



## IELTS READING/Writing LESSON 11-14-2018

### Lesson Objective

The student shall be able to use "power words" as part of their oral vocabulary, read and comprehend both social and business language and demonstrate effective oral communication skills.

**Evaluation Criteria:** Ability to understand definitions of English vocabulary.

### Section One Vocabulary

**Directive:** Match the correct word in column A with the definition in column B, then use in a sample sentence.

Column A	Column B
VOCABULARY	DEFINITION
1. <b>Culture</b> (Noun)	A. To involve deeply; absorb.
2. <b>Immerse</b> (Verb)	B. Vast; huge; very great.
3. <b>Immense</b> (Adjective)	C. Resulting from originality of thought, expression, etc.; imaginative.
4. <b>Connection</b> (Noun)	D. A short account of a particular incident or event, especially of an interesting or amusing nature.
5. <b>Community</b> (Noun)	E. A specialized, impulse-conducting cell that is the functional unit of the nervous system, consisting of the cell body and its processes, the axon and dendrites.
6. <b>Creative</b> (Adjective)	F. Distinct in kind; essentially different; dissimilar.
7. <b>Anecdote</b> (Noun)	G. A social, religious, occupational, or other group sharing common characteristics or interests and perceived or perceiving itself as distinct in some respect from the larger society within which it exists (usually preceded by the).
8. <b>Neuron</b> (Noun)	H. Association; relationship.
9. <b>Disparate</b> (Adjective)	I. The behaviors and beliefs characteristic of a particular social, ethnic, or age group.

### Section Two Reading Comprehension and Pronunciation skills.

**Evaluation Criteria:** Ability to effectively read and comprehend written English in a social or business environment.

#### ARTICLE A

##### Six Reasons Why Traveling Can Open Your Mind and Eyes

[Source](#)

1. I'm from Indiana, but I spent four years living in Germany with my family. And it was an amazing experience that I would never give up. It took some time to adjust, but then it was just a magical adventure. Being so close to so many other countries meant that we got to travel all the time and visit places I didn't even know existed, and that changed my life. Here are six reasons why I love to travel.



2. Seeing and experiencing different culture

Whenever I visit a new country or even another region of a country I've already been in, I get to experience a whole new culture. Everywhere you go, things are new, different ways of greeting and saying goodbye, different ways to shop, and different ways of transportation. I've been to places where people took the public bus starting in kindergarten and I've seen people that bike everywhere they possibly can even in less than comfortable weather.

Different countries have different brands so it's interesting to see how people dress and see some of the traditional outfits of the country mixed with some more modern clothing. Toys are very different too, it's fun to see all the differences in what children play with in other parts of the world. Then, there are small things that are different that you never would have thought of. For instance, in Germany, dogs are a part of everyday life. They are trained in a social



environment and you see them in shops, malls, and restaurants and they are always well behaved. I've never seen that in Indiana.

### 3. Trying new foods

I've stuck my nose up at a lot of different types of food, but my mom always made me try new things. And I'm glad she did. I've found so many different foods I like in so many different cultures. France has the best tarts, pastries and baguettes ever and the beef bourguignon is simply delicious. In Germany, I love the bread and gelbwurst sausage, but my favorite was always schnitzel. Trying new foods at home is good, but nothing beats authentic cuisine.



### 4. Meeting new and interesting people

Another thing I love about traveling is meeting new people everywhere I go. From the baker to the waitress to the cashier at the mall everyone can be fun to talk to. Some of the best conversations I've had with people were when we could barely understand anything the other was saying, we would just pick up bits and pieces and collect the rest from body language and tone. Sometimes you get to hang out with people while you're visiting, and they can become friends for life, if you connect well.



### 5. Being totally immersed in a different language

I love when I'm traveling, and I can't understand anyone around me. At first, it can be a little scary because you feel like the anomaly. But when you start to listen, it's beautiful. The flow of all the words around you and once you are there long enough you might even start to pick up on some of the simple things said.



### 6. Seeing famous sites and buildings

I love the feeling of seeing something in person that I have seen pictures of and it's finally real and in front of me. The pictures usually can't even do it justice, it just feels amazing! The elegant beauty of the Eiffel Tower sparkling in the night, walking the immense gardens at Versailles, the overwhelming elegance of the palace in Vienna, nothing beats the feeling of standing in front of something so amazing, something with a history and seeing just how real it is. Castles are especially fun to visit, because I have to imagine that someone lived or still lives there. The castles are so big and magnificent it can be so hard to believe that anyone lived there as their personal home.



