination, we rarely get an idea of how we are judged by the local population. Often we are trapped by our own vision of the world and find it difficult to see things from the host country's point of view.

In her meditation on global tourism, *A Small Place*, Jamaica Kincaid talks about what the natives, in this extract from Antigua, think about Western travellers in the age of mass tourism.

That the native does not like the tourist is not hard to explain. For every native of every place is a potential tourist, and every tourist is a native of somewhere. Every native everywhere lives a life of overwhelming* and crushing* banality and boredom and desperation and depression, and every deed,* good and bad, is an attempt to forget this. Every native would like to find a way out, every native would like a rest, every native would like a tour. But some natives – most natives in the world – cannot go anywhere. They are too poor. They are too poor to go anywhere. They are too poor to escape the reality of their lives; and they are too poor to live properly in the place where they live, which is the very place you, the tourist, want to go. So when the natives see you, the tourist, they envy you, they envy your ability to leave your own banality and boredom, they envy your ability to turn their own banality and boredom into a source of pleasure for yourself.



Pre-Reading

1. What type of reaction do you think native people in poor countries have when they see privileged travellers from the West visiting their home? Discuss with other students.
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of mass tourism? In pairs, make a list and exchange ideas with other students.

Reading

3. Now read Jamaica Kincaid's extract. Put these points in the order they appear in the text.
 - a Native people of poor countries envy tourists for their possibility to travel.
 - b The native population of a tourist attraction often dislikes tourists.
 - c Every native person of a place would like to go on holiday.
 - d The majority of people in the world are too poor to travel.
 - e Native people of poor countries resent the fact that

western tourists regard their condition as a source of enjoyment.

- f Most natives experience boredom and problems related to everyday life from which they would like to escape.

Speaking

4. Do you agree with Kincaid? Why/Why not?
5. Do you think what she says about how the natives of developing countries see Western tourists applies to travellers like Dave and his friends?
6. Do you think it is possible to overcome this barrier between native people and tourists? How? In pairs, write down a list of ideas and then discuss them with the class.

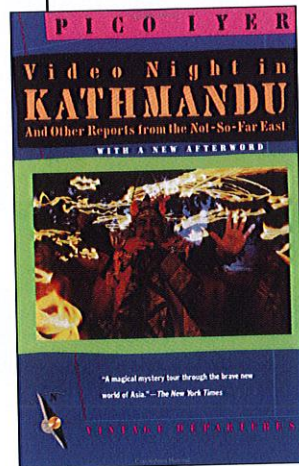
LINKS United Kingdom p. 8 – Antigua p. 6 – India p. 6

overwhelming: difficult to fight against

crushing: (here) terrible, defeating
deed: action

Some people say that the world has become a 'global village'. Exposed to images and products from all over the world, cultures are becoming mixed, absorbing different influences and styles, a process that can be seen especially in the areas of music, fashion and food. Travel, tourism and migration are among the forces which have produced this situation.

In *Video Night in Kathmandu* Pico Iyer notes the way cultures constantly influence each other, and how in post-colonial times the West is influenced by the East as much as the other way round.



If the great horror of traveling is that the foreign can come to seem drearily* familiar, the happy surprise of traveling is that the familiar can come to seem wondrously* exotic. Abroad, we are not ourselves; and as the normal and the novel* are transposed, the very things that we might shun* at home are touched with the glamour of the exotic. I had never seen, or wished to see, a Burt Reynolds* movie until I found myself stuck in a miserable guest-house in Bandar Sari Begawan; I had never been to a Dunkin' Donuts parlor* until I decided to treat myself*

after a hard day's work in Bangkok. I enjoyed my first ever Yorkie bar* in Surabaya (and my second there too, a few minutes later). And my first experience of the Emmy awards came in the darkened lobby of a run-down* hotel in Singapore. [...]

drearily: boringly, depressingly

wondrously: marvellously

novel: new

shun: avoid

Burt Reynolds: famous Hollywood star of the 1970s who appeared in a series of mediocre films

Dunkin' Donuts parlor: multinational chain of donut shops

treat myself: indulge myself

Yorkie bar: a brand name chocolate bar

run-down: dilapidated

Pico Iyer was born in England of Indian parents. *Video Night in Kathmandu* was published in 1988.



