

Backpackers' English

Worksheet 1

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1. Greetings

1. Travel Tips

- ✓ Learn greetings not only the basics but also the particular ones which are used when backpackers meet, part and meet again in another place, or meet with local people.
- ✓ It is also recommended to know how to say "thank you" and "delicious" in a local language. This makes a closer bond.

2. Situations

A. Initiating a conversation

- Hi! Nice to meet you!
- I'm _____.
- Where are you from? → I'm from Tokyo Japan.

Memo

B. Telling about travels. It's also a part of self-introduction.

- I have been traveling for two months.
- I'm going to travel for at least a year.
- I have been to 7 countries already.

Memo ※ When you want to ask others: "How about you?"

C. Making longer conversations

- How do you say "thank you" and "delicious" in your language?
- What restaurant/guesthouse do you recommend?
- How long have you been staying here?

Memo

D. Saying goodbye

- It was nice meeting you. Good luck!
- I had a good time with you. See you somewhere in the world.
- See you soon. Have a nice trip!

Memo

E. Meeting a backpacker again. (It can often happen.)

- I'm so glad to meet you again. How have you been?
- Our route is similar, isn't it?
- How was your travel after we separate ways? Where have you been?

Memo

•recommend •bond •initiate •introduction •route •foreign •gratitude •farewell
•intend •cheat •conversation

3. Tasks

The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes on the boxes provided.

- **You meet a backpacker who is from Cebu. Introduce yourself then ask more than 5 questions.**

Teacher's role: A backpacker who is from Cebu.

Student's role: A backpacker who is from Japan.

- **Ask local people some recommended food or places with details like where, how much and so on.**

Teacher's role: A local person.

Student's role: A backpacker who is from Japan.

- **Your foreign friend invites you to his house and treats you food and it's time to leave. Show your gratitude and state farewell message.**

Teacher's role: A local person.

Student's role: A backpacker who is from Japan.

※Do not go to someone's house unless you are sure of it's safety.
※A person who intends to cheat on you will not let you take a photo of them.
※Always check what kinds of cheating are common in a place.

2. Taking a taxi/local transportation

1. Travel Tips

- ✓ Transportation might be the most stressful thing for backpackers. One may feel nervous and what we do not anticipate to happen in Japan may happen in other countries.
- ✓ For example, drivers ask for a price higher than you both agreed, or when they say they know the place yet they don't know how to get there, and they can't read a map well in the first place, and so on.
- ✓ You should keep calm and don't get angry because it would just make matters worse. You should give in to what drivers say in some circumstances for your safety.

2. Situations

A. Things you should make sure when you take a taxi

- Will you use meter?
- Please reset the meter. (When the meter started before going)
- Do you know how to get to the place?

Memo

B. A motorbike driver says a round trip to Tops costs 500 pesos

- I'm going to look for another driver. (Pretend to leave)
- How about 200 pesos? (Drivers surely say higher than the normal price)
- Is that the price for the whole ride or per person?

Memo

C. You both agree with the price which is 300 pesos

- Our deal is 300 pesos for each person going back and forth to Tops?
- ※write down the conditions and make sure to show the paper to the driver.
- How long are you going to wait for us there?

Memo

D. When a driver takes you to a place different from the place you asked

- This is not Tops. This is not the place I asked you to take us..
- When a driver asks for an additional fee: "You promised to take us to Tops for 300 pesos. I am not giving any extra.

Memo ※Sometimes, you have to give up and take another vehicle for your safety.

E. A driver decided to increase the price when the vehicle has already started moving

- Are you kidding? Our deal is 300 pesos. (with smile)
- Alright, I'm adding only 30 pesos, Ok? (With smile).
- ※Drivers think it would be best if you give in to them. Of course, you can refuse but

Memo adding a little amount is also acceptable.

3. Tasks

The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes on the boxes provided.

- A taxi driver told you that he won't use the meter because of heavy traffic and demand for a fixed fare instead.

Teacher's role: A driver

Student's role: A passenger

- A taxi driver asks a higher price than you both agreed.

Teacher's role: A driver

Student's role: A passenger

- A driver took you to another guesthouse. It seems that he could get a commission from the guesthouse by taking you there.

