



Let's Take a Trip!
Mr. Gruhalla's First Period
Fall, 2007

Note: Store all of your work (the Word document, the Excel spreadsheet and the Inspiration software thinking map on the Student drive in Mr. Gruhalla's folder in the 1st period folder. In addition you need to save your work in one other place: a floppy disk, a flash drive or on Box.net. You will have to open yourself an account on Box.net)

The Basics

You are taking a trip to a foreign country. Since you have never been to this country before, you have lots of decisions to make about your itinerary, travel arrangements, lodging, etc. Below is a list of things you will need to make decisions about before you leave for your trip. The items are in no particular order. Open a Word document to store this information:

Dates of your trip

Length of your trip

City in the US you are departing from

City you are flying into in your selected country

Name of the airport you will be flying into

City/cities you plan to visit (Remember that you have to make travel arrangements between locations, include costs and means of travel in your budget)

Type of weather and average temperatures for your location for your travel dates. (Plan Activities around the weather and the time you are in the area.

Your Budget:

Money is certainly a consideration for most travelers. Some people try to travel as cheaply as possible while others try to find a balance between good prices and nice accommodations and activities. Not many of us have unlimited money to spend on a trip so do take your prices for each item into consideration. Most seasoned travelers have learned that costs on a trip add up very quickly.

You are going to record your budget on a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. When you have all of your items entered, figure a total for the entire trip. Here are the items you will want to include:

- Airfare, roundtrip for 1 adult (Include the name of the airlines and departure/arrival times)
- Total hotel costs for your stay (Include the name of the hotel(s), its/their location(s), and the average costs per night)
- Total allotment for food (Include a sampling of the restaurants you are planning to visit and an average cost per day for food and snacks)
- Spending money for souvenirs (Include the type of souvenirs you think you would like to bring back.)
- Total taxi/bus/rental car fares and costs
- Transportation costs to and from the airport to your hotel
- Entertainment cost (Include admission costs to any events/sights you plan to attend. Include the names of the events/sights you are planning to see.)

Your Itinerary

You are going to create an itinerary in a Microsoft Word table. Use Day 1, Day 2, etc. as your headings, and then include a listing of what you are doing that day: where you are going that day, approximate time spent at a place/event, travel times, mealtimes, etc.

You can have as many rows and columns in your table as you need. Be sure to include a column in your table that explains why you chose a particular event or sight to visit. When you finish with your itinerary you will have a detailed schedule of exactly what you are going to do while in the country. Remember you are trying to sell your trip so be persuasive.

Organizing

Organize the following items in a thinking map using Inspiration Software or in a PowerPoint :

- **A list of the forms of transportation you plan to use while in your country. Include cost of each for your desired destination.**
- **Currency exchange: How will your US dollars exchange into your foreign currency? Will you have more or less buying power in your country?**
- **A list of difficulties that you may encounter while traveling in your country with your plans for dealing with those difficulties. Include at least 2 items, but some of you may have many more. Include these in your Word document under the heading**
- **A list of documents you need to take with you to be admitted into the country**
- **clothing and other specialty items you will have to have take with you. (What will help you to decide what clothing and specialty items you will need to take with you?)**

Below is a list of websites that will help you to start planning your trip:

[Maps of countries](#)

[Consular Information Sheet](#)

[US State Dept.: International Travel](#)- use links from this page

[Expedia](#)

[Travelocity](#)

[Hotels](#)

[CIA Factbook](#)

[Lonely Planet](#)

[Currency Calculator](#)

[Money exchange](#)

[Weather](#)

[The World Clock/ Time Zone Converter](#)

[Passports](#)

Do a Google search for these two words: *tourism* and *the name of your country and/or a city you are visiting*. Choose the link to a site that is by a reputable organization such as the China National Tourist Office.