

# LESSON 5

## HOBBIES AND RELAXING

### KEY POINT VACATIONS

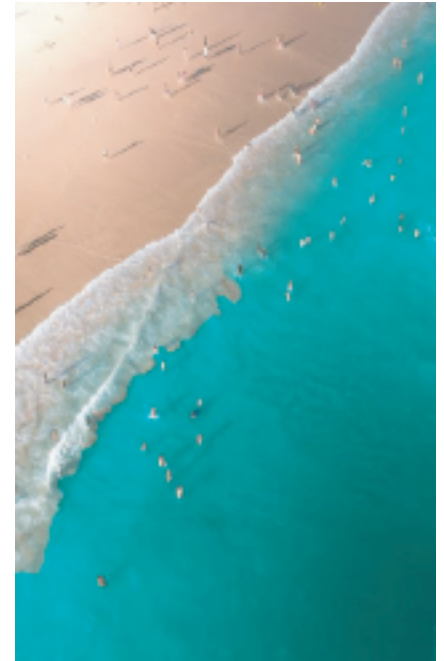
Where are you going on your next vacation?

What are the vacation traditions in your country (where, when, and how)?

What would be an ideal vacation for you?

What would be a nightmare vacation?

Part of our business routine is our leisure routine. In other words it is important to be able to communicate our holidays and hobbies in a professional context. Do you like surfing, kite boarding, chess and/or sports? Believe it or not these elements are important for your career. Read what management magazine has to say about it.



**Objectives** To learn about hobbies and relaxing with English.

**Time** 60 Minutes

**Vocabulary** Leisure vocabulary

**Key Points** Vacation culture.

**Grammar** Future Perfect.

**Objectives** To develop holiday conversation skills.

**Review** previous chapter.

### VOCABULARY AND EXPRESSION BUILDERS

**Oblige** To require.

We obliged him to think it over.

**Legislated** To make law.

The new law was legislated in the parliament.

**A former communist country** It used to be a communist country

Russia is a former communist country.

**Standard** The average level.

ISO is the international standard organization.

**Determined** To try hard.

He is determined to get it right.

**Vineyards** A place to grow grapes.

The vineyards in France are beautiful.

**Bed and breakfasts** A house with a room for rent.

We stayed at a bed and breakfast for our holidays.

**An art buff** An art enthusiast.

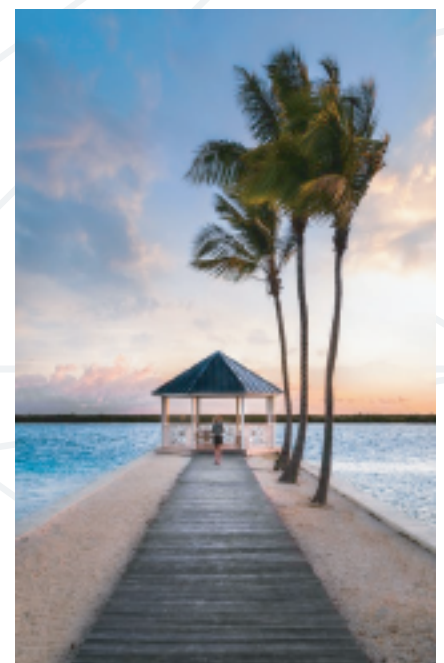
He is a real art buff.

**Bike paths** A place to ride a bicycle.

He is taking a bike path to work.

**Dashboard** The interior of the car.

The dashboard of the car has a speedometer.



## VOCABULARY AND EXPRESSION BUILDERS

**Freelance** To work for yourself.

He works as a freelance journalist.

**Senior management personnel** Top executives.

The senior management personnel were at the meeting.

**Samples** A model or example.

They were offering free samples.

