

## Generalizations: Geography by Keith Kelly

**AGE:** Teenagers  
**LEVEL:** Intermediate  
**TIME NEEDED:** Approx. 90 minutes  
**OBJECTIVES:** to learn about the advantages and disadvantages of tourism; to take part in a role-play activity in small groups; to complete exercises practising language related to expressing generalizations  
**KEY SKILLS:** reading, speaking, writing, listening  
**MATERIALS:** one copy of the worksheet per student

### Content focus Tourism

**Warm-Up:** 7 minutes  
**Activity 1:** 8 minutes  
**Activity 2:** 7 minutes  
**Activity 3:** 12 minutes  
**Activity 4:** 15 minutes

### WARM-UP

Working in groups of three, ask the students to look at the photograph of a coastal resort. Ask the students to discuss what attracts holidaymakers to coastal resorts like this one.

As a whole class, gather the students' suggestions and write them up on the board. Students may offer examples such as: *beaches, hot dry summers, hotels, restaurants, warm waters, historical remains, entertainment.*

### ACTIVITY 1

Ask the students to read the text *Why Majorca attracts tourists*, looking for their suggestions and any other ideas.

### ACTIVITY 2

Staying in their groups of three, ask the students to discuss the disadvantages of tourism for coastal resort areas. Don't take any answers as a whole class; let the students go on with Activity 3.

### ACTIVITY 3

a. Ask the students to identify which opinions are *for* tourism and which opinions are *against* tourism and write the appropriate letters in the circles. There are five opinions each.

**Key a** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Opinions for tourism:* B; C; E; F; I  
*Opinions against tourism:* A; D; G; H; J

b. Ask the students to match up the five equivalent opinions *for* and *against* tourism. Ask the students to check their answers in pairs and then check their answers against the text.

**Key b** \_\_\_\_\_  
 B – D; C – G; E – H; F – A; I – J

### ACTIVITY 4

In groups of three, ask the students to imagine that two of them live in a popular coastal resort area. One student thinks that tourism is a good thing for the area, the other that it is a bad thing. Ask the students to act out the discussion, using the matched opinions from Activity 3 and giving the arguments they've met in this lesson. The third student should use the text *Opinions on tourism* to help if necessary. When the pair has finished its argument, ask the students to swap roles, so they all play each part.

Ask two or three pairs to perform their arguments in front of the class.

### Language focus Generalizations

**Activity 1:** 5 minutes  
**Activity 2:** 10 minutes  
**Activity 3:** 10 minutes

Get students practising language linked to generalizations by reading the [Your CLIL: Generalizations: Geography](#) article.

### ACTIVITY 1

Ask the students to read through the text *Why Majorca attracts tourists* to find the bolded generalizing phrases. They should then write them in the table in the correct columns.

## Generalizations: Geography by Keith Kelly

### Key

*Quantity: biggest; many; millions of; a multitude of; numerous; many other; masses of; tens of millions of.  
Frequency: usually; generally; always. Certainty: clearly*

### ACTIVITY 2

Ask the students to write the generalization phrases on *frequency* in the correct places.

### Key

1. usually 2. always 3. generally 4. often 5. likely  
6. never 7. occasionally 8. tend

### ACTIVITY 3

Ask the students to find the generalization phrases on *certainty* in the wordsearch.



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by Keith Kelly

**Content focus**  
Tourism

**WARM-UP**

Look at the photograph of a coastal resort. In groups of three, brainstorm ideas on what attracts people to these places for a holiday. Share your ideas with the class.



Image: BRAND X

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### ACTIVITY 1

Read the text below and see if any of your ideas about the attraction of coastal resorts are there. What other ideas can you find in the text?

## Why Majorca attracts tourists

### The climate

Majorca's **biggest** attraction is its Mediterranean climate. During the summer, this region is **usually** under the influence of high atmospheric pressure, which results in long periods of hot, dry, sunny and calm conditions. These conditions are **clearly** suited to beach holidays, especially since the region contains **many** sandy beaches. Each year, Majorca's beach resorts attract **millions of** tourists from damp, cool countries such as the United Kingdom, Germany and Ireland. Winters are damp but mild in Majorca. At present, **many** retired northern Europeans live on the island to avoid the hard, cold winters of their home countries.

### Facilities

The area has a **multitude of** well-developed facilities, such as hotels, apartments and swimming pools. There is a lively nightlife in resorts such as Palma and Santa Ponça, with **numerous** bars, restaurants, discos and leisure centres. Costs are **generally** lower than in **many other** European countries.

### Communications

Before mass tourism, Majorca was **always** a quiet and remote island. Now Palma airport is the

busiest in Spain. Fleets of car ferries carry **masses** of visitors to and from Portugal, Italy, France and other countries. Narrow country roads have been upgraded and replaced, in places, with motorways. Computer and telephone lines carry **tens of millions of** messages to and from the island each year.

Adapted from *New Complete Geography 3rd edition* by Charles Hayes pp. 340-341 and 343 © Gill & Macmillan 2002

### Useful vocabulary

**under the influence of** – affected by

**results in** – causes

**are clearly suited to** – have ideal conditions for

**damp** – wet

**lively nightlife** – a place with lots of energy and things to do at the end of the day

**remote island** – an island which is far away, not easy to get to

**fleets of** – (usually refers to boats), meaning a lot of, many

**narrow** – not very wide, with little room

### ACTIVITY 2

Can you think of any possible disadvantages of tourism for resort areas? Discuss your ideas in your group.

