

## **The Transcript**

*Task 1. You will hear a person giving advice on planning a successful holiday. For questions 1-5 choose the best option (A or B). You will hear the text twice.*

*Now you have 30 seconds to look through the items.*

*[pause 30 seconds]*

*Now we begin.*

With summer just around the corner, our thoughts turn to holidays. I'd like to share with you a few tips to ensure that all goes smoothly.

First things first, we'll start with packing. Most toiletry manufacturers seem to make a special point of packaging their products in containers which are either large or heavy. One way to cut down on the weight in your bag is to buy some small bottles and pour into them just enough shampoo or shower gel for the holiday. Another idea is to collect samples of toiletries throughout the year, ready for when holiday time comes around.

What else needs to go in the suitcase? It's a good idea to take a few odds and ends with you such as an alarm clock, washing powder, and an adaptor plug for foreign sockets.

Still on the subject of packing, let's look at suitcases. To keep your cases safe, keep them simple! If you use very expensive designer suitcases you will invite theft. A simple case won't be noticed as much by thieves. Make sure your case is hard to open and has a tough strap around it too as this will further deter thieves.

Let's talk about the journey itself now. If you're flying with young children, a pocketful of sweets can save tears. Children's ears will be less affected by air pressure changes in the cabin of the aircraft during take-off and landing, if they suck a sweet. Another point about traveling with children is carrying all the toys they want to take with them. This can be a nightmare for parents because some children want to take every toy they possess away with them on holiday! You can get around this problem by giving them a small bag of their own and telling them they can take anything they like, as long as it fits in the bag. Remember, if your children have a happy holiday, then so will you.

Once you've reached your destination, and you've spent a few days seeing the sights and relaxing, you'll probably want to send a few postcards home to tell everyone about it. If you don't know your friends' addresses by heart, you can write out their addresses on self-adhesive labels before you leave home. Then, after you've written your postcard, just stick a label on the back and pop them in the post. The labels which remain will remind you of the friends you haven't sent a postcard to, and no one will be forgotten! One more idea is to send photographs instead of postcards. They're much more personal, and everyone at home will be able to see what you're up to.

Many of us enjoy shopping when we're away from home and often when we're on holiday we spot bargains or find souvenirs that we want to take back with us, but we don't have much room in our suitcase. The solution is to carry an extra fold-up bag in the bottom of your case, that way you'll have enough space to carry everything on

your return journey. One more tip related to buying things: if you purchase something expensive, it's a good idea to keep the receipt with you at the airport when you're going home. That way, if you're questioned by customs officials about the item, you've got proof of purchase. Keeping receipts can save you a lot of time and trouble.

So, those are my tips for a happy and trouble-free holiday. Little things mean a lot, they can make or break a holiday. If you have some of your own holiday tips, I'd love to hear from you...

*Now you have 20 seconds to check your answers.*

*[pause 20 seconds]*

*Now listen to the text again*

*[The text is repeated]*

*Task 2. For questions 6-10 choose the view each speaker expresses about changes in our lifestyle in future. You will hear the text twice. There are 3 extra letters you do not need to use.*

*Now you have 30 seconds to look through the items.*

*[pause 30 seconds]*

*Now we begin.*

*Speaker 1:* We can expect our personal genetic code to be included in our medical records, so specialized treatments will become available for each patient. Major breakthroughs are expected in many fields, and most definitely in the treatment of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. But the greatest change will come in the shape of self-diagnosis, in which smart computers will enable patients to evaluate their health and know if there is something wrong with them and what they should do about it without help from a practitioner.

*Speaker 2:* I believe we will see poor quality products simply disappear from shelves and more affordable prices for household necessities as consumer pressure becomes more organized and, therefore, greater. We also expect that, by 2030, 90 percent of goods will be delivered to the home as time becomes the new money. This development will mean that supermarkets will be reduced to little more than warehouses.

*Speaker 3:* Our love affair with celebrity culture could soon be over as we shift towards a more virtual world. By 2010, it is estimated that one in four faces on the

small screen will be that of an artificial “celeb-bot” – a computer generated TV personality. This is also expected to spill over into the world of music. The success of animated band Gorillaz – a collaboration between Blur’s Damon Albarn and Tank Girl cartoonist Jamie Hewlett – has already sparked interest in the idea of virtual pop stars who don’t have to tour and will never grow old.

*Speaker 4:* Tilting trains, able to take bends faster than ordinary ones, were first seen in Britain in 1981. Technical problems that stopped them from becoming widely used have since been solved, and Virgin hopes they’ll be the savior of train travel when they introduce them later this year. Rail travel isn’t the only thing that’ll get faster. Boeing’s Sonic Cruiser will come into service in a few years and promises to save hours on long flights.

*Speaker 5:* The Internet as we know it will disappear. People will stop talking about it, and it will no longer be necessary to have a computer to access it. Instead, it will melt into the background. It will be available everywhere all the time, via wireless access and super-fast broadband connections. As a result, we’ll be online all the time, and without thinking much about it. Expect mobile phones to become so small that they can be fitted inside a person’s ear, and so smart that we only have to quietly utter someone’s name in order to call them.

*Now you have 20 seconds to check your answers.*

*[pause 20 seconds]*

*Now listen to the text again*

*[The text is repeated]*

*Now you have 20 seconds to complete the task.*

*[pause 20 seconds]*

*This is the end of the listening task.*