Thai Dancers holding Donut Box

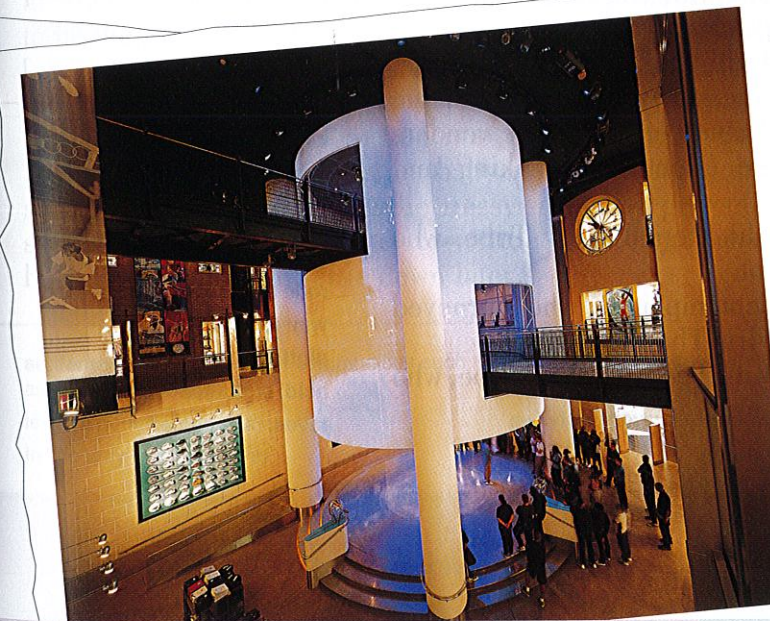


Wish you were here

Dear Brad
Greetings from Bombay. Everywhere I see faces similar to my own but the expression in their eyes is completely different. I'm sure its partly because I've never seen so many pairs of eyes in one place before. Forget any concept of personal space. My relatives don't quite know how to treat me. They are not sure if I am one of them or an American. It's weird because so many things are just like back home. Modern buildings, jeans, Coke, designer labels (among the rich kids) techno music from car stereos, even MTV, except everything's a hundred times more intense, especially the colors. But then there's all the poverty too, a poverty I've never seen before. You can't avoid it. It all makes me really confused, sad in a way, yet at the same time I've never felt so alive.
Geeta XXX



Hi Melanie
Coming to London has been such a rewarding cultural experience. Yesterday for example, after spending a stimulating morning in a new Niketown superstore in Oxford Street. I went to Planet Hollywood to have a meal. I promised my folks I'd go to the National Gallery where apparently there's an exhibition on at the moment by some guy called El Greco, whoever he is.
Missing you
Colin



Pre-Reading & Research

- In this extract, Pico Iyer mentions some places he has visited in Asia. With the help of an atlas or the Internet, try to find them.

Reading & Speaking

- According to Pico Iyer what are the horror and the surprise of travelling?
- Note down the examples of familiar things that suddenly became exciting during his travels in Asia.

Speaking

- Have you ever experienced the surprise of seeing familiar things in a new light while travelling? Describe your experience to the class.

Research & Speaking

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of the 'global village'. Do you regard the following as positive or negative? Discuss with other students.
 - cultural mixing
 - increase in mobility of people
 - creations of new hybrid forms and traditions
 - economic power of multinationals
 - weakening of local identity and sense of community
 - increase in consumerism
 - reduction of local differences
 - increase of range and quantity of goods available
 - environmental damage
 - dependency of the developing world on the West

Pre-Reading

- Do you like writing postcards? Do you like to include your own comments and thoughts or do you just send your greetings?

Reading & Vocabulary

- Read the postcards. Find the following words and cultural references and match them with their definitions.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a weird | 1 parents |
| b labels | 2 multinational sportswear emporium |
| c Niketown | 3 movie theme-restaurant chain |
| d Planet Hollywood | 4 brands |
| e folks | 5 strange |

Reading & Speaking

- What aspects of tourism, travelling and globalisation does each postcard reflect? Connect each of the following

points with the postcard(s) you think it refers to.

