

ENGLISH WORDS AND SENTENCES ABOUT EATING, SHOPPING, AND MORE.!

# SPEAK EASY ENGLISH FOR TRAVELING

LEARN COMMON ENGLISH WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN TRAVELING TO AN ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRY

English Travel Language Phrasebook



# Speak Easy English For Traveling

Learn common English words and phrases when traveling to an English speaking country



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## INTRODUCTION

This fact shows that there are thousands of languages spoken globally. This fact shows that there is a need for a specific language that will serve a universal communication function for every traveler and the natives of the land he or she travels to see. The English language has, in this regard, been lauded as one of the leading universal languages for communication. The English language is a global lingua franca that is spoken by the majority of the people in different countries such as Ireland, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, the United States, New Zealand, and some of the Caribbean countries. The language has around 375 million native speakers and around 750 million speakers that use it as their second language. The English language is used as an official language in over 70 countries of the world. Seeing all of these will tell you that English is a popular language that you should expect to see in use wherever you go in the world.

If you are a lover of adventure, and you are preparing to set out visiting a set of cities you have laid out, then you need to learn some basic communication skills of the English language so you will be able to communicate with people fluently. Even countries that don't use the English language are teaching it in their schools following its rise in the media, technology, science, commerce, politics, and diplomacy. You need to immerse yourself in the learning of the English language if you want to enjoy a welcoming feeling during your travels.

In this book, you will be getting the basic information and learning you need to be able to speak out there during your travels. You shouldn't travel and feel lonely or rejected as a result of the language barrier. Learning the English language is a very good way to avoid it. I have gathered some basic phrases you need to know as you go on your journey, and you will be amazed at how much you will learn. Your knowledge of the English language will make it easier for you to communicate with the natives of the country you want to visit. What this means is that you will be getting a whole lot of affection in the hearts of the people you will be meeting.

There is a general feeling of love in the minds of people when they hear a foreigner speak in their native tongue. It also works well for people of different cultures to come together and speak with a universal language without any territorial barrier. What this means is that by learning the English language for traveling, you will be able to communicate with the people you meet when you travel. If you are from Spain or Mexico, you can easily communicate with someone from India or Japan that you meet in the United States. This is a good way of creating mutual understanding and beautiful coexistence with one another. You will surely have fun when you make new friends easily as a result of your ability to communicate in the language they understand.

As a vacationer, you will be meeting new faces, ideas, cultures, languages. Since you are not a dog or a god, you will have to relate with others. The English language is the right language you need, to come to your rescue at such a point. While you are on a bus, in the hotel, at the airport, in the viewing center, along the street, in a restaurant or a coffee shop, and many more, there will be a need for you to communicate with someone. If you can speak well to the people you meet, socializing will become so easy for you to achieve. When you talk to the locals in their language, which is English, you will not have any challenge with them. This book is written to help you achieve a lot during your travels. As you read every chapter of this book with keen interest, you will be learning and be able to achieve more.

One of the purposes of this book is to help you express yourself better whenever you find yourself in a new land, where the English language is their means of communication. It can be painful or hurting to have a request to make, but as a result of the language barrier, you will not be able to make yourself and your need known to the people you are speaking to. When you encounter challenges in a foreign country, you need to understand their language to get someone to help you out of it. At the end of this book, you will be able to make requests and seek clarifications, among others, when you are in a foreign land.

You don't want to go on a vacation alone and remain lonely all through your stay over there. You need to mingle with people and make friends. Setting up new relationships is expected when we find ourselves in a new environment. The relationships you set up will be a source of strength to you all through the number of days you spend in the country. However, if you are unable to communicate in English, you are likely to find it difficult to make friends. During your vacation, it is likely that you will be going on tours, you need the English language to be able to communicate with people as you see new things.

Have you ever felt overwhelmed or unwelcomed in a foreign country? When you get to a new location, there is the tendency that you will feel afraid and lose your confidence to act as you would have in your territory. But this book is set to help you build the confidence you need to feel at home when you travel to a foreign country. The key to confidence is the English language. When you understand the English language, you will be so confident that there is no harm. You can communicate with everyone you see or meet, and when they speak around you, you understand them. This knowledge will repose a great level of confidence in you. You will even enjoy every activity since you will be able to ask questions about whatever item or event that amazes you.

By reading this book, you will be building a strong experience for yourself ahead of your next series of vacations or trips. Since you will be learning the right phrases and expressions you need to know, so you can relate to the people you meet very well. When you need the locals you meet to help you, it will be easier for them to do so on the basis of you knowing their language. You will also get to enjoy a whole lot of independence. It is possible for you to have a place in mind that you will like to visit alone. However, if you don't understand the English language, you may have to let go of the wish. But by reading this book, you will not seek the help of people for every decision you make. Since you can speak the language, you can explore the country as much as you want and visit places that you want to see.

This guide is for every traveler that is at either the beginner or intermediate level of the English language learning ranking. I have presented the basic things you need to know about the English language when you travel. Also, you will be learning the rules and expressions you need to relate with people as you travel. I want you to know that this is a guide that will help you achieve relief whenever you embark on a journey. You have a lot to

learn, and you must be ready to acquire the knowledge I have placed in this book.				

## **CHAPTER 1**

# TRAVELING TO ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES

raveling is one of the means we use to give ourselves comfort after a series of engagements. It has always proven to be a good way to escape the stress a person experiences at work. If you want to create an enjoyable space for yourself, then you need to create the time to move out of your environment and see what other parts of the world have to offer you. If you are a lover of travels, you are likely to have noticed the impact of language on your adventure. Traveling has a lot of benefits attached to it. This is why many people from different facets of the economy consider it important. It has a tremendous impact on the language learning of a person. As a traveler whose intent is to learn more about the way of life of a group of people, you will need to equip yourself with the tool of communication, which is usually the English language in most cases.

Although traveling is good for a lot of reasons, many people have their specific reasons for engaging in traveling. You will not be leaving your home on a voyage without a purpose for the voyage. The reason may be personal, but it remains the motivation that moves a person to pack all that he or she will need and leave his or her environment. So, before I go into the various lessons you need to learn the English language for traveling purposes, I will quickly take you through some possible reasons you may be traveling and the benefits that come from traveling to English speaking countries.

# THE REASONS WHY PEOPLE TRAVEL

#### n opportunity to learn

One of the reasons people travel is to learn. When you travel, you will be meeting new things, people, ideas, skills, and many more. Traveling has a way of showing you a new side of the world you are used to in another dimension. It has a whole to teach you than you could have learned in high school or college. Many people travel to see the cultural heritage and historical fact of a particular country or nation. They also, perhaps, want to learn about the geography and sociological facts of the country they visit. You will surely get all of these when you visit a country with the mind of learning about them. Each society has something to present to you as knowledge.

The way spirituality is perceived in your environment or society is not the way it is perceived in other parts of the world. Your language is probably different from what another country speaks. Some people travel to learn all of these. And they also want to see more differences present in the foreign country's cuisine and way of doing things. The learning you will get from the countries you visit will broaden your world view.

#### Setting up a personal Challenge

Staying in a place for decades or months can be boring and tiring. If it is not quickly attended to, it may lead to frustration. Repetition is an underserved experience that many people try to keep themselves away from. You don't want to stay in your comfort zone. A good way to deal with the feeling of enclosure for some people is to move out of their shells. You probably want to leave your environment, the experiences you are used to, the boring daily experiences you have always gone and come back to meet, and many more. By traveling, you want to create new challenges for yourself and have novel experiences. It is a good way to push people from their comfort zone. At the

end of the trip, you would have experienced a lot from ordering new foods, speaking a language you are not used to speaking, running the lane you are not used to running, and so on. This result is what some people want to see. So, they set out for their journey.

#### The need for Escapism

Our world is mixed with both happiness and sadness. Yours may be a negative experience with a demanding job or the death of a loved one. It may even be the breakup of a long-term relationship. You obviously need succor. Traveling is there to be your help. When you travel, you will be able to let go of every feeling of stress, depression, or sadness that you may have. Since you are getting all of these negative energy from home, you may have to leave for a faraway land to experience a different reality.

People see traveling in this form of reason as a way to experience nice weather they are not used to, to come in contact with better scenery they have lacked over the years, and possibly to gain the freedom to do whatever it is that they want. The experience can include lying on a Hawaiian beach. It may be to give an admiration of masterpieces in the Louvre. If you are a workaholic, who is always given to his or her job, then you need to travel to ease yourself off the tension of work.

#### To expand their perspective.

If you are one of those who believe in building the mind and giving it the right thoughts that will make it proactive, then you will love to travel. When you travel, you will see the different approaches that there are to live. When you meet new people, you will know that your way of doing things or interpreting an idea is not the only way there is to interpret ideas or do things. It will be difficult to see the way the world is in its full extent if you are confined to your environment. You need to have a change in your settings and discover new things for yourself. This has also been one of the purposes or reasons why many people travel.

#### The need to be in touch with yourself

If you observe that you have been neglecting yourself or you are placing too much on yourself, then you need to create a space so you can reflect on

your life. To achieve this, you need to be away, which is what you will get by traveling. Traveling will let you learn about yourself. How does it do this? It is very simple. When you travel, you will see newer opportunities that you have never heard or seen before. Also, you may end up seeing new tools that are extremely useful in your field that you have never heard of or seen before. Another way is that you are likely to see people do things you also do in a novel and sophisticated manner than what you are familiar with back home. All of these will challenge you and show you that you have a lot to learn. You will begin to see where you are lagging and the areas you need to make amendments. This will help you achieve a lot in your life.