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**ACTIVITY 3**

a. Identify which opinions are *for* tourism and which are *against* tourism. There are five of each. Write the letters in the correct circle.

- A. The services are overused ...
- B. It used to be far too dull ...
- C. There used to be high unemployment but not anymore.
- D. It used to be a lovely, peaceful place but now ...
- E. The boom in construction has brought work in.
- F. The services used to be in terrible condition but now ...
- G. The work is not stable – it is largely seasonal.
- H. The high-rise hotels are ugly and poorly finished.
- I. Tourism brought in foreign money – living standards improved.
- J. The cost of living has risen.



b. The five opinions for tourism have five equivalent opinions against tourism. Write the letters for the matching opinions on either side of the line in the boxes below.

-	-	-	-	-
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Now check your answers with the text on the next page.

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### Opinions on tourism

Many arguments are expressed both for and against tourism in Majorca, and for that matter, in many other popular holiday destinations.

Some people speak in favour of tourism, stressing the high levels of unemployment that existed before tourist development began. Many local people have found jobs in hotels, restaurants and souvenir shops. Others stress that the tourism is largely a seasonal business, with a very busy peak in the summer. At other times of year, many seasonal workers do not have work.

A similar argument in favour of tourism is that the tourist boom has provided lots of work in the construction industry, building the restaurants and hotels. People frequently counter this by arguing that the high-rise hotels are extremely ugly. These people argue that many of the buildings are poorly finished and building work seems to be going on all the time. Long

unplanned lines of such hotels dominate the skyline and spoil the beautiful scenery.

Also related to construction is the belief that roads, electricity, water and sewage services have been greatly improved with tourism development. However, it is also said that these services cannot cope during the peak tourist season. The roads are overcrowded and the swimming pools use so much water that there is not enough left for local farms.

There are those who argue that Majorca was far too dull a place to live in before tourism and that tourism has made plenty of entertainment available. On the other hand, locals say that it used to be a lovely, peaceful place and now it is noisy, brash and littered, and has lost its special character.

Adapted from *New Complete Geography 3rd edition* by Charles Hayes pp. 342 © Gil & Macmillan 2002

#### ACTIVITY 4

**Work in groups of three. Imagine that two of you live in a popular resort area. One of you thinks that tourism is a good thing, the other that it is a bad thing for the area.**

**Using the matched opinions from Activity 3, act out the discussion in pairs, using the arguments you've read about in this lesson. The third person should follow the arguments in the text and can make suggestions if needed. When you have finished, swap roles so that you all get a turn in each role.**

**Perform your best argument in front of the class.**

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Language focus  
Generalizations

**ACTIVITY 1**

Read through the text *Why Majorca attracts tourists* again and find the generalizing words and phrases in bold. Write them into the table in the correct columns.

quantity	frequency	certainty

**ACTIVITY 2**

Write the generalization words on *frequency* in the correct places. One has been done for you.

likely	never	generally	<del>usually</del>
always	tend	often	occasionally

- An earthquake is usually strongest at its epicentre.
- Climates have \_\_\_\_\_ changed but they did so very slowly and over many thousands of years.
- Limestone is \_\_\_\_\_ grey in colour but may vary from white to black.
- Earthquakes occur most \_\_\_\_\_ in places where plates collide or slide past each other.
- Educated women are more \_\_\_\_\_ to pursue careers outside the home.
- If used carefully, the world's fish stocks need \_\_\_\_\_ be depleted.
- Feelings of boredom and isolation \_\_\_\_\_ result in anti-social behaviour.
- Places that are far from the equator, in high latitudes, \_\_\_\_\_ to be cold.

## Generalizations: Geography by Keith Kelly

### ACTIVITY 3

Find the generalization phrases on *certainty* in the wordsearch. The words appear horizontally, vertically and diagonally.

clear  
probable  
probably

likely  
perhaps  
maybe

possible  
uncertain  
unlikely

H	E	Q	N	N	D	M	A	Y	B	E	N	A	V	D	D
A	D	K	S	D	F	I	G	H	L	I	O	Y	I	A	F
H	G	B	E	P	P	R	O	B	A	B	L	E	H	M	O
E	T	N	J	H	G	I	I	T	N	B	O	M	S	F	A
P	E	R	H	A	P	S	R	M	A	M	X	L	Z	I	N
S	S	E	Y	S	S	E	S	B	G	J	L	N	D	H	L
A	E	I	A	O	C	G	O	M	R	I	H	V	D	V	T
E	C	S	P	N	N	R	H	P	E	F	I	U	J	N	P
U	R	A	U	E	P	M	I	P	E	N	E	X	P	O	K
E	L	W	N	R	E	T	O	A	P	P	T	A	T	V	I
G	N	H	L	E	J	S	X	S	F	O	L	S	N	I	R
E	K	S	I	K	R	H	T	E	I	F	I	G	O	D	D
I	K	P	K	A	R	M	G	E	Q	O	K	H	R	A	U
A	Q	R	E	G	B	C	M	P	M	K	E	E	T	H	Z
H	O	L	L	E	A	E	E	J	R	A	L	E	E	P	T
Y	C	N	Y	O	F	P	G	F	G	B	Y	A	X	S	E