

Topic 2 **Travel**

1. **Vocabulary** (The *MP3* is available online)

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|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Steep in | Steep in | 6. Blend in | Blend in |
| 2. Combat | Com bat | 7. Lookout | Lookout |
| 3. Distract | Dis tract | 8. Dodgy | Dodgy |
| 4. Blinkers | Blīnk ers | 9. Counterfeit | Coun ter feit |
| 5. Be on your guard | Be on your guard | 10. Hassle | Has sle |

	Word	Form	Definition	Example	Synonyms	Parts of Speech
1	Steep in	<i>id</i>	If something or someone is steeped in something, they are completely surrounded by or involved in it, or know a lot about it.	The university is steeped in tradition.	Enclosed, Surrounded, Immersed	Steep <i>adj</i> Steep <i>v</i> Steep <i>n</i>
2	Combat	<i>v</i>	To try to stop (something) from happening or getting worse	She dedicated her life to combating poverty.	Fight Oppose Resist	Com bat <i>n</i> Com bat <i>adj</i>
3	Distract	<i>v</i>	To take (attention) away from someone or something, followed by <i>from</i> and <i>by</i> or an <i>object</i> .	He was distracted from his studies.	Divert attention Mislead Bewilder	Dis tract ible <i>i ty n</i> Dis tract ible <i>also</i> Dis tract able <i>adj</i> Dis tract ing ly <i>adv</i> Dis trac tion <i>n</i>
4	Blinkers	<i>n</i>	Leather pieces that are placed on either side of a horse's head next to its eyes	For once, will you take off your blinkers and see what is really happening!	Curtain Blindfold Cloak	Blink er <i>n</i> Blink <i>v</i>
5	Be on (your) guard	<i>id</i>	To be careful to avoid being tricked or getting into a dangerous situation:	You always have to be on your guard against pickpockets.	Alert Cautious Expectant	

	Word	Form	Definition	Example	Synonyms	Parts of Speech
6	Blend in	<i>phv</i>	To look like one belongs with a particular group	She tried to blend in by dressing like the other girls.	Adapt Assimilate Homogenize	Blend <i>n</i> Blend <i>v</i>
7	Lookout	<i>n</i>	A careful looking or watching	I was <i>on the</i> lookout <i>for</i> a new watch, after the last one broke.	Guard Vigilant Watch	Lookout <i>n</i> Look out <i>phv</i>
8	Dodgy	<i>adj</i>	Not sound, good, or reliable	The car's got a dodgy engine.	Evasive Shifty Sly	Dodge <i>v</i>
9	Counterfeit	<i>adj</i>	Made to look like an exact copy of something in order to trick people	The concert ticket is counterfeit .	Fake Bogus Copied	Coun ter feit <i>v</i> Coun ter feit <i>n</i>
10	Hassle	<i>v</i>	to bother or annoy (someone) constantly or repeatedly	Other kids were always hassling her because she was overweight.	Bother Harass Annoy	Has sle <i>n</i>

2. Reading and Listening

Pickpockets and Scam Artists

Speaking of thieves, pickpocketing is probably the number one potential dragon you will have on your Europe trip. In basically every major centre in every European country, you will find some element of the world's oldest crime.

The methods and devices that pickpockets use to try and take the contents of your pants are **steeped** in old traditions; here is how you can **combat** a few.

– Pickpockets will try to **distract** you with any means possible. It could be using children to get your attention, shooting you with water pistols, pretending to be a tourist, pretending they are hurt, or simply just approaching you for conversation. It's not to say experience your trip through **blinkers** and be afraid of anyone and everyone you encounter, but just **be on your guard** when anything unusual happens.

– To minimize your exposure to pickpockets, make their job as hard as possible. Try to not wear expensive brand clothing and flash around expensive equipment like cameras, iPads and jewellery. Keep nondescript and try your best to **blend in** with the locals.

– It's also important to be *on the* **lookout** for scam artists – we can't list every single permeation, but a few good rules can be followed. First: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Second: **Dodgy** agents will do anything to get you to part with your cash. Third: **Counterfeit** merchandise is not only illegal to buy, it is complete rubbish and will give you a few months use at the very most.

– Also, make sure you keep all your money and important documents in a money belt underneath your clothing – wallets and purses are an easy thing for pickpockets to get their hands on.

– Don't leave valuables in bags.

– Don't leave your items on tables or on the backs of chairs.

– If you get **hassled** by a pickpocket, simply don't respond. Walk away without acknowledging their presence – engaging with them will only create more opportunities for them to distract you.