#### To build long-lasting relationships

Traveling makes a great impact on relationships. The experience you share with a person you meet during your visit is enough to bond you together. Also, traveling is used by some people to get their family members together and have a special time. As a father or a mother whose work takes most of his or her day, finding time off work to stay with your family will be a great way to maintain the family bond. Traveling can also be done between couples to strengthen their romantic relationship.

Globalization has made the world a single place. It is possible for parents to have their son or daughter and their grandchildren in an English speaking country. As a result of the need to meet them after a while, these parents may have to travel to the country of residence of their child and grandchildren. Travel helps in binding a family more. Aside from family members, there could be a need to travel with co-workers or team members in your organization. For a student, it may be a means of excursion. Regardless of the set of people you travel with, the purpose is to create a strong bond and relationship with the persons. What this means is that, when people need to rectify what is wrong in their relationships, they often resort to traveling.

#### To go on Adventure

Craving is an expected character of people. It may come in the form of a craving for foods or craving to achieve a new milestone. It is always interesting to conquer new territories. The need to feel this happiness is what makes some people travel. You may be willing to try something new.

This new thing is usually not possible to handle at home. You need to be in another land where the opportunity is enormous for you to embrace. The adventure may be the need to experience scuba diving the Great Barrier Reef. It may be your craving for hiking the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu and many others. You just want to have a lot of fun. And when you are able to get what you want, you will feel accomplished. You want a long-lasting memory of how you did what is considered difficult by others, and you want to keep seeing the happiness that you exude as you engage in the adventure.

#### Creating an appreciation for your life

Traveling has a strong possible effect on a person's life. If you create negative thinking about yourself, you will end up finding it hard to see what is good in your home and your life. However, if you move out of your environment, and you see the experience of another group of people in their land, you would be appreciative of what you have back home in your country. Life's road is never straight. There are challenges everywhere. Until you get there and see what they are experiencing, you are bound to believe that your experience is the worst. So, some people understand this fact and have made traveling their means of enjoying solace.

#### People travel to relax and rejuvenate

At times, people are not traveling to escape their problems or challenges. There is also the need to take a day or more off from work. People travel to disconnect themselves from the pressure that comes with the need to be by the phone or email. So, for this purpose, they go on vacation. During the process, the intention is to be renewed and rejuvenated. People who love to travel for this purpose would search for a relaxing natural setting. Also, they would consider good weather. Nonetheless, there are variations in people's perceptions about the best means of achieving rejuvenation. For some people, going on a long trek through a rainforest is great. But some other people see it as a need to lie at a poolside in a Mexican resort. It is also possible to go to the mountains for a wellness retreat. Whichever means, your target is the same. During such a visit, you are expected to relax and focus your attention on the reason for your travel. Let your energy receive renewal. Let go of your workload back home and focus on the

sweet sensations you are getting from nature. Engage in every activity you have planned ahead to undergo. Doing all of these help many people return back to work, a better person!

#### People travel to celebrate

Going on a trip can be motivated by the need to celebrate. Anniversaries and birthdays are good reasons for embarking on a visit to an English speaking country. It could also be the need to celebrate a wedding or graduation. The idea is to bring family and friends together. It is often interesting to celebrate in a faraway place from home, and this knowledge has been the motivation for many people who have embarked on traveling for their celebrations. Going on a celebration vacation will give you lifetime memories.

Traveling to an English speaking country comes with a reason. But regardless of the reason, learning to use the English language appropriately when you get there is very much important. There are benefits that come with you being able to travel to English speaking countries. Take note that these benefits are also available when you travel to other countries since traveling is beneficial in itself.

# THE BENEFITS OF TRAVELING TO AN ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRY

oing on a voyage by leaving every routine activity behind has several impacts on a person's health both physically and mentally. When you set up your plans to embark on a journey, you have just made the right decision that will grant you access to lots of benefits. The benefits that are attached to traveling far outweigh the expenses you will be required to make to get to the location. When you travel, you are not just leaving your home, but you are also leaving behind your habits. I have identified some benefits you stand to get by traveling to English speaking countries.

#### It helps to sharpen the mind

Routine affects creativity. When you engage yourself in a particular activity over time, it will become automatic to you. However, when you give yourself the opportunity to see beyond the scope you are presently working at, you are energizing your mind to see more opportunities to learn from. During your travels, you will be forced to try new things, eat new food, and engage in new topics that are all different from what you are used to knowing. You will have to learn the English language so that you can communicate effectively. All of these involve your mind being active at work. Your brain will be set to work to achieve all of these new activities you are engaging in. The result is that your brain will be sharpened beyond the knowledge of your daily routine.

#### A change in Perception

You will not return from a journey the way you left for it. Your exposure to a new culture will make you see new things and affect the way you think. You will become dynamic in your thoughts and only consider things twice before you give your judgment about them. When you travel to an English speaking country, you will see the differences in classes and the way of life of different segments of people living in a particular society. This will

enlighten you about the sociological realities of the people in the country you visit, and you can easily see how their composition differs from that of your society.

#### An opportunity to try new things

Another advantage of traveling is that it will take you out of your comfort zone. You have got to try new things when you are in a foreign land. You have got to learn how to speak a new language – English, eat new foods and learn the procedure of their preparation, engage in a new sport that you have never done before, hear about things or history that you are alien to, and many more. What all of these will result in for you is that you will become a well-rounded personality, who knows a lot. And this will in turn, build your confidence. When you speak to people, you will have content to give them and a pool of ideas to pull out from as well.

#### An opportunity to form relationships

When you travel, you will meet many people from different parts of the world. The people you will be meeting in an English speaking country are there to experience a whole lot like you. And they have something to share with you. You can never tell what piece of information you will be receiving from them, which will make all the difference in you. From there, you can set up a lasting friendship with people and gain every benefit that friendship has to offer afterward.

#### Learn more about reality

Until you have gone beyond your territory, you will remain myopic in some matters. Being myopic means you won't see beyond what you know. Since you schooled in your country, read books in your environment, work in your environment, your knowledge is yet to be complete. You need to move to other parts of the world to see reality for yourself and ascertain what you have studied to be possible or not.

#### Having an energized ability

The last benefit I will mention is the benefit of getting energized, which traveling to English speaking countries promises. Your mental and physical strength will be renewed. You will become a better manager, a loving and

more attractive husband, a sophisticated teammate, and a better promising leader, if possible. Traveling doesn't only energize you; it also helps to form the best attitude in you. You will start seeing things from a different perspective, and this new perception about things will be your source of motivation for whatever thing you do.

There is no doubt that traveling to an English speaking country has a lot to offer you. However, there is a factor that you need to attend to if you must gain every benefit you are supposed to get by traveling. This factor is the English language. The English language is the tool that will aid you to learn every new thing you can learn during your voyage. It gives life and fun to your activities. In order to lay your hand on this need, I will be giving you a dose from all that you need to know to use the English language when you travel in the next chapter. I want you to prepare your mind and learn along with me. You are on the way to become a traveler who is equipped with the English language on his or her voyage.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### LEARNING THE BASICS

have mentioned in the previous chapter that it is important for you to have a good understanding of the language of the locals of the location you are visiting. Since the target of this book is for those that are traveling to English speaking countries, I will be presenting you with some step by step methods to learn the basic phrases you will be using when you travel. Never forget that there are numerous benefits attached to being able to speak the English language when you get to your destination. Starting from the basics, which is greeting to making some certain requests and seeking responses to your questions. You cannot afford to leave behind the place of paying attention to details. You don't have to feel overwhelmed. I will be taking you through the simple but effective ways to learn the English language so that you can communicate with the English native speakers during your visit to their country.

You need to understand that as you learn the English language for traveling, you don't have to be fluent at it. If you can master the basics of the English language, it will go a long way for you to have a good experience. It all starts with you learning how to greet people. So that you will be perceived rightly, it is always good to greet the locals of your visiting country in their language. This will send a signal of your respect for their language and your readiness to learn the language. These people will be willing to help you. Your fluency is great once you are able to express yourself to the people and convey your wish to them. So, in this chapter, I will be showing you how to achieve just the kind of fluency you need for travel. Hence, you shouldn't expect me to dig into the grammar of the English language.

The kind of fluency you need during your travels should be able to help you to get by in every travel-related circumstance you may find yourself. You should know how to talk to the taxi driver to take you to the hotel; you should be able to make your orders yourself. This fluency involves you knowing what to say, how to say it, how to give responses to questions, and how you should ask questions. Your grammar may not be perfect, and you may not know everything by heart. However, when you have this

foundation, I am setting out in this book, and you add the necessary gestures to it, you will be amazed at how much your communication will flow.

## THE GUIDE FOR THE BASICS

ocus on the few essentials

I will be starting with this rule in this section. The English language has a wide and broad rule of grammar and fluency. The first question you need to ask yourself is this: Do I know all the words in the English dictionary? Do I need to know all of these words to be able to communicate with native speakers? Obviously no! You don't have to learn all of these words. And this should also work for you as you learn the English language for traveling. You should focus on the most important vocabulary and phrases that will be useful during your voyage. You don't have to start learning how to create argumentative writings or view your opinions on issues that require in-depth language usage. Your focus should be on the basic skills you need to learn and give them the best shot you've got.

You can consider the rate at which you will be using some phrases by looking at the possible situations you will find yourself. Let's consider these.

- · How many times will you have to ask for the price of an item?
- · What is the probability rate of you asking for the location of the bathroom?
- · How often will you place orders, whether at a restaurant or in a hotel?

It is crystal clear that you will be doing all of these a lot of the time. So, your attention should be fixed on learning the right vocabulary, phrases, and expressions you will be using in these situations and in other situations. So, in the subsequent steps, I will be taking you through some specific grammatical rules that will serve the basic purpose of travel communication.