Teacher's role: A driver

Student's role: A passenger

3. Asking Directions

1. Travel Tips

- ✓ It is kind of fun to walk around with a map when you are new to a place.
- ✓ Don't hesitate to ask people for directions because it can be a good chance to make new friends.
- ✓ There are places where some people aren't used to reading maps and some wouldn't want to admit that they don't know because they think they may sound mean for travelers. If you think the person you asked isn't familiar with the place, it is better to show gratitude and just leave.

*It's not recommended to keep on checking your mobile phone while walking around.

2. Situations

A. You are totally lost

- What is this place's name?
- Where are we in this map?
- Is there any landmark around here?

Memo

B. Easy ways to ask directions

- I want to go to CXR Guesthouse.
- I'm looking for CXR Guesthouse.
- Could you tell me/write down how to get to CXR Guesthouse?

Memo

C. Giving directions (in order to understand others explanation)

- Turn right at the next corner and go straight. You will see it on your left.
- Cross this street and walk 500 meters. It is next to the glass-enclosed office.
- Go up the stairs. You can go to counter NO.2 to buy a ticket.

Memo

D. Asking length of time and distance

- Is that within walking distance or do I need to take any means of transport?
- How long will it take from here to CXR on foot?
- Do you know how much it costs from here to CXR by taxi?

Memo

E. The person you asked doesn't seem to know the direction

- Thank you anyway. I got this.
- Do you know a place where I can make a phone call?
- Is there an internet café around here?

Memo

•hesitate •admit •mean •familiar •landmark •explanation •length •cross •enclosed
•stair

3. Tasks

The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes on the boxes provided.

- You'd like to go to CXR Guesthouse but you are totally lost and you don't know where you are now.

Teacher's role: A local person

Student's role: A backpacker

(The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes.)

- The person you asked explained well but you still can't understand him.

Teacher's role: A local person

Student's role: A backpacker

(The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes.)

- Explain to your teacher how to get to a place in Cebu you have been to.

Teacher's role:

Student's role:

(The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes.)

4. Taking a Bus / Train

1. Travel Tips

- ✓ You feel you are an accomplished backpacker when you take local buses or trains without difficulty.
- ✓ On the other hand, buses and trains in many countries are sometimes late unlike in Japan.
- ✓ So you will learn how to avoid feeling anxious from the beginning to the end of each trip.

2. Situations

A. Asking a guesthouse staff about getting a ticket

- Where can I buy a ticket to Delhi?
- What is the cheapest way to go to Delhi?
- What's the quickest way to get to Delhi?

Memo

B. At a ticket counter

- Can I buy the cheapest ticket to Delhi for tomorrow?
- What time does the night train with aircon and toilet leave?
- Where and what time should I go to take the train?

Memo

C. You can't find the bus though you are in the place as you were told.

- Excuse me. Do you know where this bus is?
- (It seems late.) Do you know when it arrives?
- (to a person who will go to the same place.) Could you call me when the train arrives?

Memo

D. On a train/ bus 1

- Excuse me. I think you are sitting in my seat. (In india, it happens most of the time)
- My seat doesn't recline. Can I transfer to another one?
- When is the next stopover?

Memo

E. On a train/ bus 2

- Excuse me. Could you turn the volume down?
- I think the toilet is out of order. I really need to use it.
- Could you tell me once we get to Delhi?

Memo

•accomplish •anxious •stopover •due •bound •urge

3. Tasks

The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes on the boxes provided.

- You must be in Manila tomorrow but the flight was cancelled due to some reasons. Ask the guesthouse staff if there are other ways to get there.

Teacher's role: The guest house staff

Student's role: A backpacker

- You took the wrong bus. You thought it was bound for Oslob.

Teacher's role: A bus driver

Student's role: A passenger

- You feel the urge to use the toilet but it is out of order.

Teacher's role: A bus driver or tourguide

Student's role: A backpacker

5. Dealing with theft, pickpocketing or stolen things

1. Travel Tips

- ✓ First of all, be careful of your valuables.
- ✓ Methods of crimes differ in each place so don't forget to ask a guesthouse staff or a reliable person about those things.
- ✓ An important note is that you shouldn't appear as someone who can easily be deceived. Criminals often prey on those who are easily cheated on.
- ✓ When it happens, however, it is necessary to prioritize your safety.