**Wine tour holidays are great through the vineyards of Australia.**

**I love cycling holiday tours and staying in bed and breakfast.**

**The dashboard of the car has all the instruments to monitor it.**

**I am an art buff. I like big city vacations.**

**Vacations styles vary according to country.**



## COMPREHENSION BUILDERS

**Know your client.**

**Management Magazine.**

**Robert Greene**

Holidays are a big discussion topic when on business trips. They can be key points of conversation and can be used as ice breakers for effective client relations development. Before you have your next interaction with business relations from elsewhere, consider the following. According to a senior management skills survey done with 35 fortune 500 company senior management personnel, the most reliable management techniques for senior executives includes cultural sensitivity. "Work on your presentation" said senior vice president from coca cola Angela Martin. She also went further to say, "work on your job and you will make a good salary, but if you work on yourself you will make a fortune." You are presenting yourself to the client first. One of the biggest conversation topics is hobbies and vacations. The following covers some holiday practices in countries around the world.

Vacation Styles

Every culture has a vacation style. In Holland, they like to go camping with trailers and tents. In the USA, it is the cottage. Here are a few samples of holidays from different countries.

**American Style Vacations.**

Alex and Jill are planning a vacation. They have been working very hard over the past few years. They both work full time and they have been planning to go on a trip to Eastern Europe. They want to see Hungary and Poland before it changes too much. In Hungary, they will visit Lake Balaton. They want to visit the vineyards to taste Hungarian wines. The entire trip will take two weeks.

**English Style.**

Paula and Jonathan Atwood live in the south of England and work as freelance consultants. They have been living in this area for a long time. For their holiday, they are planning a bike tour through Holland. In particular, they have been looking into going to the island of Texel which is located in the north of Holland.

## COMPREHENSION BUILDERS

It is one of the islands in the North Sea. Biking in Holland is ideal because of the bicycle paths which reduce the dangers of cycling. They plan to go from hotel to bed and breakfast. They will rendezvous with several German friends in Amsterdam following which they will begin their trip heading to the coast and biking north to the island.

Vacations Japanese Style.

Hiroto and Motoko Suzuki live in Kobe Japan. He works as an Engineer for a small automotive manufacturer that designs and builds dash boards for Toyota. Motoko stays at home but she runs a part time secretarial service for companies that have extra work requirements. They have decided to go to New York for a vacation. They have been planning this trip for years. Motoko loves shopping and Hiroto has been an art buff for years. He wants to spend a few days in the Metropolitan Museum.

French Vacations

Pierre Yves is an engineer living in Paris. He has planned to take his small airplane to Africa this summer. He has a single engine Cessna which he bought ten years ago and he has dreamed of flying it to North Africa. There is the possibility of a friend coming along but he is not sure yet. The trip will last 2 weeks plus 6 days of preparation.

Robert Greene  
Management Magazine

## QUESTIONS

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ like holidays in Europe.
  - a. Russians
  - b. Italians
  - c. Americans
2. There are often cycling tours in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Russia
  - b. New York
  - c. Holland
3. You can go on museum tour in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the south of England
  - b. Russia
  - c. New York
4. In the article Hiroto and Motoko are going to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Montreal
  - b. New York
  - c. Nagasaki

## WHAT KIND OF A COACH DO YOU NEED?

Coaches will tell you they're as unique as snowflakes. Maybe that's so, but it's also helpful--and pretty easy--to boil them down into four distinct personality types. The challenge is to find the one who best suits your own personality and goals.

### **The Informal Coach: The Friend**

What they promise:

Best friends provide a shoulder to cry on, listen to your problems, help you put this in context, and work with you to create strategies for change.

The reason to use one:

You're overwhelmed with your workload and constantly struggling to catch up. You have trouble negotiating interpersonal relationships with staff and often feel isolated from your employees and executive team.

The traps:

Not taking responsibility. A best friend may help you find more excuses than solutions, so if you walk away from coaching sessions always feeling that you're perfect and your problems are everyone else's fault, you probably need to think about finding a new coach who will do a better job of holding you responsible.

### **The Motivator: The Guru**

What they promise:

More than an expert on running a business, the motivator can be a psychologist with a powerful philosophy on management, leadership, and motivation. In some cases, he or she will arrive with books, DVDs, and seminars they'll encourage you to use.

The reason to use one:

You're fine with technical and financial matters, but need a purpose, a motivation to do the difficult things, as well as a psychological structure for making decisions.