#### **Understanding modal verbs**

I am sure you are looking for a simple way to learn the English language for traveling. Don't fret. It is possible. I will not be filling you with several rules of grammar. You will be learning keywords that will enable you to speak. So, let's look into modal verbs as one of such keywords. Learning the modal verbs will go a long way in helping you achieve the purpose of your learning.

In the English language, the common modal verbs are:

Can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, would, have to, ought to, and need.

Modal verbs show different meanings that you may want to express to the listeners. They are used to show ability, possibility, obligation, request, questions, permission, and prohibition.

Let me show examples.

Ability: This shows what you are capable of doing.

I *can* drive.

*Possibility*: This shows what is possible to occur.

It *may* rain tomorrow.

*Obligation*: This shows an act or action that is expected of a person to do.

We *must* eat now.

*Request:* This is used to make a formal request.

*Could* you give me a pen?

*Question or permission:* This shows an act of seeking a response.

Can I come in?

These are examples of how you can use the modal verbs in situations. They will always be useful.

#### Pick your top ten Verbs

Another guide I have for you is to learn the most essential ten verbs you will need during your journey. This will help you learn faster. The verb in the English language is an action word. It is the word you use to express an action you want to perform. When you travel, you will be asking some questions more often and saying some things more than others. I have ten verbs that am sure you will not do without using it when you travel to an English speaking country. You can add more to it.

Let's look at these verbs.

Verbs	Usage
Go	I want to go to a hotel. / I am going to the park.
Order	Can I order now? / May I order?
Buy	I want to buy that shirt. / I will buy the book.
Have	I have a card. / I have money.
Find	Where can I find a hotel?
Pay	I will pay in cash. / Can I pay now?
Eat	I cannot eat that. / I eat vegetables only.

Understand I don't understand his language.

Speak I can speak English. / I speak very well.

Take I will take a taxi. / You should take a train from there.

#### **Select your top ten Nouns**

Nouns are essential in the English language. A noun is used to refer to the person you are talking about. You can add the words *a* and *an* or *the* before nouns. Examples are:

A bag, a boy, a man, an egg, an elephant, the hotel, the driver, the food, etc.

Your choice of nouns will be to select the specific common items you know will come up during your travels. I have some common nouns below, of which I believe you may have to learn as well.

#### Nouns Usage

Ticket I have a ticket.

Bank I need to withdraw from the bank.

Airport I have landed/reached the airport.

Bathroom I want to go to the bathroom.

Receipt Here is the receipt.

Taxi I stopped the taxi.

Driver The driver is nice.

Vegetarian I am a vegetarian.

Waiter The waiter is here.

Meat I don't eat meat.

Your selection of nouns should be based on the purpose of your trip. There are some nouns that will always come up based on the purpose of your travel. So, learn the commonest ones and save yourself the stress of learning the endless rules of grammar that will most likely amount to nothing.

#### Select your top ten adjectives

Another method you can follow is to learn adjectives. Adjectives are used to qualify a noun or pronoun. When you mention a subject (noun), you may have to add an adjective to it to give it full meaning. Before an adjective, you can place the *Be* verbs, which are is, am, or are. For example,

The room is big.

The waitress is beautiful.

In a situation where you want to lay emphasis on the adjective you use, you can add any of these two words: "too" and "very" before it. For example:

The waitress is very beautiful.

The room *is too big.* 

I have identified some common adjectives you are likely to use when you travel. These may not work in all situations, but you can also add those you think will be useful.

#### Adjectives Usage

Beautiful The airport is beautiful.

Nice The hotel room is nice.

Small This taxi is small.

Big The park is big.

Expensive The food here is expensive.

Open The cinema is still open.

Interesting The hiking is interesting.

Closed The park has closed for the day.

Well or good A park is a good place.

Perfect The hotel service is perfect.

#### **Learn question expressions**

There are question words you need to learn so that you can make a request and seek clarifications easily. I have mentioned how you can use a modal verb to ask a question earlier. Aside from the modals, you can also use some question words. Below are the question words you need to know.

*Where* – It is used to ask for a location or place.

Where are we going?

*Who* – It is used to ask for the person that performs an action.

Who built this monument?

**When** – It is used to ask for the time of an action.

When are you meeting tomorrow?

*What* – It is used to ask the question about the being of an item or object.

What is this?

*How* – It is used to seek clarifications. You can also use it to know the price of an item.

*How* did you create this?

*How* much is this wristwatch?

*Why* – This is used to know the reason for an action or a thing.

Why did you make it like this?

Take your time to practice the use of question words to form questions because there will be reasons to work with many of them along the line.

#### Learn greetings and pleasantries

Now, you should learn the basics of establishing a conversation with people through greetings, pleasantries and introduction. When you come in contact with a person, you need to first greet and introduce yourself to the person. To do this; you don't have to start memorizing a whole lot of grammar. It is simple and easy to achieve. In an English speaking country, when you meet a person, there are greeting terms. I will discuss them briefly here but will touch more on them in a later chapter.

*Greeting*: You may use: Hello, Hi, Good morning, Good afternoon, Goodnight, or Goodbye.

*Introduction:* My name is James...

I come from ... (you should fill in your country.)

I am a / I work as a..... (The next thing is to mention your profession or where you work.)

I am not fluent in the English language.... (You should let them know you are not a fluent speaker of the English language so that they will not take you to a realm you will find it difficult to comprehend their words.)

**Pleasantries:** Question: How are you?

**Answer:** I am fine, and you?

Thank you.

You are welcome.

Please

I am sorry.

You should learn the basics of greetings and pleasantries so that you will be able to establish a cordial relationship with the native speakers.

#### **Practice your selections**

You should take the time to practice every point you have laid out. Your selected verbs, nouns, and adjectives are essential for you to master before you embark on your trip. Take time to use them actively in your discussions. This will help you use them fluently as you speak. You still need to make active practice a habit. Learning is like habit formation. The more you repeat it, the better it is for you to achieve.

Learning to communicate starts with the basics. Once you have got the basic elements you need, your communication will become easy. You need to motivate yourself with the knowledge of the importance of you learning

the English language for traveling purposes. Aside from the basic language elements you need to learn, your body language is also needed as a tool for effective communication. How well are you able to communicate with your body language alongside the basic language rules you have mastered? Your answer to the question will reveal how well you will communicate during your trips. I want you to prepare yourself as I dive into the explanation of the use of body language during your communication with the English natives.

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **USING BODY LANGUAGE**

ello there, I believe you have been flowing with me from the previous sections of this book. It is now time to move slightly away from the speaking aspect of your communication when you travel, to the use of non-verbal cues to communicate with the natives of the land. One of the fears of most people that are just learning the English language when they want to travel to an English speaking country is how to communicate with the natives of the land without being misinterpreted. On your part, if you cannot communicate very well, you will end up becoming frustrated. While on the part of the natives, your inability to communicate with them effectively will prevent them from getting the message you are trying to pass across.

Communication is done both verbally (in words by speaking) and non-verbally (through the use of body language, which includes hand movement, gestures, facial expressions, etc.). However, before you can communicate effectively with body language, you need to do some verbal communication activities. You should follow the communication basics. The basics include all I had mentioned in the previous chapter. You should learn a few words, such as *please*, *thank you*, *good-bye*, *hello*, *etc*. Then, you can start some other practical steps.

#### Get a phrasebook

You should get a phrasebook where you will jot all of the simple phrases and expressions that you can use to communicate easily. Since you are a learner, you will most likely not understand every response you get from the natives. Before you embark on your journey, it is best to write down the names of the cities you want to visit. Write the hotel you have selected, the recreational places or restaurants you have decided you will visit, among others. It will be easier for you to ask for directions from the natives. You can easily show a taxi driver when you find it hard to pronounce the hotel or recreation center you want him to take you. One of the greatest errors you need to avoid during communication in a foreign country is to be

misunderstood. In order to avoid this, I will be taking you through some non-verbal cues you can use to communicate effectively.

*Use your hand and Mime:* One way to help your lagging spoken English is to add gestures and miming alongside your speech. For example, when you want to order food, and you don't know how to pronounce the kind of meat you need, you can just mime different kinds of animals that can be served. You can flap your arms like a chicken, or sound like a cow to show the waiter or waitress that you want beef or chicken. On the part of the hand gestures, you can place your hand as a cup into your mouth to show that you need water if you can't pronounce water or the drink you want.

Are you probably afraid to look silly, right? You shouldn't be afraid. The person taking your orders will understand. It will spark a friendly connection between you two. When you try to communicate with miming, the respondent will understand you are trying your best to blend with his or her language.

If you need toilet paper, for instance, you can just meet the store clerk and wipe yourself to indicate that you need toilet paper.

*Use drawing:* Another way to communicate is through drawing. If you are going to a castle, for instance, you can just bend and draw a castle for the respondent to see. You will be understood at once and taken to wherever you need to go.

### **BODY LANGUAGES TO AVOID**

In the English culture, somebody's language can lead to misunderstanding, and it will be great if you could learn them so that you can avoid them. Below are some of the body languages you must not engage in so as not to cause misunderstanding.

The rolling of the eye: In the English culture, people roll their eyes to depict disapproval or anger. When an English speaker feels skeptical about something, he or she will roll his or her eyes. For example, if an English tour guide rolls his eyes while saying, "I wonder if we will get to the next location before it is late," he or she is saying it may not be possible to meet up early. Also, when they use the following sarcastic phrases "yeah" "right," they also roll their eyes at times to mean "probably not," or "I doubt it."