- the desire for familiar experiences
- the intensity of being in a different culture
- the levelling effects of globalisation
- the sense of confusion in front of poverty
- the hybridisation of native cultures
- the attraction of more essential ways of living
- the presence of western products everywhere
- travelling in search of one's origins

Writing

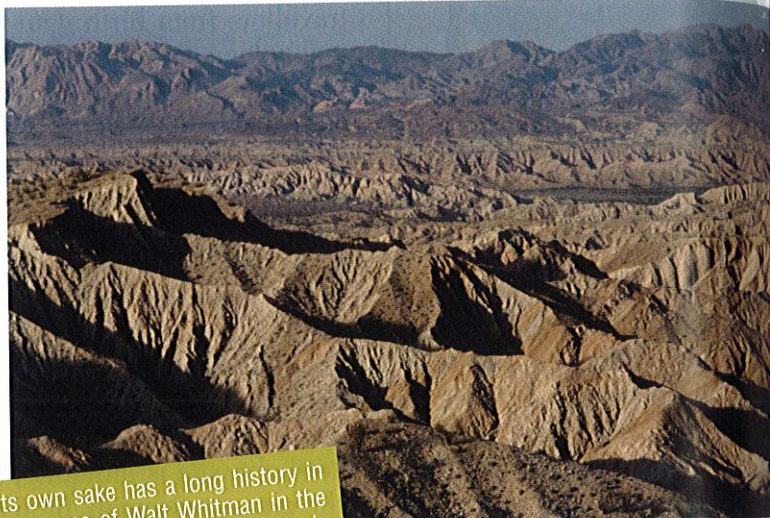
- Imagine you are in one of the places mentioned by Ico Pyer. Write a postcard to a friend recounting your experience of the place.

LINKS United Kingdom p. 8 – United States p. 12 – India p. 6

Freedom is the United States' most sacred myth, and its most visible manifestation is freedom of movement. The belief that it's possible to literally 'change your life' by packing your bags and 'hitting the road' is one of the key elements of the 'American Dream'. It goes back to the time before roads, to the time of the frontier and the mass migration westward that created a modern industrial nation out of a wild continent. Travelling 'on the road', especially through the immense spaces of North America's deserts can give you a sense of openness and freedom that are difficult to find anywhere else. But these landscapes can also seem strangely familiar, perhaps because we have already seen them so often in films.

Death Valley ▶

California's Death Valley is a living museum of natural and geological history. The floor of the valley is almost 300 feet below sea level. It is recognised as the lowest point in the Western Hemisphere and one of the hottest places on earth (summer temperatures in Death Valley can reach 54°C). Travelling through Death Valley one encounters an extremely varied landscape, from pastel coloured rock formations to sand dunes to salt flats. Among the most evocative sights is Zabriskie Point, a lunar plateau of rock mounds immortalised in Antonioni's film.



The idea of movement for its own sake has a long history in American literature, from the poems of Walt Whitman in the 19th century to Beat Generation writer Jack Kerouac's classic 1950s book about driving across the continent, *On the Road*.



◀ Grand Canyon

Grand Canyon is the most popular tourist site in Arizona and one of the most evocative natural beauties in the whole of North America. 277 miles long, 10 miles wide and 1 mile deep, Grand Canyon is a breathtaking alternation of vividly coloured rock strata eroded over thousands of years by the Colorado River. The oldest rocks found at the bottom of the Canyon are around 1.7 billion years old. The Grand Canyon's age, beauty and size make us feel the vast expanses of time in which our own lives are just a moment.

Pre-Reading

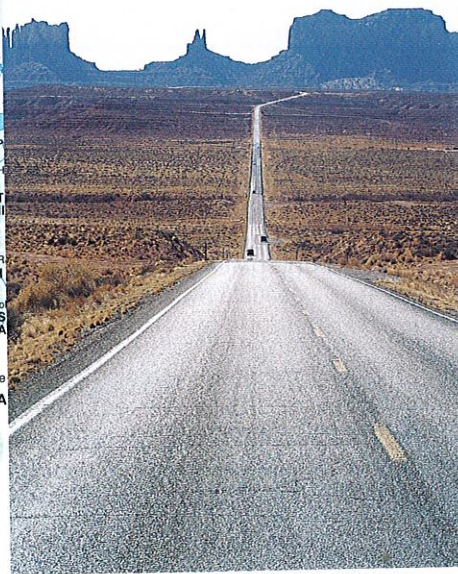
1. Read the introduction and comment on the American idea of 'freedom of movement'.
2. Describe the pictures and find the places on the map.

Reading & Speaking

3. Read the texts. Which description/s mention/s

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| a weather conditions | b geological composition |
| c dimension | d natural landscape |
4. What do they say about the above-mentioned categories? Give some details.

