

# Dictionary skills: Travel

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**Level:** Intermediate to advanced

**Age:** 16+

**Time needed:** 45–60 minutes (approx)

**Subject:** Dictionary skills / vocabulary development

**Summary:** These worksheets are designed for use with the *Macmillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners (MED 2)* to give learners practice in using the dictionary to check meaning and for vocabulary development.



## Exercise 1: Compounds

The answers to these will not be found under the entries for the nouns themselves but in the associated compound words found immediately after each entry. For example, the entry for *flight* gives definitions for different uses of the word as well as expressions containing the word *flight*. Compounds beginning with *flight* can be found after the entry for *flight*, e.g. *flight deck*, *flight bag*, *flight path*.

## Exercise 2: What's the job?

This exercise could be done as pair work, with the learners working out the answers through a process of elimination and then checking their answers in the dictionary. Tell your learners it may be easier if they start with the definitions rather than the words.

## Exercise 3: Verb + noun collocations

Some of the answers can be checked by looking up the verbs in bold but the answers can also be found by looking up the nouns (e.g. *delay*).

## Exercise 4: Expressions with prepositions

This could be done as a pair or small group exercise. Listen to their suggested answers but do not correct any mistakes. Allow them to check their answers in the dictionary. They may need some brief guidance as to where to look for the answers. These are shown in **bold type** as part of the entry for the key word in each case (e.g. *in transit*, *on business* and so on). Note that the key word may precede the preposition (e.g. *compliance*) or follow it (e.g. *transit*).

## Exercise 5: Idioms

Before you ask your learners to do this exercise, highlight which word is underlined in each idiom and ask them what type of word it is. Note that the verbs are not normally underlined as the idioms and their definitions will not be found under the entries for the verbs, except in the case of *travel*, *get away* and *recharge*, where the examples may be found under the entries for those verbs.

## Exercise 6: Phrasal verbs

Ask learners to work in pairs or small groups to discuss the possible answers. Then ask them to check in the dictionary. Note that all of these phrasal verbs can be found under the entries for the verbs and not under the entries for the particles (*off*, *up* etc.).

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## 1 Compounds

Find the nouns that go with these other nouns to match the definitions.

Example: travel \_\_\_\_\_ – *someone whose job is to help people plan holidays and make travel arrangements*  
 travel **agent**

- departure** \_\_\_\_\_ – *the large room in an airport where you sit and wait before boarding a plane*
- boarding** \_\_\_\_\_ – *a card that every passenger has to show before they are allowed to get on a plane*
- check-in** \_\_\_\_\_ – *the place where you give in your bags and have your ticket checked*
- taxi** \_\_\_\_\_ – *a place where taxis wait for customers*
- baggage** \_\_\_\_\_ – *the place in an airport where people collect their luggage after a flight*
- flight** \_\_\_\_\_ – *someone whose job is to look after people on a plane*
- travel** \_\_\_\_\_ – *an unpleasant feeling in your stomach that you get when you are travelling*
- passport** \_\_\_\_\_ – *an area at an airport where your passport is checked*

## 2 What's the job?

Match the jobs with the definitions.

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. a receptionist    | a. shares the responsibility of flying a plane with the pilot                                    |
| 2. a travel agent    | b. checks that the goods people are bringing into a country are legal                            |
| 3. a purser          | c. look after the passengers on a plane  |
| 4. a customs officer | d. looks after people visiting a place and gives them information about it                       |
| 5. cabin crew        | e. works at the front desk in a hotel or office and welcomes visitors, deals with questions etc. |
| 6. a conductor       | f. deals with the accounts on a ship or a plane  |
| 7. a co-pilot        | g. helps people plan holidays and make travel arrangements                                       |
| 8. a guide           | h. checks tickets on a bus or train and collects money   |

## 3 Verb + noun collocations

Complete the sentences using the nouns in the list. (Note: some of these may be in the plural.)

reservation	passport	delay	train
money	seat belt	car	table

- They didn't bother to **stamp** my \_\_\_\_\_ this time.
- Please remember to **fasten** your \_\_\_\_\_ for take-off and landing.
- I'd like to **book** a \_\_\_\_\_ for Thursday evening, please.
- I usually **take** the \_\_\_\_\_ to the airport.
- The bad weather **caused** long \_\_\_\_\_ to flights yesterday.
- You can **hire** a \_\_\_\_\_ at the airport.
- You can **change** \_\_\_\_\_ at the hotel.
- I've **made** a \_\_\_\_\_ for you on the morning flight.

# Dictionary skills: Travel

## 4 Expressions with prepositions

Fill the gaps in these sentences using prepositions. Check your answers in the dictionary.

1. Jeff's away \_\_\_\_\_ a business trip.
2. The hotel was in the **middle** \_\_\_\_\_ nowhere.
3. Our suitcases were damaged \_\_\_\_\_ transit.
4. All flights are **subject** \_\_\_\_\_ long delays.
5. **In compliance** \_\_\_\_\_ local customs you must remove your shoes.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ **the event of** turbulence, you must fasten your seat belt.
7. **Prior** \_\_\_\_\_ departure, all luggage must be stowed in the overhead lockers.
8. All visitors to the country must be \_\_\_\_\_ **possession of** a valid visa.

## 5 Travel idioms

Match these travel-related idioms with their meanings. Then check your answers by looking up the underlined words in the dictionary.

1. in the same boat
  2. travel light
  3. one for the road
  4. make tracks
  5. get away from it all
  6. recharge your batteries
  7. see the world
  8. a change of scene
- 
- a. *travel to many different countries*
  - b. *leave a place*
  - c. *rest after being very busy so you will be ready to start working again*
  - d. *not take many things with you when you travel*
  - e. *in the same difficult or unpleasant situation*
  - f. *a period of time that you spend in a different place in order to feel better or more healthy*
  - g. *go somewhere different from where you live in order to have a rest or holiday*
  - h. *an alcoholic drink you have quickly before you leave a place*

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## 6 Phrasal verbs

Fill the gaps using the correct form of these verbs to complete the sentences.

check	put	get	drop
push	break	pick	set

1. The bus driver \_\_\_\_\_ us off outside the terminal.
2. The flight \_\_\_\_\_ in on time for once.
3. The taxi is going to \_\_\_\_\_ us up at 3am.
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ off early the next morning.
5. We were all waiting patiently for a taxi when this man just \_\_\_\_\_ in.
6. Guests must \_\_\_\_\_ out by midday.
7. There's a problem with the aircraft and the flight has been \_\_\_\_\_ back until 8pm.
8. Our car \_\_\_\_\_ down and we had to take a taxi to the airport.

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## KEY

### 1 Compounds

1. lounge
2. pass (card)
3. desk
4. rank
5. reclaim
6. attendant
7. sickness
8. control

### 2 What's the job?

1. e
2. g
3. f
4. b
5. c
6. h
7. a
8. d

### 3 Verb + noun collocations

1. passport
2. seat belt
3. table
4. train
5. delay
6. car
7. money
8. reservation

### 4 Expressions with prepositions

1. on
2. of
3. in
4. to
5. with
6. in
7. to
8. in

### 5 Travel idioms

1. e
2. d
3. h
4. b
5. g
6. c
7. a
8. f

### 6 Phrasal verbs

1. dropped
2. got
3. pick
4. set
5. pushed
6. check
7. put
8. broke