**Air quoting:** This gesture involves moving the index fingers and middle fingers of the two hands up and down in the air. The gesture is used to stress an expression, phrase, or word during the discourse. When this is done, the speaker probably believes the word or phrase quoted is wrong or not true. It is often used to show sarcasm. For example:

"She said It is (air quotes) beautiful."

In the above sentence, the speaker believes the "it" is not beautiful.

**Arm crossing:** Crossing your arms in an English speaking country means you are defensive. It is then interpreted as you being in disagreement with what is being said. So, you need to watch out for this to avoid being misconstrued.

**Shaking head:** When you shake your head in the English culture, you are sending a message that you disagree with what is being said. So, you should avoid doing such when in the actual sense, you are interested, and you approve what is being said.

Our body language is an essential tool of communication that is used to pass across both intended and unintended meanings to the listeners. Either you use your facial expressions, which include a smile, or a straight face, or you are using hand gestures and your body positioning, you are passing across a piece of crucial information. You don't have to be afraid of communicating in an English country. If words are failing at any point in time, you should immediately resort to the use of body language. Make the people see how much you are striving to get the best of their language. Once you master this, it will be an added advantage for you during your communication. I will take you through how to communicate with longer expressions in different environments in the next chapter. So, you should be getting ready to be fully kitted.

## **CHAPTER 4**

# COMMON EXPRESSIONS FOR DIFFERENT SITUATIONS

s you embark on your trip to an English speaking country, you have got to be prepared for some situations and circumstances that you will surely find yourself in. The questions are, how do you cope in those circumstances? Communication is key, and your ability to speak to the locals in those circumstances will help you achieve a lot. In this chapter, I will be taking you through some expressions you will find useful in different environments or situations as you travel. You should study this and make use of them. They all have specific purposes they are serving, which you need to pay attention to. So, let's get started.

### **EXPRESSIONS FOR GREETING**

**reetings:** It is the things you say before you start talking to a person. Just as it is in every culture, you need to create phatic communion (that is building a relationship with them) with people around you. You should first greet a person before you say what you have to say, that way you will be easily understood. In the English culture, below are the ways of greeting.

*Good morning:* This is the standard phrase that you will use to greet a person first in the morning. It is not really a formal expression. But, when you are speaking to people, you are meeting for the first time, or that you are not used to, you should use it. Also, when you are meeting someone of high authority, you should use it. The phrase is used in the morning until 12 p.m. (noon). Saying it in the afternoon will make you look funny.

*Good afternoon:* Right from 12 p.m., you are expected to use the good afternoon to greet whosoever you meet. There is a blurry line between the afternoon and evening. But you can use it from 12 p.m. until 5 p.m.

*Good evening:* Evening is another long time of the day. It revolves from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. For some people, the evening is on until you sleep. Nonetheless, you need to know that the phrase is what you use after your dinner.

*Hello/Hey/ Hi:* All of these are not bound by the time of the day. You are free to use them whenever you wish. Among these three, Hello is used in a formal situation. When you meet people you don't know in a conference or business meeting; you can say hello to them. "Hi," is a little bit formal. But you should avoid using it for someone in a high position. "Hey," is very informal. It is what you use for your family members and friends.

How are you doing? / How are you? How is it going? These expressions are often used immediately after you have used any of the greetings I mentioned above. When you want to know how a person is feeling, you use any of the three expressions. When you ask such a question, or someone

asks you the question, it is bad etiquette for you to start narrating how you are feeling to the person. In the English culture, the right response is *good* or *not so good*. You may also respond by saying, "I am fine, thank you!"

Above are the basic greetings you are likely to experience when you communicate with native English speakers. There are other possible expressions in some unique situations. But these are more than enough for you to enjoy your stay in any English country.

# EXPRESSIONS AT THE AIRPORT AND ON THE AIRPLANE

our journey experience to an English speaking country will start from the airport. At the airport, you will have to speak English to people. Below are the essential expressions you will need as you check into your flight. Let's go!

**Could you please**/ **I would like:** You need to be polite in your approach to people. Make requests in a polite manner. So, using any of these two expressions is the standard and polite manner of saying what you desire. So, you would say to any of the hostesses, "Could you please give me a cup of water?"

*When is my flight taking off:* You need to be active in asking about the time you will be taking off. Taking off means when your airplane will leave the airport and start the journey. Airports don't usually communicate the takeoff time. So, you need to ask this to avoid missing your flight.

*Which airline am I flying?* This is the question you ask to know the name of the company that operates the plane you are flying on.

*How do I get to my gate? / Where is my gate?* A gate in the airport refers to the point where you enter an airplane. Also, you will wait at the place before you board the plane.

**Please, where is the restroom?** A restroom is another word for toilet. So, when you need to freshen up, you can ask an attendant at the airport. Other phrases, such as the washroom and bathroom, can also be used.

**How much is this magazine?** If you need to buy a magazine at the airport for entertainment, you need to know the amount it is sold. This expression can be used to know the price of whatever you want to buy. All you have to do is to replace the word magazine with other items such as snacks, books, or water bottles.

While you are on board, these are some phrases you may find useful.

**Does the airline include meals?** A meal comprises of food that is served at once. Some airlines don't have any plans to provide meals. So, it will be a good thing to ask if you will be served a meal while you are on board.

*May I get something to eat or drink?* In a situation where your meals are not included, you can ask for food with this expression. This will mean you are making your payment.

**What time is it?** When you need to know the time of the day, you can use this expression to get the response you want. This question is possible when you are flying over varying time zones.

### **EXPRESSIONS AT CUSTOMS**

Boarding an airplane is the first step you will be taking to enter an English speaking country. After that, you will have to face the customs of the country to give the reasons you are in the country. The customs officers are charged with the responsibility to assess every immigrant and find out whether illegal immigrants are present. The time you will be spending with the customs will be fruitful with the following English expressions at hand.

*I am here for my connecting flight:* When you are in a country to board another plane that will take you to your real destination, you will say you have a connecting flight. What this means is that the place is not your destination. You only have a stopover.

*I am here for leisure:* If you are in the country on vacation and to have fun, your response to the customs will be that you are there for leisure.

*I am here for work:* This means that you are in the country to work. So, if you are representing your organization or your personal business, you will be using this statement.

*I am staying for* \_\_\_\_\_ *days:* This should be the way you will answer the question of how many days you will be spending in the English speaking country. So, if you are spending two weeks, you should put it on the dash.

*I am on a visit to see family:* If you are in the country to see members of your family, you should respond with this. And the custom officers will ask you about the family and their address. So, you should have these details available.

*I am staying with/at*: You may be asked where you will be lodging into. So, your response should be that you are staying with maybe a family member or at a hotel you already booked. The name of the hotel should be readily available to you.

### **EXPRESSIONS AT THE HOTEL**

If you are lodging in a hotel, you will have to communicate with some set of people before you finally enter your room. So, you need some phrases readily made.

*Is there a bathroom in my room?* If you want to know if there is a restroom or bathroom in your booked room, you can ask this question. This will help you know if you will be using your bathroom alone or sharing it with someone.

*How many beds are the room?* You may want to ask this to know if the room has enough beds to accommodate the number of people that will be in your room.

*I would prefer a queen bed, please.* If you want a bed that will allow you and another person to sleep comfortably, then you should ask for a queen bed.

*I would prefer two double beds, please.* A double bed is useful for two people. However, a person can sleep on it to get enough space.

*I am on what floor, please? Or what floor am I on?* This is the question you ask to know the level of the hotel where your room is situated.

**How do I get to the elevators?** If you are on a high floor, you will have to use the elevator to easily get to your room. An elevator is a device that is used to lift or lower people between floors of a tall building.

**Excuse me, how do I gain access to the internet?** If you are in a hotel that has free Wi-Fi, which means a wireless internet connection, you will need to ask for the way to access it. There will be a password that you will be given once you ask the question.

*Am I getting free breakfast?* In some hotels, a small breakfast will be provided without charges. You can ask at the reception desk to confirm if

the hotel you are lodging in offers such or not.

*I need towels / my room needs towels:* There are housekeepers that will make sure your room is clean and get all you need. If they forget to leave anything behind, you can call their attention to it. It may be a towel or toilet paper. You should use any of the two expressions to inform them.

*I would like my room cleaned; it is messed up:* If your room is not cleaned, you should just talk to the housekeeper about it, and they will work on it.

*How do I get in touch with room service?* The phrase "room service" simply means you will get someone to help you with what you need. It may be to deliver food or drinks to you.

*How do I get in touch with the front desk?* The front desk is the same thing as the reception desk. They are usually open. If you need anything, the front desk is the first place you need to message.

# EXPRESSIONS AT YOUR DESTINATION

hen you reach your destination, you have lodged, and you need to go out or tour; below are some of the expressions that will be valuable.

*Hi, do you have a map?* A map is a picture guide of your destination. It is what you need to easily find things around you. The nearest restaurant, parks, cinema, or even a hotel. So, if you need to identify any location, you can ask anybody you see around for a map.

**How do I get to the currency exchange?** When you get to your destination, you will probably have to convert the money you took from your country with you to the currency that is acceptable in your destination. Currency exchange is a place where you get your money changed.

Which bus stop is this? If you are going to a place and you don't know where to alight, you will ask this question. Just talk to anyone on the bus asking which bus stop you are at present. This will help you find the right way.

*How do I find a taxi?* If you cannot find a bus and you need to take a taxi, you can just ask where or how you can find a taxi. In some countries, it is called a cab.

*I would like to go to*\_\_\_\_: When you see a taxi driver, you can just tell him where you are going. Fill the dash with the name of your destination.

*Please, do you know how I can get to this hotel? / Do you know where this hotel is?* In a situation where you are lost, you can use any of these expressions to seek help from people so that you can locate your hotel.