2. Situations

A. Asking about law offenses common to a place and how to avoid them.

- What kind of crimes do I have to be careful of?
- How can I avoid it?
- Are there any places I shouldn't go?

Memo

B. What you need to be careful about your belongings.

- It isn't safe to wear valuable accessories outside.
- You shouldn't put your phone or wallet where it is obvious.
- You have to carry your bag up front when in a crowd.

Memo

C. When you feel something strange, it would be better to follow your intuition.

- ※ Someone sits next to you even though there are other available seats. In that case, it's better to get off from the vehicle.
- ※ Asking about time, telling you about dropped coins or gums stuck on your hair could

Memo mean something alarming. Ignore and concentrate on protecting your belongings.

D. In case of hold-up, pickpocketing and so on.

- Do not fight back nor chase the criminal.
- Always prioritize your safety.
- After that, ask help from people around the area.

Memo

E. What you have to do after you feel calm.

- Contact the creditcard/cashcard company to suspend your account and reissue another one.
- Ask your insurance company what you should do to get reimbursements.
- Go to the nearest police station and get a police report if needed.

Memo

•theft •reliable •appear •deceive •pickpocket •prioritize •law offense •hold-up •chase
•avoid •obvious •upfront •reimbursement •intuition •ignore •concentrate •reissue •suspend

3. Tasks

The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes on the boxes provided.

- **You have just arrived to a new place. Ask a guesthouse staff what you should be careful about around the area.**

Teacher's role: A guesthouse staff

Student's role: A backpacker

Please tell your student what he or she needs to be careful of in Cebu.

- **Ask your teacher if your outfit is safe in Cebu.**

Teacher's role:

Student's role:

Please ask the student how he/she takes care of his/her belongings when he/she goes out.

- **Your smartphone was stolen in a bus. You have to explain to the police how it happened in order to get a police report.**

Teacher's role: A policeman

Student's role: A backpacker

6. Getting sick or injured

1. Travel Tips

- ✓ Getting sick or injured while traveling alone doesn't make you feel safe. You have to take care of yourself. And having the ability to explain things in English would be very helpful.
- ✓ When you get sick or injured, you need to tell about when it started, how long or what symptoms there are .
- ✓ It is important to tell which places you have traveled to before getting sick. Following a real story, two travelers got sick and went for a health check in South America. They didn't tell the doctor they have been to Africa. So, the doctor thought it was just a kind of mountain sickness though it was actually a Malaria.

2. Situations

A. You accidentally stuck a finger to a ceiling fan causing a broken bone.

- I hit my finger to a ceiling fan last night.
- I think there is an internal bleeding.
- I can't bend my middle finger.

Memo

B. Getting sick after swimming in the Ganges River.

- I started vomiting and had diarrhea after swimming in the Ganges River yesterday.
- I had a temperature of 39.3 °C.
- I had to rush to the restroom right after eating something. I also noticed that my stool is watery.

Memo

C. Using a travel insurance

- (At a hospital) I have a travel insurance. Can I avail of cashless medical care?
- ※ You are told that you can get reimbursements in Japan if you submit some
- I'd like to have copies of these documents. How and when can I get them?

Memo

D. You were told that you need (don't need) to be admitted.

- Do I have to stay in the hospital? I would rather stay in a guest house.
- I prefer to be admitted because nobody can take care of me.
- When am I going to be discharged?

Memo

E. When you get prescription

- Where can I get these medicine?
- How many times do I have to take it?
- I have an allergy to some medicines.

Memo

•injured •symptom •health check •sickness •Malaria •stuck •sudden •internal bleeding
•vomit •diarrhea •rush •notice •stool •avail •document •discharged •prescription

3. Tasks

The teacher takes note of the conversation and corrects mistakes on the boxes provided.

- Tell about a serious injury or an illness you had.

Teacher's role:

Student's role:

- You suddenly feel very sick while in a guesthouse. Ask a help from the staff.

Teacher's role: A guesthouse staff

Student's role: A backpacker

- You can't avail cashless medical care with your insurance. Ask a hospital staff about what to do. For example, how much, when to pay, how to process and so on.

Teacher's role: A hospital staff

Student's role: A backpacker