

Unit 7

Target Language

Present perfect simple, present perfect continuous

Shopping, paraphrasing and recording, towns and villages

1. How financially literate do you consider yourself?

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever made a financial mistake that taught you something valuable?
- Have you been saving up for something recently?
- What are the most important financial habits people should develop?
- Have schools in your country addressed this issue?
- How has your approach to money changed over time?

2. Describe the neighborhood you live in. Have you seen it change over the years?

Sub-questions:

- What are its strengths and weaknesses?
- How long have you been living there?
- Would you rather move to a different kind of environment, why or why not?
- What local facilities or shops have recently opened or closed?
- Have property prices or rental costs changed?

3. What do you think about cryptocurrencies and digital money in general?

Sub-questions:

- Have you or anyone you know invested in crypto?
- Do you think digital money could replace traditional currencies entirely?
- How secure do you think it is?
- Have you noticed changes in how people pay for things over the last decade?
- What are the risks and benefits of a cashless society?

4. What's the worst problem you've ever had while shopping?

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever returned a product or demanded a refund?
- How long had you been looking for the item before buying it?
- Have you ever regretted a purchase you made recently?
- Was it your fault, the store's, or just bad luck?
- How did you resolve the issue?

5. Which do you think offers a better quality of life, villages or cities?

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever lived in both settings? What differences did you notice?
- What do you miss most when you're in the other environment?
- How have cities/villages changed in your country over time?
- Do you think modern villages are losing their identity?
- How has transportation affected life in smaller towns?

6. Some brands have decided to boycott Black Friday. Do you think it's a wise decision?

Sub-questions:

- What message are they trying to send?
- Have you ever participated in Black Friday sales?
- Do you believe such events promote wasteful behavior?
- What alternatives to consumer holidays would you support?
- Has your own spending behavior changed in recent years?

7. Imagine you're stranded on an uninhabited island with almost nothing. How would you survive the first few hours?

Sub-questions:

- What are your top priorities: food, water, shelter, or something else?
- What skills would you need to survive long-term?
- Have you ever learned any survival techniques?
- How would you protect yourself from danger?
- What one item would've made the biggest difference?

8. What's a product or service you've bought that was completely worth the money?

Sub-questions:

- How long had you been considering it before purchasing?
- What made it better than other options?
- Have you recommended it to others?
- Was it expensive, or just surprisingly useful?
- Have you used it regularly?

9. Which shopping model do you prefer, local shops, malls, or online platforms?

Sub-questions:

- How has your shopping behavior changed recently?
- Do you think shopping malls are becoming outdated?
- Do local businesses deserve more support?
- Have you found better service in small shops or big ones?
- Which one has better long-term value for a community?

10. How do you think shopping habits have changed in the past decade?

Sub-questions:

- Have you noticed shifts in customer expectations?
- Have physical stores lost popularity where you live?
- How have your own habits evolved with technology?
- What trends are you excited or worried about?
- Have people become more environmentally conscious when shopping?

Unit 8

Target Language

The future, contrast linkers

Make and do, travel and holidays, phrasal verbs

1. What's your opinion on gap years?

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever taken or considered taking a gap year?
- What do you think people usually gain from it?
- Are there any disadvantages to delaying university or work for travel?
- Do you think it should be encouraged more widely?
- Would you prefer to travel or do voluntary work during a gap year?

2. How important is travel in your life?

Sub-questions:

- Do you make time for regular trips, or are you more of a homebody?
- How has your attitude toward travel changed in recent years?
- Would you like to travel more often in the future?
- Do you believe travel broadens the mind, or is it over-romanticized?
- Despite the expenses, do you think it's worth it?

3. Describe your ideal trip.

Sub-questions:

- Where would you go, and with whom?
- Would it be an adventurous trip or a relaxing one?
- How long would you stay, and what would you do there?
- Would you plan everything in advance, or go with the flow?
- What makes a trip truly unforgettable for you?

4. How can we travel responsibly?

Sub-questions:

- What are some ways tourists can minimize harm to the environment?
- Have you ever made an effort to support local communities while traveling?
- Do you think mass tourism is damaging certain places or cultures?
- How do you feel about “voluntourism”?
- Is it possible to travel ethically without compromising comfort?

5. Which culture are you most curious to immerse yourself in?

Sub-questions:

- What aspects of that culture attract you? (e.g. language, food, traditions)
- Have you had any exposure to it already?
- What would you find most challenging about adapting to it?
- Would you be willing to live in that country for a while?
- How would you prepare before going?

6. What factors influence how you choose your travel destination?

Sub-questions:

- Does weather play a big role in your decisions?
- Do you avoid certain regions for personal, political, or practical reasons?
- How much does budget affect your plans?
- Do you tend to avoid touristy places, or do you enjoy them?
- Have your preferences changed over time?

7. How effective and reliable is public transportation in your city or country?

Sub-questions:

- Have there been any improvements in recent years?
- How does it compare with other countries you've visited?
- Do you think people are encouraged to use public transport enough?
- What would you do to make it better?

8. How do you think your life will change in the near future?

Sub-questions:

- What plans have you already made for the coming year?
- Are there any big changes you expect or hope for?
- Will your work/study/living situation stay the same?
- Do you feel optimistic or uncertain about your future?
- Despite the uncertainty, do you have a vision for your future?

9. What do you tend to make time for on holidays, and what do you do to relax?

Sub-questions:

- Do you make any special preparations before traveling?
- What activities do you make sure to include on every trip?
- Do you do your own planning or rely on others?
- Have you ever had to make the most of a disappointing trip?
- What do you do when something goes wrong during travel?

10. Have you ever put off, missed out on, or run into problems while traveling?

Sub-questions:

- What's the worst delay or cancellation you've experienced?
- Have you ever come across an unexpected place that impressed you?
- Have you had to deal with rude tourists or bad accommodations?
- Do you tend to stick to your plans or change them spontaneously?
- Have you ever ended up somewhere totally different than expected?

11. Is too much travel harmful, for the individual or for society?

Sub-questions:

- Although travel brings many benefits, what downsides do you see?
- While some travel to learn, others simply seek comfort, what's your take?
- Whereas past generations traveled less, modern ones travel more, is that always better?
- Despite its costs, do you think frequent travel should be encouraged?
- Are there limits to how much someone can benefit from traveling?