*I don't speak English very well/ I don't understand:* When you are speaking to native speakers, you can let them know that English is not your

first language by using any of these expressions. You may also tell the person, "*Please, speak slowly.*" So that you can hear him or her clearly.

# EXPRESSIONS WHEN YOU ARE IN TOWN

hen you are in town, you will be engaged in a lot of activities. You will probably want to get some things from the grocery store around, you want to locate a particular place, and you need to hire a car, among many others. Below are the expressions that will help you well in those situations.

*How do I locate a grocery store? Where can I find a grocery store?* A grocery store is a place you get food rather than going to a restaurant.

*How do I get to the hospital?* / *Where is the hospital?* A hospital is a place where you get a sick person treated. So, if you want to help someone who is sick or you are sick, you will have to ask this question.

Where can I find a restaurant? / Where is the closest restaurant? If you need to eat out, you can use the first expression. But if you really want the restaurant to be close to your location, you should use the second expression. A restaurant is a place you get food to eat if you don't want to make your food.

*How do I get to the bank? / Where is the bank?* If you need to get money, a bank is a place you go to get money out.

*How far will it take me to reach there?* If you want to know how long you will be spending on your journey to a place, you should use this expression.

*When you ask for directions:* When you are seeking direction in an English speaking country, there are some phrases that will be used to give you a response.

**You move to the right.** / **It is to the right:** This means you are going at the right-hand side to get to your location.

**You move to the left.** / **It is to the left:** This means you are going to the lefthand side to get to where you are going to.

**Keep moving straight ahead.** / **It is straight ahead:** This means you are on the path, and you should keep going. Don't turn right or left.

*It is at the corner:* You will see a corner when you get to a place where two roads part.

*It is two/three/four... blocks ahead:* A block is used to refer to a section of road that is between two parting streets.

*I want to hire a car:* This means you want to use another person's car for a while and you will pay for it.

*How long for? / For how many days?* You should expect the hirer, who is the person that will hire the car to you, to ask you this question. These expressions mean how many days the car will be with you, and you will respond with maybe "one day, two days, three days, or more."

*Could I see your driver's license?* The hirer may ask you for your driver's license. It is the document or ID card that shows that you can drive legally.

**You have to return it with a full tank:** What this means is that when you bring the car back, you must make sure the fuel in it is full.

### **EXPRESSIONS AT A RESTAURANT**

hen you are in a restaurant, you will need the following expressions.

*I need a table for two/three/ four...:* The number you put after the table shows the number of persons you want to eat with within the restaurant.

*I would like to drink...:* When you want to order a drink, you should add the name of the drink to the expression. It may be water, soda, carbonated drinks, wine, or beer.

*Can I have your menu?* A menu is a list of the available foods.

*I would like to order* \_\_\_\_\_: This is what you say to tell the waiter or waitress what you want to eat. Below are some foods you can order.

I would love to have soup.

I would love to have a salad.

I would prefer a hamburger. When you order a hamburger, let the server know what you want to have on it.

I would prefer chicken/beef.

I will have an appetizer. This is a small meal you eat before the main meal called the main course.

I would love to have dessert. This is a sweet meal you eat after the main meal.

*May I have the bill?* When you are done eating, you will say this to know the total amount you are paying. A bill shows the amount you have to pay after a meal.

Being able to communicate effectively in a way that your listeners understand you is the best form of communication. I have listed some expressions you need to study, so you will find it easy to communicate in a foreign country you visit. By learning these, you will be well equipped for the journey you have ahead. You need to keep learning and practicing to get it right. Don't stop doing that, and you will experience tremendous results.

## **CHAPTER 5**

# THE RIGHT WAY TO ASK STRANGERS QUESTIONS

ne of the realities you cannot do without when you try is the need to ask for information from the people you meet. It can be as simple as you asking for the time up to a more complicated question of getting more information about a person. In either case, you are expected to make use of the right word choice, especially when you have to ask from a stranger you are meeting in another country. When you are asking a friend question, you can use the informal or colloquial form. If it is a colleague at work, you will have to be a bit formal. In the case of a stranger, you are expected to be strictly formal about it.

The need to be formal when you speak to a stranger means you should be polite enough in your discussion. Check out these sentences below and their categorizations.

"How much does this watch cost?"

"Where do I go to see her?"

The questions above are informal. They are the type of questions you will use with a friend during a discussion. But when you are meeting a stranger, going directly with this form of expression may be considered impolite. You should rather have it this way:

"How much does this watch cost, please?"

"Where do I go to see her, please?"

As you ask these questions, you should be open and welcoming in your approach. A very good way to this is to put a smile on your face. By doing this, you are sending a message to the stranger that you care about him or her, and you need their help; that is why you have approached them.

Say it slowly and be appreciative.

You should not forget that you are a learner of the English language. One way to connect with a stranger easily and avoid any misunderstanding in communication is for you to ask your questions slowly without rushing the words. So, you need to be calm and speak to the person nicely. You may be speaking to a foreigner that is also not a native speaker of the English language. In such a situation, if you are too fast while you speak, he or she will find it hard to grasp all you say. A native speaker may still try to bring out the meaning from what you said, but that does not apply to another non-native speaker. So, you've got to be slow in your speech to give clarity to your words.

The other important part of your communication with a stranger that you must pay close attention and be appreciative always. When you ask a question, and you get an answer, learn to say "thank you." By saying "thank you," you are creating a good impression in the mind of the person. It also shows how nice you are. Your ability to establish a good relationship with the strangers that you meet in the foreign land you travel to will go a long way to help you have fun and enjoy your stay in the place. So, you shouldn't joke with this.

## **MAKING POLITE REQUESTS**

our communication with a stranger may go in the form of making a request. When you make a request, you are asking a person to give you something or to do something for you. Even when you are making a request from your friends, a level of politeness is expected from you. So when you make a request from strangers, you must be as polite as possible. Also, you should avoid being too direct in your request. Imagine someone you have never met telling you any of these:

"I need your help."

"Pass me the water."

"Give me that bag."

I am sure you will be amazed if any stranger says any of the above statements to you. Although the person has spoken correct English, free of grammatical errors or spelling errors, their expressions are not polite in any way, and as such, they are not appropriate. In fact, they are rude. If you say any of these to a native speaker you are meeting for the first time, you will be considered a rude person. They are no longer acting as request but as a command. There are methods you can use to make polite requests when you speak. Let's take a look at them.

### The use of "Could you...?"

You should start your request with the phrase "could you" and follow it up with what you need the person to help you with. Examples are below:

"Could you carry my books?"

"Could you lend me a hand with this?"

"Could you call my number I need to find my phone?"

When you use "could you," you can add "possibly" into the request. For example,

"Could you possibly hold my bag?"

### The use of "Would you mind...?"

You can start your request with "would you mind" and follow it with what you are in need of help for. Examples are below:

"Would you mind holding my purse?"

"Would you mind driving me home?"

"Would you mind taking some photographs with me?"

### The use of "I wonder if you could....?"

A request can be made politely by starting with the expression "I wonder if you could" and then follow it with what you need help with. Examples are below:

"I wonder if you could help me with my car key."

"I wonder if you could drive me to my hotel in your car."

"I wonder if I could get some cash from you till later."

You can also add "Possibly" to the use of "I wonder if you could." See this example.

"I wonder if you could possibly drive me to the cinema."

Politeness, when you make a request, goes a long way to show how cultured and respectful you are to the English speakers. When you follow their rule of respect, you will be respected in return, and the result is always good. Aside from the above means of making a polite request, you can also make your request to a stranger using negative statements that have question tags.

### Using Negative statements with question tags

In the English language, every sentence is positive. But when you add "not" to a positive sentence, it will become a negative sentence. See this example:

"I am hungry." (Positive)

"I am not hungry." (Negative)

A negative sentence can also be turned to a question by adding a question tag to it. When you do this, it is considered a formal way of making requests politely. Let's see some examples.

"You could not help me with my bag, could you?"

"You wouldn't drive me to the museum, would you?"

"I don't suppose you could help with my food, could you?"

Always remember that there is a popular saying that "respect is reciprocal." So, you must be interested in respecting people by speaking to them formally and politely to also earn their respect and make your stay funfilled.

# CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS WITH QUESTIONS

In a foreign land, when you come across new faces, there is nothing as important as creating a strong and reliable first impression. It will go a long way in helping you build a strong relationship. When you are seated at a table, your meeting with new people should make them want to stay with you longer. This is regardless of the fact you are learning the English language. You could create the right impression if only you equipped yourself ahead of the meeting. You don't connect with people by asking just any random questions. When you don't have a strategy in place, you are likely to end up exhibiting any of the following traits.

*Interrogatory tendency:* When you ask people consistently without a direction, they are likely to feel interviewed. You don't just meet a person and start with: "Where do you live?" "What do you do?" These questions sound aggressive.

*Generic tendency:* When you are fond of overusing questions, you will become boring to the person you are asking and asking about a person's hobby too. The truth is most people are tired of talking about their hobbies. So, once you ask, it is predictable and the response will come mechanically.

The needy tendency: When you go too deep in a short period of time, you are considered needy or nervous. You have considered the opportunity with the person as the only time you've got to pour out all you have to say. No, you shouldn't start narrating the history of your growth.

When you meet a stranger, and you want to connect, you need to identify common ground that you two can base your discussion on. It makes the whole process easy. The stranger will have something to say, while you will also have contributions to make. You don't have to set up so many questions you want to ask. I have identified some simple questions that will keep your conversation going with any stranger. And I will tell you why these

questions are effective. The first step is to introduce yourself. Then, you can move further.

