

The OZBUS

A personal response task: Would you like to go on this trip? Why/why not?



OZBUS an exciting way to travel from London to Sydney

The OZBUS is the longest bus ride in the world and the ultimate journey for backpackers. In twelve weeks it travels 16,000 kilometres through twenty different countries.

'Most people fly from London to Sydney at 40,000 feet and never see anything,' says Mark Creasey from Ozbus. 'On the Ozbus people can see the most beautiful places in the world. We go across Europe, through Turkey, India, China, Malaysia and Australia. We travel through deserts, mountains and jungles - it's amazing.'

Jeff Lane travelled on the Ozbus last summer. 'The best thing was the Taj Mahal,' he said. 'The most exciting place was the tiger reserve in the Himalayas, and I really enjoyed visiting the base camp of Mount Everest.' And what were the worst things? 'Well, in Tehran the bus broke down and we waited a whole day for a new one. That wasn't so good. And I didn't always enjoy camping at night. Sometimes I wanted to stay somewhere more comfortable!'

The Ozbus takes up to forty people of all ages. At night, the passengers usually stay in camps or sometimes in small hotels. Everyone takes turns to buy food in local markets and cook for the group.

The greatest journey in the world? Creasey thinks so: 'If you want a truly awesome experience, then the Ozbus is for you.'

The advertisement features a stylized world map with a red line tracing the bus route from London to Sydney. A clock tower and a bus are also depicted.

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Task 2: Look at the pictures below. Which people would enjoy this trip? Who wouldn't enjoy this trip?

A married couple with kids



Yes/No?

Why/why not?

A mother and teenage son



Yes/No?

Why/why not?

A single female traveller



Yes/No?

Why/why not?

A retired couple



Yes/No?

Why/why not?

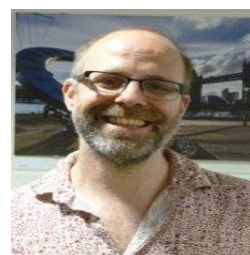
A young couple



Yes/No?

Why/why not?

Your teacher




Yes/No?

Why/why not?

Faidimos

Task 1: Design a personal response task and/or an evaluative task related to this text.




Faidimos

I often take friends and family to this authentic Greek restaurant and have lost count of how many times I've been here. The owners have succeeded in creating an intimate and friendly atmosphere where you almost feel as though you are dining in someone's home. You can also watch the food being prepared just a few feet away from your table. Along with the smells, colours and flavours, this really makes you feel like you're on holiday.

I always have a mix of Keftedes Arni, Spanakopitakia with flatbreads and Tzatziki to start. **These come with an amazing mix of flavours**, textures and colours and **it's beautifully presented too**. I think I've tried all the main dishes on the menu, which is lucky as it's always difficult to choose what to have. **On my last visit I went for the Tetraptiho**, which was unbelievable. The meat dishes here are always done to perfection, the couscous or rice is light and fluffy and the servings are really generous. I recommend you finish every meal with Melomakarono dipped in cardamom ice cream and a good glass of piping hot mint tea. You'll feel great afterwards.

If you want to drink alcohol, then you have to bring your own but they don't charge for corkage. You also have to remember that they only take cash and the nearest machine is back at the station. It's also best to make a reservation if you want to be sure to get a table. This place is super-popular, particularly on weekends, although I've been lucky enough to get a table without waiting on some occasions. If you are in a hurry, then Faidimos is probably not for you. However, if you like great food that takes time to prepare and you want to experience a taste of Greece, then there isn't a better place to eat.

Kathy
Overall rating 
Food 10 | Service 9 | Atmosphere 9 | Value for money 9
Friday, May 04, 2015

Adapted from Norrington-Davies, D. (2016)

Task 2: Look at the sentences below. Why is the writer using the following forms?

These come with an amazing mix of flavours and it's beautifully presented too.

On my last visit I went for the Tetraptiho.

I think I've tried everything on the menu.

Task 3: Create a replication and/or transposition task

Travelling in Greece with teenagers

Task 1: Design a personal response task and/or an evaluative task related to this text (you could split the texts up if you want)

Traveling with teens can often be a tricky thing, especially when it comes to finding a balance of things to see and do which will please everyone. Fortunately, Greece is a very easy country to visit with your teens! Here are a few suggestions of the top things to do in Greece with your teens.

