**7. Travelling**

**Reasons** (dôvody): People usually travel on business (pracovne) or for pleasure (pre radosť). They go on business trips (služobné cesty), they go on conferences, study stays, or they go on holidays. Students often **take a year off** (the school) to travel around the world, visit new cities and countries, see sights (pamätihodnosti) and monuments, meet new people, make new friends, and get to know (spoznať) new cultures and meals (jedlá). There are people who go abroad to learn a foreign language. Some people work abroad. In summer students travel to foreign countries to find some summer jobs (brigády). We also travel to visit our relatives (príbuzných) and family and to go to concerts or see some theatre performances, visit museums, exhibitions, and galleries. In Slovakia people usually go on holiday when their children have holidays at school, it means at Christmas, during (počas) the spring holidays and summer holidays.

**In summer** Slovak people **go** on holiday **to seaside resorts** (prímorské letoviská). Our favourite **destinations** (destinácie) are: Italy, Croatia, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, France and Spain. Those who have more money travel to Caribbean (Cuba, Jamaica), America, Australia, Canada, China, India, Bali or Seychelles. Young people go on **tours** (poznávacie zájazdy). (Activities on holiday - lie on the beach, sunbathe, swim in the sea, go shopping, go to bars and discos, go on sightseeing tour, visit historical monuments/buildings, sights, go to the theatre, go to the cinema, galleries, exhibitions, museums, go on a boat trip, **ship cruise** – výletná plavba). Some Slovaks spend their holidays in Slovakia, they go camping (chodia stanovať), or hiking/walking (na turistiku) to the mountains or to water parks, to spa resorts (Piešťany with bath mud procedures, Trenčianske Teplice, Smrdáky with healing springs (s liečivými prameňmi).

**In winter** we **go to ski resorts** (lyžiarske strediská). Slovaks go to The High Tatras, The Low Tatras, The Little and Great Fatras here in Slovakia or they go to the Czech Republic to Šumava, Jesenníky, Krkonoše, to the Alps in Austria and to France. (Activities - go skiing, snowboarding, cross-country skiing (bežkovať), sledging)

**In the past** (v minulosti) people had to go everywhere on foot (museli všade chodiť pešo), it took them too long to get from one place to another, the journey was tiring (cesta bola únavná), the roads were in bad condition, they did not have maps. Later, they travelled on horses and in carriages (v kočoch) and coaches (dostavníkoch) pulled by horses. They travelled by land and also on rivers, lakes, seas (by boats and ships).

**Now**: there are many possibilities. It often depends on money and the length (dĺžke) of journey. For short journeys we usually choose **a car** and a plane for longer journeys. Some people travel long distances by trains, coaches and buses because it is cheaper than to travel by plane. We can travel by car, train, bus, coach, tube (underground), plane, boat, ship.

In the **future** there will be more tunnels, more motorways/highways and better infrastructure. We might travel to space on a spaceship and spend our holiday on Mars. Agro tourism and eco tourism are getting more and more popular.

**What should you do before you travel?** First of all, it is important to decide where to go, find out some information about the resort and the country on the Internet or in a **travel guide** (cestopis), find out how to get there, what to do and see there. Then it is important to book (zarezervovať) flight/train/travel tickets, accommodation (ubytovanie), arrange holiday insurance (vybaviť poistenie), get vaccinated (dať sa zaočkovať) especially if you go to Africa, Asia or Middle East, ask for vacation at work, check (skontrolovať) whether (či) your passport is valid in case you travel outside European Union. If you travel to USA or some other countries, you need VISA, you get them at the Embassy. So, the last thing you should do is to pack (zblaliť si) your luggage (batožinu). It is important to remember five “Ps” (peniaze – money, pas – passport, pyžamo – a pair of pyjamas, poistenie – insurance, plavky – swimsuit/trunks).

**Individual travelling** – some people choose to travel alone, not to address travel agency (cestovku). They arrange their travel by themselves, buy their ticket, book their hotel and travel tickets. Sometimes it is cheaper to travel alone than to use a travel agent, especially if you want to visit different places in one country. These people take such travel as an adventure; they find it interesting to travel alone, they meet new people, make new friends, they can travel where they want and stay at one place as long as they want to, they do not have to visit places and sights they do not want to. On the other hand it is more dangerous than group travelling, because you have to take care of yourself, you can be robbed or you can get lost. Therefore it is important to speak at least one foreign language. If you can speak for example English language you can ask for information in most countries, you can ask how to get where you want to go.

**Group travelling/Packed holiday** (dovolenka, ktorú celú zariaďuje cestovka) – in Slovakia people usually ask travel agencies to arrange their holiday for them. They do not have to worry about anything; the only thing they have to do is to write an email and book a holiday and to pay for it.