### How do you know ...? Or what brought you here?

This question works well if you meet a person at a party. There will most likely be a connection for you both to build your communication. The question requires the stranger to say more than one word. From the expressions he or she uses, you will have your next topic to raise, and you are in connection already.

## What do you mean by that, please? Or I am not aware of that. Could you tell me how that works?

One mistake we mostly make is that we don't want to ask for clarifications. We feel like we will look dumb. There will be a feeling of looking foolish since others got what was said. However, that is not it. You should be open enough to seek clarifications; you will put the other person in a good position of helping out by providing more information.

## What made you make such a decision? Or how did you end up doing that?

Do you want to know why this question will help you connect with a stranger? It is simple. Everyone loves to talk about themselves. With this question, you will be prompting a story from the stranger, and from the story, you may end up having a connection that will become the foundation on which you keep building your conversation.

# What was your favorite part of the speech, movie, or history? Or did you have a favorite today?

If you meet the person in a convention, seminar, during a tour, or in a cinema, you can use any of these questions. It will work because you are asking a personalized question that requires the stranger to talk about his or her fondness of the event you both participated in together.

# What is your favorite restaurant around? Or where do you think I can go aside from the amusement park?

Generally, we love acting as the "expert." So, the stranger will be more than ready to give you direction and advice on the best restaurant or a place you can visit to enjoy yourself.

Connecting with strangers is a great thing. You will end up creating relationships that you will always benefit from even after you have left the country. You should not overlook the importance of setting up a relationship. And while you do that, you should note that the best way to connect with people requires you to be friendly, nice, respectful, and polite. If you can follow all of these, you will find your relationship easily formed and enjoy every bit of your stay. I will be taking you through how you can stay safe in a foreign land in the next chapter. So, get ready as we learn some safety tips.

## **CHAPTER 6**

### SAFETY TIPS WHEN TRAVELING

eaving your country home to another country can be dangerous if you don't prepare adequately. You can be scammed in the country you travel to if you are not careful. You may also be robbed. Anything can happen to you since you don't know the terrain of the country as much as you know your country. I am not trying to instill fear in you. That is not my intention. I want you to be prepared both mentally and physically for any possibility. So, there are some safety precautions you need to put in place to stay safe. Let's take one them one after the other.

### Be familiar with common travel scams

The scam is a reality everywhere. Some people are ready to trick you and get your money or belongings from you in every country you go to. They are called con-artists. Don't think you are too smart to be scammed. There are so many of them. You should carry out research online before you embark on your travel. In the English speaking countries, there are telephone scams, where you will receive a call that is targeted at retrieving your information to gain access to your account details.

### Keep emergency information of the country

You should gather information about the possible emergency situations that are likely to occur in the country and get your solutions ready. The reason for this is that you may not remember to call the police or emergency unit or have time to get to the embassy to your country when disaster strikes. The panic that follows the event may stop you from thinking straight. So, your preplanned information will be of help.

### Safeguard your valuables

When you travel, you must be security conscious and have your valuables well locked. Since you are aware of the possible exposure to danger; you should be extra careful with your choice of backpack. Many of these

backpacks are not safe. You should get a slash-proof backpack. It will still give your valuables a level of security.

#### Get travel insurance

This is one essential safety tip that most people ignore. You will always think it is needless until you see the need. If you buy yourself travel insurance, it will reduce your overprotective attitude and give you some sense of relief. You know that if your stuff gets stolen, it would be replaced. Also, your travel insurance should cover your health insurance. You can't say what will happen. You just need to be protective of yourself.

#### Seek the advice of the natives

The best way to get information on the safest neighborhoods in a place is to move close to a trustworthy local. When you show respect to the locals, they will be friendly in return and show you the dangerous places you should stay away from. You can get this help from taxi drivers. You may also approach the front desk attendant of the hotel you are lodged. Ask and have information about the part of the city you need to avoid and the part you should embrace.

### Ensure your family and friends are aware of your plans

After you have planned your traveling and you have decided on the location and the number of days you will be spending, you should inform your friends and family members. You may email the information to the family members, but make sure you confirm that they receive it. If anything happens, and you are unable to return at the appropriate time, your family members will know the appropriate quarters they need to approach.

### Don't be too open to strangers

You will be shooting yourself in the leg if you reveal so much about yourself to a stranger. Don't tell a person you just met where you stay. If someone asks, you should be vague in your response. Don't be rude. Just mention an area or city that is probably close to where you stay but not the hotel or the house address itself. At times, people will ask you if it is your first time visiting their country. If you don't trust them, you shouldn't say it is the first time. Saying that you are new can trigger danger close to you.

### Take note of your dressing

When you are dressed wrongly, it will be so obvious to the locals that you are a tourist or a stranger. You need to look less obvious as a stranger. When they don't see you as a visitor, they are less likely going to scam you. Dress rightly. Dressing like them will be great.

### Practice basic self-defense

I am not saying you should learn karate or boxing for traveling purposes. If you can, that will be great. But reading about self-defense techniques that you can work with, will be great. You need to ensure that you avoid physical confrontation with people, but when it is unavoidable, the solution is to get away as soon as possible. If you are attacked over your phone, it is just so wise that you give them and let them go. You should only use force when your life is at stake, and you don't have any other option.

#### Always be with a first aid kit

You cannot tell when there will be an emergency; your first aid kit should be available. I am not saying you should gather scalpels, needles, and all of that. But you can get the basic tools you need to deal with cuts, sprains, and pains.

### Never neglect your instinct

I will be closing on this. You must work with your instinct. Many people fail to pay attention to their inner minds talking to them. You should know that you are a walking surveillance network. Your body is designed to observe and hear more things than you may think. You have the capacity to sense danger when it is looming at your door. All that is left, is for you to listen to that message and act on it. It is also called the gut feeling. Don't ever dismiss your gut feelings as useless.

Your safety is important than anything else when you travel. I expect you to know this and work towards protecting yourself with every knowledge you may gather. When you travel with security consciousness, it becomes easy for you to achieve. Your life is important, and you must safeguard it very well. So, make sure you make your findings and enjoy your travel trips every time you embark on one.

### **CHAPTER 7**

### TOOLS THAT WILL HELP YOU OUT

echnology has gone a long way in impacting our society. It has surfaced its face in every area of our society, including in language learning. There are many technological tools you can embrace to learn the language and prepare yourself for your trips. These apps are designed to help you achieve exactly the language needs you may have. They will help you when you are in a country that they speak a totally different language to the language you are used to speaking. Some are language learning apps. That is, they will help you learn the language of the country you are visiting easily, while some are translators that will guide you by translating the words and expressions you don't understand in the language of your host country.

But before I start telling you about these apps, I will take you through a few things you need to pay attention to when you are choosing the app you want to use for your travels.

Compatibility: The first element you should look out for is the compatibility of the app with the mode of communication you want to use during your travel. Language apps have different uniqueness. What this means is that there is something that makes an app different from others. For example, if you get a voice translator app, it will be so easy for you to mediate your conversation with a native speaker. There are some apps that allow you to speak in your native language, and it will translate it to the language of the country you are traveling to. Having done that, the native speaker before you will listen and give you what you request.

However, you may not like the idea of you holding your phone to a stranger's face so that he or she can listen to what you have to say. That means you are seeking a direct form of communication without an app and phone mediating. Then, you can select an audio phrasebook app. Such an app will teach you the essential phrases you may need in the language you are targeting. And you will ask the question yourself. If you want to just get the translation of what is written, if you have a challenge facing native

speakers, there are apps that will give you this feature. All you have to do is to place the camera of your phone pointed toward the documents or printed texts, and you will get it translated. So, before you select your preferable app, you should put all of these into consideration.

**Reviews:** All developers will only tell you what is good about their apps. No one will tell you what is wrong about his or her handiwork. But the people who have used the same apps have a lot to say about them. So, before you get the app, you should take your time to scroll down and read the reviews dropped by other users. You will not get full and accurate information based on what people say because there will be variation in their experiences with the app. Nonetheless, you will get the information on some of its unique features. Also, check out the number of positive ratings and compare them to their negative ratings. You will get the information on what to choose.

Interference: Your choice of the best app to select should be based on the one that doesn't interfere with your travel experiences. What this means is that the app should not require your utmost attention that you will forget that you have someone in front of you. Also, the app should have a friendly interface, and you should be able to get what you want from the app as soon as you want it so that you can move along. If an app supports too many languages and has so much support, it may become a problem for you. Since you are traveling to an English speaking country, the app you choose doesn't have to contain up to 250 languages. Keep it simple by looking for one that will suit your specific needs.

It is better if you could start using the apps a few weeks ahead of your scheduled date of travel. When you are used to the app before the time of your travel, it will be so easy to use. And you will find it useful. Let's check out the apps you will find useful as you embark on your trip.

# TRANSLATION APPS

are likely to come in contact with certain expressions and words that you may need to get their translation in your native language for you to have a full grasp of what they are about. With your Android or iOS device, there are technological applications you can lay your hands on to get the help you need. These apps are available online. All you need to do is to download them, and you are good to go. Let me take you through some translation apps you can rely on and download for your next trip.

# **Google Translator**

Google translator is the easiest of all of the translation apps. You don't have to undergo any form of learning or training to be able to use it. All you have to do is to either write the native word or say it to have it translated in English. Google translation is a free tool that works with all forms of devices. You can have it on your iPad, iOS, and Android. The tool has more than 100 languages. However, all languages on it don't have the text and voice features. So, you should ensure that you check your language support on the tool before you embark on your trip.