The traps:

Losing perspective. It's easy to get caught up in the cult of personality that most motivators cultivate. Keep your direction, retain your scepticism, take away what's valuable, and ignore the rest.

### **The Number Cruncher: The Accountant**

What they promise:

Number crunchers go deep into your business, performing quantitative analyses, putting processes under a microscope, and working with you to create by-the-numbers metrics to measure performance and achieve your goals.

The reason to use one:

Interpersonal issues aren't the problem; understanding the basics of running your business is. Matters like finance and accounting lead to panic attacks.

The traps:

Becoming an emotionless robot. Not every challenge can be reduced to a number. Make sure you use the number cruncher in matters where metrics are helpful and don't apply spreadsheet lessons to the human side of managing.

### **The Drill Instructor: The Sergeant**

What they promise:

A drill instructor will correct your bad habits by getting in your face, establishing strict schedules, and forcing you to stick to them. Expect lots of tough, tough love. Many are former military personnel and athletes.

## PART TWO

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From Leisure and Vacation Magazine  
Holiday rules in different countries.

Government rules for holidays vary according to country. Here are a few vacation numbers from cultures around the world.

### Holidays in Spain

Spain offers 5 weeks holidays to their employees. This is legislated and it is a requirement by companies to offer to their staff. Most of Spain is on holiday during the month of July and August. Also, Easter is a big vacation time.

### A Russian Vacation

The Russian government does not have a policy for holidays. They do not have holiday traditions as in Western European countries. The opening of travel and the increasingly robust economy are permitting for the former communist country's citizens to travel in larger and larger numbers. The destination of choice is still western Europe.

### Holidays in Taiwan

The government of Taiwan obliges standard work contracts to offer two week minimum holidays. Usually, the Taiwanese take holidays during the summer but there are no coordinated holidays such as one specific month.

A few more vacation numbers:

- In Australia holidays are not required but four weeks is standard.
- Brazilians have up to 30 consecutive days holiday.
- In China holidays are not required.
- The French have five weeks.
- Mexico goes on holiday for one week a year.
- In the USA holidays are not required but typically they take ten days.

Leisure and Vacation Magazine

1. According to the report which country is best for holidays?

- a. Brazil
- b. China
- c. The USA

2. The Russian government \_\_\_\_\_ holidays.

- a. does not care about
- b. takes a lot of
- c. does not have a policy on

3. In Spain most people go on holiday in \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. December
- b. July and August
- c. The spring

4. In Taiwan there are \_\_\_\_\_ holidays.

- a. organized
- b. not coordinated
- c. standard

## GRAMMAR THE FUTURE PERFECT

### The Future Perfect

The future perfect is like all perfect tenses.  
It is used with since, for, already, so far, etc...

| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |

Now Action in the future Action after the future action.

Structure.

Subject + will + have + past participle.

An important note is the structure of the 3d person singular. She/He/It will have been....

Negative

Subject + will + not + have + past participle

Interrogative

Will + subject + not + have + past participle

Examples.

Alex will have been at the company for 5 years next June.

The managers will not have met the client before the meeting.

Will Arnold have seen the plans before the construction begins?

Exercises

Complete using the future perfect.

1. Alex (to live) \_\_\_\_\_ in Japan for two years when we see him next month.
2. (she + to visit) \_\_\_\_\_ most of the USA by the time she comes to our place?
3. Jane and Eleanor (to not finish) \_\_\_\_\_ their training by the time the new project manager arrives.
4. They (to see) \_\_\_\_\_ most of the country when they finish.
5. We (to brainstorm) \_\_\_\_\_ since 9AM when you arrive.
6. The company (to not begin) \_\_\_\_\_ to function since the merger.
7. I (to work) \_\_\_\_\_ for three hours by the time you arrive.
8. The dashboard (to fix) \_\_\_\_\_ by the time we are back from our vacation.
9. (You + to fly) \_\_\_\_\_ back to the head office in New York by the time I arrive?
10. The former communist country (to vote) \_\_\_\_\_ by this time next year.