3. Conversation Strategies - Disagreeing and Countering

EXPRESSIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND DEBATE	
<p>Disagreeing</p> <p>Expressing complete disagreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I don't think so!</i> • <i>I disagree</i> • <i>I disagree entirely.</i> • <i>I'm afraid I can't agree.</i> • <i>I'm afraid you're wrong</i> • <i>On the contrary!</i> • <i>Definitely not!</i> • <i>Rubbish!</i> • <i>Nonsense!</i> • <i>That's ridiculous!</i> • <i>Never in a million years!</i> <p>Using irony to express disagreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Come off it!</i> • <i>Come on!</i> • <i>Do you really think so?</i> • <i>What!</i> • <i>You can't actually mean that!</i> • <i>You can't be serious!</i> • <i>Are you pulling my leg?</i> • <i>Are you kidding?</i> • <i>You must be kidding!</i> <p>Dismissing an argument as irrelevant or improbable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That isn't the point.</i> • <i>That's highly debatable.</i> • <i>That's highly unlikely.</i> <p>Disagreeing diplomatically (through doubt)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I wonder whether that's the case.</i> • <i>Hmmm, I'm not sure about that..</i> • <i>I'm not sure (that) it works like that.</i> • <i>I'm not so sure about that.</i> • <i>I'm not so certain</i> • <i>Well, I'm not sure whether you can really ...</i> • <i>Well, I don't know...</i> • <i>Well, it depends...</i> • <i>I'm inclined to disagree with that...</i> 	<p>Disagreeing in part (appeal to logic)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Not necessarily</i> • <i>That doesn't necessarily follow.</i> • <i>That's not necessarily true</i> • <i>That isn't strictly true.</i> <p>Countering</p> <p>Countering directly (through antithesis)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>But</i> • <i>But who can say that ...?</i> • <i>But why ...?</i> • <i>But if ...</i> • <i>But surely, ...</i> <p>Countering politely (through agreement followed by antithesis)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Yes, but remember that</i> • <i>Yes, but it isn't that ...</i> <p>Countering politely (through partial agreement followed by antithesis)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That may be so, but ...</i> • <i>That may be true, but ...</i> • <i>That may be so, ...</i> • <i>That might have been the case once, but ...</i> • <i>Well, maybe they do, but ...</i> • <i>You may be right about ..., but ..</i> • <i>Maybe...But the problem is...</i> • <i>That's a good idea, but...</i> • <i>That's a good point, but...</i> • <i>I'd love to, but...</i> • <i>That would be great, except that...</i> • <i>That may be so, but...</i> • <i>Possibly, but...</i> • <i>..., but what I'm concerned with is...</i> • <i>..., but what I'm afraid of is...</i> • <i>..., but what bothers me is...</i> • <i>..., but what I don't like is...</i> • <i>..., but what I'm concerned with is...</i> <p>Countering using "after all" "at least" "even so" both for concession and antithesis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>... After all, ...</i> • <i>At least there's ...</i> • <i>But at least...</i> • <i>Well, even so, ...</i>

4. Phrasal Verbs

These *Phrasal Verbs* are very common in relation to **Travel**.

Phrase	Meaning	Collocation	Example
Lay back	To relax		I was attracted to the region's beauty, weather, and <u>laid-back</u> approach to life.
Chill out	To calm down: go easy: relax - often used in the imperative		It's a great place to <u>chill out</u> for a few days.
Sneak away	Leave furtively and stealthily		Take a break from your busy life and <u>sneak away</u> for a mini vacation.
Snap *up*	To buy or take (something or someone) quickly or eagerly	Seats, tickets	Shoppers came to the store to <u>snap up</u> bargains after the holidays.
Cram *in*	To do (something) although you are very busy		We <u>crammed in</u> a lot over the five days, seeing all the recommended spots.

5. Idioms

These Idioms are very common and they are connected to **Travel**.

Idiom	Meaning	Situation	Example
On the home stretch	To say that you are on the home stretch means that you are approaching the end of something such as a task, a race or a journey.	Used while travelling or when completing work/a project or homework...as a form of encouragement	Don't give up - we're <u>on the home stretch</u> now.
Wheels fall off	When a situation gets out of control and everything starts to go wrong, the wheels fall off.		The <u>wheels fell off</u> her career when she started taking drugs and cancelling concerts.
On the wagon	Someone who is on the wagon is no longer drinking alcohol.	Negative- <u>I fell off the wagon.</u> (I am drinking again)	No wine for me please - I'm <u>on the wagon.</u>
My way or the highway	If you say to someone ' <u>it's my way or the highway</u> ', you are telling that person that either they accept what you propose or they leave the project.		You don't have much choice when someone says 'it's <u>my way or the highway.</u> '
Drive up the wall	If somebody or something drives you up the wall, they do something that greatly annoys or irritates you.		I can't concentrate with all the noise - it's <u>driving me up the wall.</u>