What is more interesting about google translator is that you can use it in an offline mode. This means you don't have to be connected to use it. All you have to do to enjoy this feature is to download the app, and the offline dictionary for the two languages you will be working with. So, if you a German, you will download a Dutch dictionary and an English dictionary. You can type the text you want to translate or talk by using the microphone to translate what you say in a real-time mode. You can also snap texts and get them translated.

#### iTranslate Voice

iTranslate Voice is another translation app you can rely on. It is so professional that it works with a voice to voice technology. When you type the word, the app will say the word in the language you want it to translate

it to. It is available for both Android and iOS devices. You should note that the iTranslate voice is different from iTranslate. iTranslate is a tool that has separate features. But it is not suitable for travel.

#### **Microsoft Translator**

Microsoft translator works by giving the option of snapping the word as a picture and getting its translation in English. Also, it is designed to work with smartwatches that use either iOS or Android. Microsoft translator also works on Windows devices, and it supports just 54 languages. It is unique for its real-time speech translation. In the offline mode, you will be getting access to 44 languages. The app has a conversation mode that will translate the conversation between two people in real-time. Don't forget that you can also get your translation through text and audio, aside from images. It has another unique feature, which is its phrasebook. The phrasebook offers varieties of phrases that are useful. You will find all within the app.

# LANGUAGE LEARNING APPS

s a language learner, there are certain tools you can get your hands on to fast track your process of learning the English language for travels. These apps are many, but I will just pick out three that are reliable. You will get what you need by using any of these apps to prepare yourself and improve your learning of English for traveling purposes.

#### **Memrise**

If you want to improve your vocabulary and have fun while you practice on your own, Memrise is a good tool to go for. It is filled with well-developed materials for any language you may want to learn its vocabulary. The tool works wonderfully well with memes and gamification. The learning method it uses is in line with a funny means of studying words. At times, the learning process may look bizarre. The memes are attached with words to make the learning process interesting and easy to remember. The community creates the memes, and as a member of the community, you can as well add your own.

Aside from the memes and gamification, Memrise helps you to learn vocabulary well with spaced repetition and mnemonics. With the spaced repetition, there is a calculation of when you are expected to review every word, and when the right time for such comes, you will be notified by the app. The memes are used to make it easy and fast to memorize words. As a beginner with it, you may find it hard or demanding, but over time, you will find it useful and easy.

# Duolingo

Duolingo is one of the most popular language-learning apps you can see. It has over 100 million users. Duolingo teaches language with games. You don't have to doubt the standard of the course you will get on Duolingo as the courses are created by native speakers of the languages. You will be learning different languages through images, texts, and audio. The learning process is in progress. Once you finish simple learning, you will be taken a

step further to a more difficult lesson. Duolingo works for several languages, aside from the English language. There are 81 courses made available for learners on the app.

#### Hello Talk

If you are still afraid of your communication skills and you are looking for an easy and mobile way to improve it for your next trip, Hello Talk is a goto tool you need. It is designed to help improve speaking and deal with any form of barriers the learners are likely to encounter when they communicate in real-time. You will have access to native speakers and chat with them as if on WhatsApp and send both voice and text messages. During your conversation, the native speakers will correct your errors and thereby prepare you for the reality you will face once you get out there.

Hello, Talk has an integrated translation feature that gives you access to easily translate a word or expression that you don't know its meaning in English. During your chat, you can mark your favorite messages to prevent losing the phrases you love to use so much. With the voice option, you will easily learn how to pronounce words and expressions. So, with this online tool, you are on the way to make yourself a better speaker of the English language for travel purposes.

Language learning has been made easy with the varied forms of technological tools that you can embrace to learn better on your own. It is just so expected that anyone embraces the opportunity that technology brings and use it to our benefits. You will gain a lot if you could utilize the technology tool at your disposal to get what you want and need, which is the English language for traveling.

# **Conclusion**

If you are on this page, I am glad that you have read through the pages of this book. Traveling is a way many people get to relax and regain their strength. For some people, it is their means of learning. And the truth about traveling is that you will always have a lot to learn from it once you select the right place, and you put your mind to it. The language barrier can affect the possibility of you enjoying your stay in an English speaking country. But if you follow the content of this book very well, you will find it easy to communicate without the help of a translator.

Since you have learned the benefits of traveling, I will advise that you let the knowledge be the motivating factor that will move you to start learning the phrases and expressions you need to master to be able to communicate very well with the locals of the country you visit. Take note that you need to master the basics first, and then you should follow through to the longer expressions. Learn to practice everything you have encountered in this book. The secret of getting the most of this book is by studying the expressions and rules I have given through constant practice.

I need to let you know that you must deal with fear. Don't give room for the fear that you will not be able to accomplish it. It is easy and simple. All you need is to give your all. To aid your learning, I have mentioned some online tools that you should embrace and make use of for your learning. Go through these tools for translation and learning. You will be able to learn on your own and get corrections before your journey. And most importantly, you need to set up safety measures for yourself as you embark on the journey. Don't open yourself to danger through carelessness. Follow the instructions I gave in the book and plan ahead so that you will have a great time in the country you visit.

If you follow all of the tips and guidelines I have given in this book, I foresee a great journey in terms of communication and all-round experience. I wish you a great trip that is devoid of insecurity or loss of life.

# **BONUS GUIDE**

# TOP 3 MOST EXPENSIVE AND INEXPENSIVE PLACES TO VISIT

he decision to embark on a journey should be followed by deep research into the best places to go. Different parts of the world have their uniqueness, their advantages, and disadvantages. Although traveling on its own demands some level of expenses, there are other places that are more expensive than others. I will be guiding you through some top three most expensive and cheapest places you can visit to enjoy your plans. Let's take a look at them.

# MOST EXPENSIVE COUNTRIES TO VISIT

#### Australia

hen you are thinking of a fascinating and developed English speaking country to visit, Australia is a great option to select. The country is blessed with several wonders of nature, lots of wildlife, beaches that are beautiful, cosmopolitan metropolises, and many more. It matches almost every taste of travelers based on their interests, age, and budget. However, with all of these goodies comes the high level of expenses. You are likely to see yourself boarding expensive flights. The expenses are nothing compared to the beauty you are set to come across in the country. Let's check out some pros and cons of visiting Australia.

# **Pros of visiting Australia**

#### • Access to natural wonders

Australia houses a lot of fabulous, rare natural wonders. You will get to see Queensland's popular Great Barrier Reef. The Reef contains the only existing earth's piece that is noticeable from space, the sacred Uluru, and many more. There are so many more awesome sites that you will enjoy seeing in the country. You can visit the Pinnacles, Fraser Island, Kakadu, the beautiful Blue Mountains, and Bungle Range, which is a sandstone area.

# • Experiencing the interesting lifestyle of Aussie

You will get to enjoy the interesting scenery and atmosphere of the people with their cultural diversity. The people are friendly, and there is a high level of life quality in the country. You will enjoy yourself and their relaxing way of life. The people are liberal thinkers and are passionate about outdoor activities.

# • Access to amazing adventure opportunities

If you are interested in going on an adventure, then make Australia your goto country. You can explore the outback wilderness of the country or surf along its various coastlines. There is the opportunity to snorkel the Great Barrier Reef; you can sail in the Whitsundays. There are several choices to pick from when the adventure is in the picture. I bet you don't want to miss out on any of these.

# • Experience beautiful city view

You don't want to see Sydney during sunset. Australia has a land area that is larger than Europe but will a low population. So, most of the population lives in the city. Their cities are scattered between mountains, rivers, and the ocean. You will be getting an extraordinary metropolitan experience if you travel to Australia. It has a host of shimmering cities you can visit.

# Cons of visiting Australia

# • *Long-distance journey*

Australia is quite far and depending on your location. It takes an average of 15hours to travel from most African countries to Australia, and up to 10 hours to travel from Asia. If you are traveling from Germany, a European country, it takes over 20 hours. So, you should be prepared for a long journey. The same long-distance is observed within the country. Australia is wide, and you will see many 1000 kilometers journey within the country.

# • It is Sunny, hot and has dangerous animals

The country has a high intensity of sunlight. If you are not careful, you may get a sunburn. At the same time, the country has a lot of wild animals. As a result of the salties, you will find saltwater crocodiles, sharks, and box jellyfish. Also, the country is home to snakes and poisonous spiders.

# • It is expensive

If you are on a low budget, you shouldn't plan to visit Australia. It is more expensive than countries like Japan and New Zealand. Lunch in Australia is

as expensive as 12 Euros. And in most of these locations, such as restaurants, you hardly get a functional Wifi service. Visiting internet cafes is also expensive.

Australia is a beautiful place to visit, but you need to have more than enough to enjoy its lovely ambiance.

#### London

London is another great place you can think of visiting. It has a lot to offer you so that you will not regret leaving your home country. However, there are both advantages and disadvantages as well.

# The pros of visiting London

# • Access to housing easily

London is filled with lots of housing options. You don't have to stress yourself to get a place to stay. You can either get yourself an independent place you can stay, or better still share a building by having a room to yourself. If you visit Spareroom or Gumtree, you will find such.

# • Ease of connection

When you seek one of the hubs of the world, London should come to your mind. There are several flight connections all over the globe in the country. So, for you to connect with people is so easy. You can easily visit other European countries from London as well. There are cheap flights that will take you. Some of these flights are WizzsAir, Eurowings, Ryanair, etc.

# • Great location for sightseeing and picture

There are lots of things to see and do in London. There are events, festivals, nightlife, meetups, and many more that will surely catch your fancy as you stay in the country. If you are bored, there are great transportation connections within the city that will take you from location to the other. I am sure you would love to experience the tubes and London bus transportation. They all make it easy to get around in the city and see beautiful places and things.

