

An interview with Gerry Gordon

Listening, Writing

1. This is a radio interview about recent changes in tourism patterns in Western European countries. Complete the three main reasons for these changes.

1. M O N _ _
2. M O B _ _ _ _ _
3. A I R _ _ _ _ _ _ _

2. Circle T or F next to the sentences.

1. The programme was broadcast at the beginning of the summer holidays. T / F
2. Many workers get paid holidays. T / F
3. It is more difficult to travel to popular tourist destinations these days. T / F

3. In the interview, Gerry gives examples of the factors which influence tourism today. Put the words in the box into the categories given by Gerry:

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| better roads and motorways | better wages | larger airports |
| reduced air fares | more cars | paid holidays |
| more flights | | |

| Category | Examples |
|-------------------|----------|
| MON _ _ | |
| MOB _ _ _ _ _ | |
| AIR _ _ _ _ _ _ _ | |

Interview script: Recent Changes in Tourism Patterns

Lisa Brown interviews Gerry Gordon from the International Tourist Board.

Read the following interview with a student or teaching assistant and/or allow students to role play the two characters for the rest of the class.

Lisa Brown: Hello, listeners. Welcome to you all. Today in our weekly programme 'Focus on Fact' we are going to look at the huge changes in tourism in Western Europe in recent years. I have with me Gerry Gordon, the local director of the International Tourist Board. Hello, Gerry.

Gerry Gordon: Hello, Lisa. Good morning listeners.

LB: Well, the main reason for this interview today is that it is the beginning of the holiday season in this part of the world. How has tourism changed recently and what are the causes?

GG: Money, mobility and air transport – these are the main factors that have caused the changes.

LB: OK, let's start with money. How has it influenced our holiday choices?

GG: The main thing is that people in Western Europe generally now earn better wages than in the past. Many workers get paid holidays, too. These are the reasons we can spend more to go on holiday.

LB: And another thing you mentioned is mobility. Does this just mean we have more cars?

GG: Yes, that's one thing. Just think, in 1951, only 5 per cent of British families had a car. By 2000 this had increased to almost 75 per cent! And we mustn't forget about the families with two cars, or even more!

LB: So we can move about more easily, can't we?

GG: Yes, but greater mobility doesn't only mean we have more cars. There are also better transport systems. This means we can travel further and it's much easier to get to popular tourist destinations. For example, better roads and motorways make it much easier to travel long distances by car.

LB: How about other means of transport? How have they changed our holidays?

GG: OK, take air transport: reduced fares, more flights, easier booking systems, larger and better airports ...

LB: Yes, but airports are still crowded, aren't they, especially during the peak season. It's often a nightmare, you know, with queues, delays, cancellations ...

GG: Yes, of course, there are two sides to every coin ...

1 Reasons for the changing patterns in tourism:

1. money
2. mobility
3. air transport

2 True or false?

- 1 T
- 2 T
- 3 F (It's much easier to get to popular tourist destinations.)

3

| Category | Examples |
|-----------------|--|
| Money | better wages, paid holidays |
| Mobility | more cars, better roads and motorways |
| Air transport | reduced air fares, larger airports, more flights |