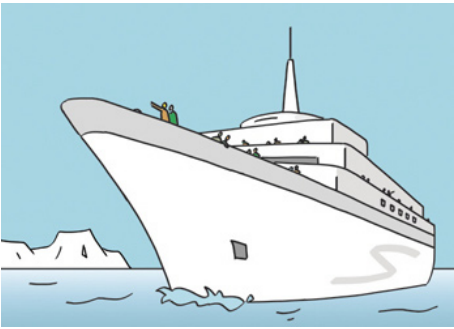


Planning our Next Vacation

My husband and I have never taken a holiday together. We've wanted to take a holiday for a long time, but have never had the same holiday schedule. Next month we both have two weeks off work, so we're trying to plan a vacation. I wanted to go to Hawaii, but my husband has already been to Hawaii. He wants to go skiing in Vermont. He's never skied before. I don't like skiing. I've skied three times in my life, but I don't think I want to do it again. I'm afraid of heights and don't want to ride the gondola.

My husband also wants to go camping, but I've already gone camping twice this year. He grew up in the city and has never spent much time in the woods. I grew up in the country and have gone camping every year since I was 12 years old. I want to go somewhere I've never been before. We both want to go on a cruise. My husband has been on a cruise before. He went to the Caribbean. He had a good time but we want to go somewhere unusual. Neither of us has been to Alaska so we thought of taking a cruise in Glacier Bay. That is definitely an unusual vacation and there are so many unusual things to see. I have never seen whales before and my husband has never seen icebergs. We have never hiked along glaciers. We have both decided that an Alaskan cruise is the best idea for our vacation.



Our Next Vacation - Questions



1. Have my husband and I ever taken a holiday together?

2. When do we plan to go on a vacation together?

3. Which of us has already been to Hawaii?

4. Has my husband ever skied before?

5. Do I want to go camping? Why or why not?

6. Has my husband ever been on a cruise?

7. Has either of us been to Alaska?

8. Why do we want to go to Glacier Bay?

9. Have I ever seen whales before?

10. Has my husband ever seen icebergs before?



I'm Very Stressed

I'm very stressed. It has been a very busy week, and I've fallen behind schedule at work. I was supposed to have finished typing a letter for my boss by this morning, but I haven't even started yet. I have a meeting this afternoon with an important client, but I haven't prepared yet. Tomorrow I have to give a speech at our annual conference, but I haven't started writing yet. I haven't even decided what to write about. I have come up with a few ideas but I'm scared it will be too similar to the speech that was given last year. Each time I start to write the phone rings. Now I have stopped answering the phone because I can't get any work done with the interruptions. I haven't even eaten my lunch yet, but I haven't got time to go buy a sandwich. I have already cancelled two meetings for tomorrow because I'm so behind in my work. I have to reschedule those meetings for later in the week. Even when I go home this evening I will still have work to do. I have to buy groceries because we have eaten almost everything in the house. Also, for the last three days I have forgotten to mail a very important letter. I will have to mail it tonight. I can't wait until next week when I will be less busy.



I'm Very Stressed - Questions



1. Why am I so stressed?

2. Have I started typing the letter for my boss yet?

3. Have I prepared for my meeting yet?

4. Have I started writing my speech for the conference tomorrow?

5. Why is it taking me so long to write the speech?

6. Have I eaten my lunch yet?

7. Why do I have to reschedule some meetings for later in the week?

8. Can I relax at home this evening? Why or why not?

9. What have I forgotten to do for the last three days?

10. Why can't I wait until next week?



Yuko in Montreal

Yuko moved to Montreal this year. She has lived in Montreal for about 8 months. When she moved to Montreal from Tokyo she was a little nervous and scared, but now she feels very comfortable and knows the city well. She has found a very nice apartment downtown and it's not too expensive. She has found a job teaching Japanese, and she likes it a lot. She's also seen a lot of places and done a lot of things in Montreal. For example, Yuko has been to Mount Royal, she has ridden on the Metro, she's eaten a Montreal bagel, and she's met a cute Montreal man. She's also learned a lot of French and improved her English. She has made a lot of friends too. Some of her friends are from Montreal but some of them have recently moved to Montreal just like Yuko. She has been to many bars and clubs on St. Laurent Street. She has even joined a jazz band and they often play in bars and nightclubs. Yuko plays piano in the band. She has taken many photographs of Montreal since she arrived. She likes the brightly painted houses. She has visited many museums and art galleries. She has even survived the cold Montreal winter! She has fallen in love with the city and all its charms.



Yuko in Montreal - Questions



1. How long has Yuko lived in Montreal?

2. Does Yuko now feel more comfortable in Montreal than when she first moved there? _____

3. Has Yuko found an apartment?

4. Has Yuko found a job? If so, what is it?

5. What has Yuko seen and done in Montreal?

6. Has Yuko learned a lot of French in Montreal?

7. Has Yuko made a lot of friends in Montreal? If so, describe them.

8. Yuko goes out often in the evening. What has she done that allows her to go more often to bars and nightclubs? _____

9. How does Yuko feel about Montreal?

Questions about you.

1. Have you ever been on a cruise?

2. How many times have you skied in your life?

3. Have you fallen behind in your work/ schoolwork this week?

4. Have you forgotten to do something important this week?

5. Have you recently moved to a new city? If so where?

6. Have you made a new friend recently? If so, describe him/her.

Draw a picture of yourself in the box, or paste in a photograph.

Now use the questions and answers above to write a short paragraph about yourself.

Create your own story.



1. Draw a picture or paste a photo into the box below.
2. Using the present perfect, write a short paragraph about the person or people in the box.
3. Write at least 5 questions about your paragraph.
4. Give your paper to a classmate to read your story and answer your questions.

Questions

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____