### 7. Getting Home With A New Outlook On Life

Whenever I go somewhere new and I get home, the experience stays with me. I notice how my own society works differently. How some things are done better in my own community and that we could make improvements just by observing and changing how we currently do things. I feel like I come back with a better understanding of people and how to help those who are new to an area or people who are just passing through. Plus, by talking with others you may inspire someone else to explore the world.





## ARTICLE B

**For a More Creative Brain, Travel**Source

1. There are plenty of things to be gained from going abroad: new friends, new experiences, new stories.

But living in another country may come with a less noticeable benefit, too: Some scientists say it can also make you more creative.



Writers and thinkers have long felt the creative benefits of international travel. Ernest Hemingway, for example, drew inspiration for much of his work from his time in Spain and France. Aldous Huxley, the author of *Brave New World*, moved from the U.K. to the U.S. in his 40s to branch out into screenwriting. Mark Twain, who sailed around the coast of the Mediterranean in 1869, wrote in his travelogue *Innocents Abroad* that travel is “fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness.”

2. In recent years, psychologists and neuroscientists have begun examining more closely what many people have already learned anecdotally: that spending time abroad may have the potential to affect mental change. In general, creativity is related to neuroplasticity, or how the brain is wired. Neural pathways are influenced by environment and habit, meaning they're also sensitive to change: New sounds, smells, language, tastes, sensations, and sights spark different synapses in the brain and may have the potential to revitalize the mind.
3. “Foreign experiences increase both cognitive flexibility and depth and integrativeness of thought, the ability to make deep connections between disparate forms,” says Adam Galinsky, a professor at Columbia Business School and the author of numerous studies on the connection between creativity and international travel. Cognitive flexibility is the mind's ability to jump between different ideas, a key component of creativity. But it's not just about being abroad, Galinsky says: “The key, critical process is multicultural engagement, immersion, and adaptation. Someone who lives abroad and doesn't engage with the local culture will likely get less of a creative boost than someone who travels abroad and really engages in the local environment.” In other words, going to Cancun for a week on spring break probably won't make a person any more creative. But going to Cancun and living with local fishermen might.
4. The researchers also found that the more countries the executives had lived in, the more creative the lines tended to be—but only up to a point. Those who had lived and worked in more than three countries, the study found, still tended to show higher levels of creativity than those who hadn't worked abroad at all, but less creativity than their peers who had worked in a smaller number of foreign countries. The authors hypothesized that those who had lived in too many countries hadn't been able to properly immerse themselves culturally; they were bouncing around too much. “It gets back to this idea of a deeper level of learning that's necessary for these effects to occur,” Galinsky says.
5. Cultural distance, or how different a foreign culture is from one's own, may also play a role: Surprisingly, Galinsky and his colleagues found that living someplace with a larger cultural distance was often associated with lower creativity than living in a more familiar culture. The reason for that, they hypothesized, was that an especially different culture might come with a bigger intimidation factor, which may discourage people from immersing themselves in it—and no immersion, they explained, could mean none of the cognitive changes associated with living in another country.
6. Traveling may have other brain benefits, too. Mary Helen Immordino-Yang, an associate professor of education and psychology at the University of Southern California, says that cross-cultural experiences have the potential to strengthen a person's sense of self. “What a lot of psychological research has shown now is that the ability to engage with people from different backgrounds than yourself, and the ability to get out of your own social comfort zone, is helping you to build a strong and acculturated sense of your own self,” she says. “Our ability to differentiate our own beliefs and values ... is tied up in the richness of the cultural experiences that we have had.”





7. Cross-cultural experiences have the potential to pull people out of their cultural bubbles, and in doing so, can increase their sense of connection with people from backgrounds different than their own. “We found that when people had experiences traveling to other countries it increased what’s called generalized trust, or their general faith in humanity,” Galinsky says. “When we engage in other cultures, we start to have experience with different people and recognize that most people treat you in similar ways. That produces an increase in trust.”
8. This trust may play an important role in enhancing creative function. In a 2012 study out of Tel Aviv University, researchers found that people who “believe that racial groups have fixed underlying essences”—beliefs the authors termed “essentialist views”—performed significantly worse in creative tests than those who saw cultural and racial divisions as arbitrary and malleable. “This categorical mindset induces a habitual closed-mindedness that transcends the social domain and hampers creativity,” the study authors wrote. In other words, those who put people in boxes had trouble thinking outside the box.
9. Of course, although a new country is an easy way to leave a “social comfort zone,” the cultural engagement associated with cognitive change doesn’t have to happen abroad. If a plane ticket isn’t an option, maybe try taking the subway to a new neighborhood. Sometimes, the research suggests, all that’s needed for a creative boost is a fresh cultural scene.

IMAGE OF NEURONS IN ACTION