If you are a lover of pictures, London is one of the photogenic cities the world has. There are spots for photography shoots. You will get to see beautiful streets, beautiful and incredible interiors, and great landmarks.

# • Free healthcare and Great food choice

One of the things that make London livable is its provision of free healthcare services. You are not required to pay for healthcare insurance before you receive healthcare services. Also, you will get to have a lot of food options to pick from. Depending on your budget, you will get to have a taste of varieties of foods.

# The cons of visiting London

# High expenses

London is among the most expensive cities you can visit. To get conducive accommodation, you should set aside at least 500 pounds for a room in a shared room, which doesn't include the bills at times. The transport fee is also high.

# • It is too busy

If your target is a cool and calm city, then London is not the best option you have. London is always busy, and this is common around peak times. It is so common to find a lot of people in stations, on transport, and in the streets. The same thing often happens at the tourist centers. You will have to be patient and have tolerance for you to enjoy London.

# • London's safety and weather

London isn't really a safe place. The city has experienced several terrorist attacks in the past years. You are likely to experience some street crimes. So, you should expect a bit level of insecurity. And when we talk about the weather, you need to know that London doesn't have the best weather. The natives are usually happy when the sun comes.

So, looking at the beauty of London, you will want to make it your beloved location to visit. However, the reality of the disadvantages may also want to

deter you from visiting the country. If you can afford the expenses, London is a good place. You just have to protect yourself while you are there.

#### New York

If you want to visit the United States, and you are thinking about which of the states you can stay, New York is a good choice to make. It is the epicenter of the arts, the capital of dining and shopping, the great abode of architectural designs, and lots more. If you are planning to visit the city, you should consider the following pros and cons.

# The pros of visiting New York

# • Ease of transportation

New York promises mobility to its inhabitants. The state has the most developed public transport system that makes it easy to travel around without the need to buy a car. If you are someone who loves moving about in the city, you will enjoy your stay. Also, there are three airports in New York that contain flights that will connect you to other parts of the world. So, you have got easy mobility when you are in New York.

# • Safety and Availability of activities

There was a time New York was a dangerous place, but it's not anymore. The city is safe for anyone to walk at any time of the day. If you are visiting the city for the first time, you are advised to let things go and ignore them at times. At the same time, the city is filled with several experiences for you. You will get to see lots of trends from fashion trends to food trends. You will get to enjoy yourself in the city. You will always find an activity to attend except you want to stay back.

# • It is filled with culture and house history

New York will expose you to the rich culture of the Americans. It is home to some historical wonders. You will get to visit a world-class museum, the statue of liberty, and a lot more. If you are a shopper, you will get to see a

lot of things to get from big brands such as SoHo, Greenwich Village, and Williamsburg.

# The cons of visiting New York

# Unpalatable weather

The experience during fall and winter in the city of New York is unpalatable. You cannot predict the weather. In the morning, you may have calm and clear weather, and suddenly, everything will turn windy in the afternoon. The winter is worse because it doesn't seem to go early. Its summer period, as well, is often hot and humid, so it is not ideal.

# • It is expensive

New York is the seventh most expensive city you will find yourself. You should be ready to spend so much on your living. \$2000 is not enough to give you a comfortable lifestyle in the city.

# • It is too busy and noisy

If you are a lover of nature, New York will not be the best place to visit. You will find it hard to connect with nature. The city is too busy, and if you are seeking inner peace, it may become difficult. Expect traffic and noise everywhere. Don't be surprised to find the subway overcrowded during rushing hours.

# • You care for yourself

The people of the city are indifferent and can be cold. They do not care about others. So, you must be ready to care for yourself. The reason for this is simple. People are busy with their lives, and everyone needs to get something done as soon as possible. As a result, no one has the time to give a judgment about another. So, be ready to be lonely. New Yorkers are unfriendly, and they show their unfriendliness openly.

# THE CHEAPEST COUNTRIES TO VISIT

re you on a low budget and you are thinking of some English speaking countries you pick from to visit? You don't have to lose hope. There are great places you can visit to enjoy your vacation with a little amount of money. So, let me take you through some countries that you will find interesting.

#### India

You will be surprised at how interesting and great it is to visit India. The country is comfortable and very cheap to visit. Below are some pros and cons of visiting India.

# • Cheap accommodation and feeding

India is a location that is made for your budget. Based on how much you can afford, there are cheap restaurants and fancy restaurants. If you want high-end accommodation, there are hotels that offer it, and if you want a low-end option, you will get as well. One of the things you will enjoy in India is their local foods, which is as well cheap to buy.

# • Amazing culture and religions

Every Indian finds solace in culture and religion. You will see these two in their lifestyle and conversations. So, if you want to learn about cultures and religions, India is a good location you should try out. You will definitely not regret it. You will get to see a lot of temples and their hospitability.

# • Easy mobility

Moving around India is easy because you will easily get a bus or train to take you to your destination at a cheap rate. You can also get the service of

a private driver.

# • You get to see a lot of beauty

If you want to see beauty and nature, India is a good choice to make. You can easily visit the desert, walk in the jungles; there are the Himalayas that you can climb, and you can also explore its big cities. Goa is an option if you want to spend some time on the beach.

# The cons of visiting India

# Long-distance

India is a big country with a wide landmass. So, if you want to travel within the country, you may have to go by flight. But since you are on a low budget, traveling by bus or train will be good, but with a lot of stress due to a long time, you will spend on the road.

# • Lack of appropriate hygiene

The street of India lacks proper hygiene. You will get to see open sewers on the streets of India. In some areas, you will see garbage. Also, the restrooms are not often clean enough for foreigners. So, you have to plan ahead to care for your personal hygiene in the country.

# • Differences in food

One of the cons you are likely to face by visiting India is their foods. India is known for its love for spicy foods. How well you can eat curries will determine if you will enjoy their food or not.

# • Philippines

The Philippines has a whole lot of places for foreigners to visit. And you don't have to be afraid; you can easily communicate with the Filipinos. The Philippines has a lot of interesting destinations for vacations and adventures. The country has beautiful mountains and beaches. Also, there are several tourist spots for foreign people to see. The people of the country are hospitable and helpful. You will always find a smile on their faces, and

they can cook, so they love it when foreigners try out their food. Just like every other country, there are pros and cons to visiting the country.

# The pros of visiting the Philippines

- You will get the best experience there is to travel by visiting the beautiful places the country has.
- The country has a cool and warm environment. You will get to enjoy this at the beach and during the summertime.
- You will find different kinds of foods based on your taste. There are so many dishes that you can go for based on your country.
- If you want to go on an adventure, you will get to enjoy different activities such as diving, surfing, snorkeling, and kayaking, among others.

# The cons of visiting the Philippines

- The country is filled with heavy traffic. This is common in the Manila metropolis.
- The crime rate in the Philippines is quite high, so you need to be careful.
- There is a risk attached to the use of taxis in the Philippines.
- You are likely to be overcharged by some vendors once they know you are a foreigner. So, you should beware.

The Philippines is a great location for visitation. You will get to have a lot of views to see, and you don't have to spend more. The country has great weather. It is not too hot nor too cold. And importantly, you will not have any issue communicating as many of the population speaks English.

#### Thailand

Thailand is a Southeast Asian country. It is along the Indochina peninsula having borders with Malaysia, Laos, Myanmar, and Cambodia. The country has more than 2000 miles of shoreline. With this, you can easily enjoy the white sand beaches, warm sunshine, and emerald waters of the country. You will also gain access to the knowledge about the culture, food, and religion

of the people that are all fascinating. Thailand is a cheap country you can visit. So, let's check out some pros and cons of visiting the country.

# The pros of visiting Thailand

Access to the natural beauty

If you are an adventurer, you will get to see a whole lot of adventures to derive pleasure from in Thailand. There beaches all around. Towering limes stone cliffs, islands that are isolated, and strange formations of rocks are all amazing things to see. If you love climbing mountains, there is a lot for you to climb.

• You will get to taste their incredible food

Thailand has great cuisine that will attract you and make you love to stay back in the country. They serve foods with natural ingredients. Their foods are herbal in nature. If you visit the country, you have no reason to be hungry.

• It is safe, and people are friendly

Thailand is quite safe to visit and live in. So, it is an ideal location for you to visit. You will not feel lonely if you are in Thailand because the people are friendly.

• Low cost of living

Don't forget that one of the reasons I have picked this country is as a result of the fact that it is not expensive. Traveling to Thailand is extremely cheap and affordable. Both within the country and within Asia, you are not going to spend much.

# The cons of living in Thailand

Unpalatable weather

Thailand lacks friendly weather. At times, the weather looks perfect. But 50% of the time, it is hot and humid. The rainy season is hard as well as it

often causes havoc.

# • Political instability through coups

The country has experienced many military coups. The recent coup happened in 2014 when General Prayuth Chan-Ocha led a coup that ousted the democratically elected government and became the Prime Minister. The people living in the country during such a period will not be free to enjoy their stay.

# • Language barrier

You are likely to experience a language barrier in the country. Although many members of the urban area can speak English, you will still find those who cannot speak. The government uses Thai as the medium of communication, and many businesses also use it. So, you need to be careful at first. It will be great if you could find someone who understands English to communicate with.

Visiting Thailand is a good decision if you are on a low budget. You will have a lot to learn. You can work ahead to plan for the cons so that you will find the country enjoyable during your stay there.

#### Dear English Learners:

Thank you for reading "Speak Easy English for Traveling". I hope you enjoyed and find this book helpful, please take some time to share this book with your friends and families. It would also be nice if you are able to leave a positive review, even if it's only a line or two; it would make all the difference and would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Your Advanced English Teacher—Christopher Hill