**Travel agent/agency** – a company which arranges your holiday for you (accommodation (ubytovanie) – hotels, motels, hostels, apartments) (catering – bed and breakfast, **half board** (polopenzia), **full board** (plná penzia), all inclusive, **self catering** (bez jedla). In the resort there is usually a **travel agency representative** (sprievodca, zástupca CK) who works for that agency and he gives you all the information about your stay (o vašom pobyte): accommodation, catering possibilities, programme and trips, basic info about the country, seaside/ski resort, shops and services (bank, post office, phone box, doctors, hospital, emergency services, vet).

**Means of transport**: **car** – you need a driving licence, you can get it when you are 18, you need petrol/diesel to run a car, you buy petrol at petrol station, you have to follow certain rules – you cannot drink alcohol, drink-driving and speeding (prekročenie rýchlosti) is fined (pokutované), you cannot use your mobile while driving, you have to pay attention to traffic signs (dopravné značky) and traffic lights (semafory). In Slovakia we drive on the right side of the street, in England they drive on the left side. During the **rush hour** (počas dopravnej špičky) there are traffic jams (sú dopravné zápchy) and there are many car accidents (dopravné nehody). Sometimes it is difficult to find a free car park/parking place. Car can take you wherever you want. You can take as much luggage/baggage as you want. It is very comfortable, you can stop when you need, you can have a rest and you can sleep in it - caravan. Car fumes pollute the environment and the air (výfukové plyny znečisťujú životné prostredie a ovzdušie).

**Bus, coach, train**: you need tickets to travel by them (**one-way/single** ticket (jednosmerný), **return ticket** (spiatočný), it is cheaper to travel by bus/train than to travel by car. They are more environmentally-friendly than a car, if more people used them, the environment would be less polluted. They are **comfortable**, you don’t have to pay attention to traffic, on bus/train you can read, listen to music, have a snack (in a snack/bar/dining car – jedálenský vozeň), watch the world passing by, have a conversation, sleep (sleeping car – spací vozeň), but you cannot take too much luggage (batožina).

**Tube/Underground** (metro) – is only in big cities, takes you whenever you want in a couple of minutes, very fast, no traffic jams (žiadne zápchy), reliable (spoľahlivé)– arrives on time, you need tickets or tokens (žetóny). There is usually very bad air and it is hot in it, it is crowded especially during rush hour, relatively safe but sometimes it is dangerous because there are many thieves/pickpockets/robbers and there have been several terrorist attacks recently.

**Plane**: very comfortable, fast, suitable (vhodné) for long distances, flight attendants (letušky, **steward** and **stewardess**) serve you drinks and meals; you can watch films, read newspapers, sleep. Flight ticket are quite expensive (dosť drahé); you are not allowed to bring sharp things and tools (nástroje), knives, scissors on board (na palubu). When you arrive at the airport you have to go to a **“check-in” desk**, where they take/drop off your luggage, you show your passport and flight ticket and they give you a **boarding card/pass** with the number of your seat. Then you go through **security check, customs and passport control** and you enter a plane through a **boarding gate**. (take off/depart, landing/arrivals, terminal, non-smoking flights, on a board, shuttle bus, lounge, boarding pass/card, seat by the window/aisle)

**Boats/ships/cruise ships** – are used for **holiday cruises** (výletné plavby), you can sleep and eat there – some are like hotels, have shops, bars, restaurants, casinos, swimming pools. It is possible to travel by boats/ships only on sea/rivers/lakes.

**Taxi/cab** – are cars that take you everywhere you want, quite expensive, in UK – black cabs – the most expensive ones, NY – is known for its yellow taxis.

**Bike** – is most environmentally-friendly, no fumes, uses human power, not suitable in bad weather, it does not cost you anything to run it, you do not need any fuel (palivo), suitable for short distances (vhodný na krátke vzdialenosti), as a hobby/sport/form of exercise, cycling tours.

**Hitchhike** – stopovať, hitchhiking – (stopovanie) – popular among young people and students, costs no money but it is very dangerous

**Otázky:** 1. You have just arrived to England. Go to the information centre and ask for English language courses and accommodation. Decide between boarding school (where you study and sleep) and home stay (where you stay but you have to go to school somewhere near). Give your reasons.

2. Why do people travel?

3. Where did you go on your last holiday? Are you going anywhere this summer?

4. Describe the best holiday you have ever been to.

5. What is your idea of a perfect holiday?

6. If you had the opportunity to travel around the world, what countries would you definitely want to visit and why?

7. How do you prepare before you go on holiday? What do you have to do?

8. What means of transport do you know?

9. Give advantages and disadvantages of travelling by train and bus.

10. What do you know about underground?

11. Have you ever flown by plane? Describe travelling by train. Give pros and cons.

12. What is the difference between individual and group travelling?

13. What is the travel agency?

14. What does a travel agency representative do?

15. In what sort of a book do you find all the important information about country you want to travel to?

16. Where can you stay when you are on holiday? What does “all-inclusive” service contain?

17. How do you travel to school?

18. What foreign countries have you visited? Compare them with Slovakia.

19. What interesting or famous places have you been to?