

Tourist information: Communicative Activities



Case Study

This is the description of Bali that Mr. Bennet and his family read in a travel magazine. It made them decide to go on holiday to Bali. As in any other brochure, it offers information related to geographical features, tourist attractions, places to visit as well as traditions and festivals.



Live an unforgettable experience in Bali.

A tropical island in the Indonesian archipelago which offers volcanoes, a dense tropical jungle, long sandy beaches, warm blue water and friendly people who don't have just a culture, but actually live it. It's the perfect holiday destination for all ages since it offers something for everyone.

The Balinese people have preserved their unique Hindu culture which can be seen in the numerous ceremonies, Balinese festivals and magnificent temples and palaces. The city is well-known for activities like scuba-diving, snorkelling and day trips out to Nusa Penida for beach sports and coral viewing.

Bali Island, a truly international destination, offers every standard of accommodation ranging from charming yet modest bungalow style hotels in lush tropical gardens for the budget minded through to arguably amongst the most exclusive and sophisticated hotels in the world!

What strikes visitors about the city is that spirits come out to play in the moonlight, every night is a festival and even a funeral is an opportunity to have a good time.

Adapted from: <http://www.aboutbali.com/>



Think about it

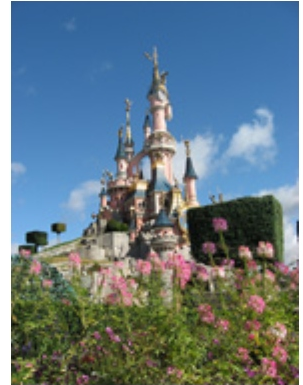
If you worked at the tourist information office in Bali, how would you complete the following sentences?

- ✓ Bali is located....
- ✓ The city is well-known for....
- ✓ The most outstanding feature of the city is...
- ✓ What delights visitors about the city is...

1. Reading activity I

Disneyland paris.

Disneyland Paris is a holiday and recreation resort in Marne-la-Vallée, a new town in the eastern suburbs of Paris, France. The complex is located only 32 kilometers (20 minutes) from the centre of Paris and lies for the most part on the territory of the commune of Chessy, Seine-et-Marne.



Disneyland Paris comprises two theme parks (Disneyland Park and Walt Disney Studios Park), a 🇫🇷 retail, dining and entertainment district, and seven Disney-owned hotels. Operating since April 12, 1992, it was the second Disney resort to open outside the United States (following Tokyo Disney Resort) and the first to be owned and operated by Disney.

Disneyland Paris is owned and operated by the French company Euro Disney S.C.A., a public company of which 39.78 percent of its stock is held by The Walt Disney Company, 10 percent by the Saudi Prince Alwaleed and 50.22 percent by other 🇫🇷 shareholders.

The complex was a subject of controversy during the periods of negotiation and construction in the late 1980s and early '90s, when a number of prominent French figures voiced their opposition and protests were held by French labour unions and others. A further 🇫🇷 setback followed the opening of the resort as park attendance, hotel occupancy and revenues fell below projections. Partly as a result of this, the complex was renamed from Euro Disney Resort to Disneyland Paris in 1995. In July of that year, the company saw its first quarterly profit.

Unlike Disney's American theme parks, Euro Disney aimed for permanent employees (an estimated requirement of 12,000 for the theme park itself), as opposed to seasonal and temporary part-time employees. Casting centres were set up in Paris, London and Amsterdam. However, it was understood by the French government and Disney that a concentrated effort would be made to use the local French labour market. Disney 🇫🇷 sought workers with sufficient communication skills, who spoke two European languages (French and one other), and were socially 🇫🇷 outgoing.

Adapted from: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disneyland_Paris#Theme_parks

Now it's your turn

Read the text and say if the following sentences are True or False.
Disneyland Paris is not very far from the centre of the city.

- True.
- False.

There are no shops within the complex.

- True.
- False.

It was built right after the one in the U.S.

- True.
- False.

The Walt Disney Company is the main shareholder.

- True.
- False.

Disneyland was an immediate success.

- True.
- False.

Mainly they were looking for French employees.

- True.
- False.

Reading Activity II



Reading

You are going to read an article about theme parks. Read and choose the correct title for each paragraph. There are 2 extra titles.

7 reasons for going to theme parks

One reason why you should visit theme parks is to get away from the normalities of daily life and be whisked away to a place of imagination and fun! One thing I loved about going to theme parks is the feeling of being in a different world and just having the time of my life. You can transport yourself to the world of fairies, robots, princesses, pirates and sooo much more!

Most theme parks are sooo colorful that its vibrant exterior and will really take you by surprise. It's one of the things that I love about it most. Its exuberant colors are just the perfect mix to make you pause for a while and take it all in – a feeling or an initial reaction that I had when I first stepped into a theme park. Another reason why you should visit theme parks are its amazing structures – filled with great engineering marvels that will satisfy some, if not all, of your thirst for great works of engineers. If your imagination needs a little boost, a theme parks' color and great engineering will surely have a positive effect on you!

With the fast growing popularity of social media, we always want to get that perfect shot or film of ourselves or of a scenic place. And theme parks will surely get you more than you would desire! Aside from its amazing structure and vibrant colors, theme parks are usually represented by cute characters such as Disney's Mickey Mouse and the Gang or Universal Studios' Sesame Street – thus the opportunity for a great photo with them is quite high!