The freedom of the American highway has also been celebrated in cinema. Classics of the 'road movie' genre range from *Easy Rider*, Dennis Hopper's 1969 homage to Californian motorcycle gangs, to Ridley Scott's *Thelma & Louise*, a feminist reworking of the outlaw western that ends in Grand Canyon itself.



◀ Monument Valley

Monument Valley, in the state of Utah, provides perhaps the most spectacular images of the American West. The isolated red rock formations surrounded by empty, sandy desert have been filmed and photographed many times, most famously in the westerns of American director John Ford. The valley is not a valley in the conventional sense, but rather a wide flat landscape interrupted by the towering rock shapes – called buttes – that rise hundreds of feet into the air, the last eroded remnants of the sandstone layers that once covered the entire region.

SONGLINES ▶ 'A Horse With No Name' by America

On the first part of the journey
I was looking at all the life
There were plants and birds and rocks and things
There was sand and hills and rings
The first thing I met was a fly with a buzz
And the sky with no clouds
The heat was hot and the ground was dry
But the air was full of sound

(Chorus) I've been through the desert on a horse
with no name
It felt good to be out of the rain
In the desert you can remember your name
'Cause there ain't no one for to give you no pain
La, la ...

After two days in the desert sun
My skin began to turn red

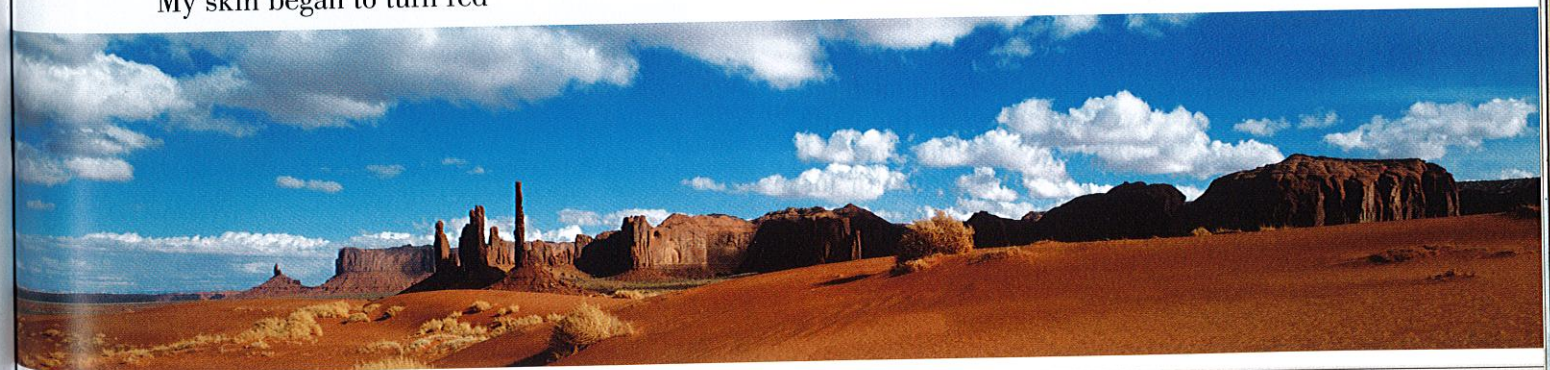
After three days in the desert fun
I was looking at a river bed
And the story it told of a river that flowed
Made me sad to think it was dead

(Chorus)

After nine days I let the horse run free
'Cause the desert had turned to sea
There were plants and birds and rocks and things
there was sand and hills and rings
The ocean is a desert with it's life underground
And a perfect disguise above
Under the cities lies a heart made of ground
But the humans will give no love

(Chorus)

From the album *America*



5. Do you find these places 'cinematic'? If so, what films do they remind you of?

Research

6. Work in groups. Use either a still camera or a camcorder to construct your own project, your own vision of travelling 'on the road'. Choose a particular area. This could be a favourite area of countryside or a particular stretch of road. Shooting from the window of a car or bus, for example, can provide you with some excellent 'tracking' shots, filming people and places as they rush past. On the other hand, you may want to use only still shots. It's up to you.

Listening & Speaking

7. Find a recording of the song 'A Horse With No Name' and listen to it several times. How is the American desert described in the first verse?
8. Why do you think the singer says that 'in the desert you can remember your name'?
9. How does the singer feel after three days in the desert? Why? What happens after the ninth day of the journey?
10. How do you interpret the end of the song? Discuss it with other students.

LINKS United States p. 12