Explore the colourful street art



Let's start off in the Greek capital! Athens is known for its vibrant street art scene, and many travel from far to discover this unique form of art that young people have used for years as a way to express themselves in a climate of economic turmoil. As the art is constantly changing, finding the best street art in Athens is best done on a guided tour. Try our Athens street art walking tour, or even see street art in Athens from a bike. You will get to see fascinating and politically-charged graffiti but also colorful designs that will surely interest your kids (and maybe end up on your teen's phone as a screen saver).

Segway Tours

One of the most enjoyable and fun ways of seeing the sites of Athens is on a Segway tour. Following the pedestrianized streets which run through the historic centre, you will get to see the heart of Ancient Athens from a very unique angle. You can choose from joining a group tour, or even having your own private family tour. There are also special tours available which include a food tour by Segway, and an Athens Segway Night Tour.

Explore the great Greek outdoors

Greece may be known for its beaches and islands, but it is a mountainous country. With high, rugged peaks covering the territory, it is a country ideal for hikers and trekking enthusiasts, who will get beautiful scenery without the crowds. Central and northern Greece, as well as the Peloponnese and Crete are ideal for a mountain biking holidays while exploring small villages and historical sites, such as Meteora and its fascinating boulder-perched monasteries or the mighty mountain of Olympus where you can hike some of the easiest peaks before deciding to relax a few days by the coast the next day. Furthermore, many islands offer visitors the perfect combination of sea and sun with nature and mountain fun.

Get cultural



Visiting museums and archaeological sites can be a bit dull for teens so try to find sites that will peak their interest. Why don't you include a visit to ancient Olympia so you can show your kid where the Olympic Games started? Or if you are in Athens, make sure to stop by the marble stadium, or Kalimarmaro, where the modern Olympic Games of 1886 were held too and let your teen run the track and be an athlete for a little bit. Find interesting tours with guides specialized to a younger audience, for example, just like our Percy Jackson tours, that take you through the sanctuary of Delphi, the Minotaur's Labyrinth or to the cave where Zeus is said to be born. They'll love it.

<https://www.kidslovegreece.com> › Top Selections

Task 2: What forms could you look at and what are the writer's reasons for using them?

Task 3: Create a replication and/or transposition task. This could be writing or speaking.

The bear and the traveller

Task 1: Design a personal response task and/or an evaluative task related to this text. If you want, you can break the text up into sections.

Two Travellers were walking on the road together, when a big brown bear suddenly appeared from the woods ahead of them. Before the bear saw them, one traveller made for a tree at the side of the road, and climbed up into the branches and hid there. The other was not so fast, and as he could not escape quickly enough, he threw himself on the ground and pretended to be dead.

The Bear saw him lying there and came up and sniffed all round him. He sniffed the man's head. He sniffed the man's arms and he sniffed the man's legs. He even sniffed the man's ears, and he sniffed so long it looked like the bear was whispering to the man. But the traveller kept perfectly still and held his breath, for they say that a bear will not touch a dead body. Luckily it was true and the bear stopped sniffing and went away.

When the coast was clear, the traveller in the tree came down and asked the other what it was the Bear had whispered to him when he put his mouth to his ear. The other replied, "He told me never again to travel with a friend who deserts you at the first sign of danger."

Misfortune tests the strength of friendship.

Adapted from Aesop's fables

Task 2: What forms could you look at and what are the writer's reasons for using them?

Task 3: Create a replication and/or transposition task. This could be writing or speaking.

An FCE task

Task 1: Design an evaluative task related to this text

Dear Mrs Simpson
I would like to apply for the job of Camp Helper as advertised in this month's issue of 'International Student'.

I like being with children very much and I would certainly enjoy the challenge of working with them on one of your camps. Moreover, I have just finished school and in October I will be starting a degree course in English. I am therefore very keen to improve my language skills in an English-speaking country before I go to university.

There are a number of activities I could organize for the children. My interests include basketball, tennis and orienteering, and I also play the guitar and compose my own songs. For the past seven years I have attended summer camps in my country with the scouts, and last year I helped to run a number of events, including an orienteering competition and a kite-making workshop.

I feel I have the necessary patience and energy to make a positive and enthusiastic contribution to your camps and I hope you will consider my application favourably.

I look forward to hearing from you.
Yours sincerely,

Costas Sergis

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Task 2: What forms could you look at and what are the writer's reasons for using them? Note they don't have to be grammatical.

Task 3: Create a replication task.

Discussion: How might these tasks help students preparing for the FCE exam?