A theme park's most welcoming effect that a tourist or visitor gets is its ambiance. Like Disney's "Happiest Place on Earth" motto, every theme park can really give you that 'happy' feeling. Though of course Disney has this certain effect on us since most – if not all – grew up watching Disney movies. And to be honest, it is a pretty nostalgic feeling stepping into Disney's theme parks. Nevertheless, theme parks has a certain positive ambiance that everyone can enjoy. The sights, the sounds and the smell will surely have you wanting more time to take it in and explore it all!

Theme parks are often associated with kids. Almost anywhere, you will see families with kids enjoying a day out, taking pictures and just having fun. But, the funny thing is, theme parks are also swarming with adults and teenagers! And I completely understand why this is so. Kids enjoying theme parks produces such a positive feeling that adults and teenagers can totally relate too. Personally, seeing kids having fun, dressing up as their favorite character and being just generally rowdy can make you recall the once carefree kid that you were too! It makes YOU miss being a kid and for once you are in a place that allows you to become THAT kid again!

How you might ask? Well, by riding rides - especially those that can fuel adrenaline rush. Theme parks offers a lot of fun-filled rides and attractions that you can choose from. So if you're feeling a bit down or stressed out at work or at home, vent out all your frustrations and shout your heart out on one of those roller coaster rides or fast-paced attractions. Nobody will care if you scream the loudest so go ahead and release that! I, for one, am not really a fan of fast-paced rides but I find it such a helpful outlet when I feel a bit down or stressed out, thus another reason why you should visit theme parks!

Last and an important reason, Theme Parks are usually built on several hectares of land, thus making it a quiet spacious attraction. It would take a couple of hours just to completely explore the entire theme park. If you love going for a stroll then this will be a breeze. However, if you are like me who seldom do walking exercises, this would be a challenge. But, the upside is, you get that much needed exercise. I know most of us do not get the required number of steps per day to keep us healthy. So this is definitely a great way to catch up! LOL.

Some may think that visiting theme parks may be expensive and beyond their budget, but good planning will help you get the best deals and make it more cheaper for you! So take that much needed time out and go and have fun! Do you need more reason why you should visit theme parks?

adaptado de :<https://osmiva.com/7-reasons-visit-theme-parks/>

Check

2. Listening activity I

Listen to the following speakers talking about flamenco, a genuine Spanish tradition and about sumo, a Japanese style of  wrestling and Japan's national sport.



[Script](#)

Self-evaluation

While you are listening to the information about these Spanish and Japanese traditions say if the following sentences are true or false according to the speakers.

There are no more than 13 varieties of flamenco.

- True.
- False.

Flamenco is a very young tradition in Andalusia.

- True.
- False.

In flamenco, every song tells a love story.

- True.
- False.

Tourists are presented with a combination of flamenco music and dance.

- True.
- False.

Professional sumo isn't done anywhere except for Japan.

- True.
- False.

Sumo is considered a modern Japanese martial art.

- True.
- False.

The sport has its own rituals coming from ancient traditions.

- True.
- False.

Sumo has lost many of its traditional characteristics.

- True.
- False.

Listening activity II



True or False?

You are going to hear information about the top 10 theme park rides. Listen and mark true or false.

1. They are going to talk about the most exciting roller coaster and water rides.

True False

2. On the Expedition Everest ride, the start is quite relaxed.

True False

3. This is the highest mountain ride in the world

True False

4. Journey into the Imagination is a ride at the Epcot Centre.

True False

5. Since it was first built, this ride has been amended several times.

True False

6. There are Space Mountain rides in the Disney parks in France, Japan, Korea and the USA

True False

7. The Space Mountain ride is more frightening at Halloween

True False

8. The Superman ride starts at the train station.

True False

9. At the end of the ride, you hear the music of the Superman films.

True False

10. On Splash Mountain you can see many animatronic figures.

True False



Listening Comprehension

Listen to the second part and answer the questions.

1. In which 2 places can you visit the Harry Potter theme park?
2. What 3 elements from the books are also present in the ride?
3. What prize has the ride won and how many times?
4. How does the Jurassic Park ride follow the film?
5. What is the best part of the film?
6. Where did the idea of the Twilight Zone come from?
7. The Haunted Mansion is called what in France?
8. How high is the first drop in Millennium Force?
9. What was it the first ride to use?

Show Feedback

3. Writing activity

Write a description of a famous tradition or festival which is held in your village, town or city. Don't forget to mention the following aspects:

1. What's its name?
2. When is it held?
3. What does it commemorate?
4. What are its origins?
5. What happens?
6. Do they wear special clothes?



4. Speaking activity

Look for a partner in the forum to role-play a tourist information office situation. Student A will be the employee who works at the tourist office and Student B will be the tourist who is interested in visiting theme and amusement parks in Spain. Then, switch the roles.

The link below will be useful to get information about amusement and theme parks in Spain.





You should know

Click on the following link where you will find useful information to perform the dialogue.

[Theme and amusement parks in Spain.](#)

Appendix: Licences of Resources

Licences of Resources used

Resource (1)	Resource Information (1)
	<p>By: johntrathome. Licence: CC by-nc-sa. From: http://www.flickr.com/photos/johntrathome/5181146079/sizes/z/in/photostream/</p>
	<p>By: Pat McDonald. Licence: CC by-nc. From: http://www.flickr.com/photos/pat_mcdonald/2558206764/sizes/z/in/photostream/</p>
	<p>By: denn. Licence: CC by-sa. From: http://www.flickr.com/photos/denn/160596269/sizes/z/</p>