

I'm sorry, what time does the tour start?

Practice asking questions and checking information.

1. Warm up

Ask and answer the following questions.

1. What kind of tours do you like?
2. Do you prefer bus tours or walking tours?
3. What tours have you taken before?
4. What kind of tours do you have in your town/city?

2. Reading

A. Read about three popular New Zealand tours and fill in the gaps with words from the box.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> tour guide | <input type="checkbox"/> visit | <input type="checkbox"/> accommodation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> attractions | <input type="checkbox"/> unique | <input type="checkbox"/> 360 degree |

- a. Visit New Zealand's tallest building and see 1. _____ views on the Sky Tower tour. Experience an exciting SkyWalk or SkyJump. You can stand at the edge of the tower 192 meters above the ground. You'll walk around the tower with your 2. _____ on the SkyWalk. Challenge yourself by jumping off the tower at 85kph for 11 seconds on the SkyJump. The SkyJump costs about \$180.
- b. Enjoy delicious local food and wine on the Waiheke Island Winery tour. You will 3. _____ an award-winning vineyard that offers gourmet food to enjoy with their wines. The tour leaves from the Auckland ferry building in the morning and in the afternoon. You will be returned to your 4. _____ by ferry. The Island Winery tour costs \$125 per person.
- c. Discover one of New Zealand's best natural 5. _____ on the Waitomo Glow-worm Cave tour. Explore an ancient world, 30 million years old, as you glide silently through the starry glow-worm caves by boat. This glow-worm is 6. _____ to New Zealand, making the Waitomo Glow-worm Caves an absolute must-do. The caves open early in the morning and the tour takes about ninety minutes.

B. Match the tours to the pictures.



C. Answer the questions about the tours. Write a, b, or c in the space provided.

1. _____ Which tour takes 1.5 hours?
2. _____ Which tour is for adults only? Why do you think that?
3. _____ Which tour has delicious food?
4. _____ Which tour has panoramic views?
5. _____ Which tour has a famous building?
6. _____ Which tour do you want/not want to do? Why and why not?

3. Asking Questions

A. Read the dialogue. Change roles and practice again.

- A Do you want to reserve a place on the Island Winery tour?
- B I'm sorry, could you speak more slowly, please?
- A Of course. Would you like the Island Winery tour?
- B Yes, please. I would like to book the tour for tomorrow. How much does it cost?
- A That's great! The Island Winery tour costs \$125 per person. Would you like the morning tour or the afternoon tour?
- B The afternoon tour, please. What time does it start?
- A The tour starts at half past two.
- B I'm sorry, could you say that again, please?
- A Sure. The tour starts at two-thirty.
- B And, what time does it finish?
- A The tour finishes at quarter to seven.
- B Excuse me, quarter past seven?
- A No, quarter to seven, in the evening.
- B Thank you. I have one more question. Where does the tour leave from?
- A The tour leaves from Pier B at the Auckland ferry building.

B. Write the three questions the tourist asked when he/she didn't understand what was said.

1. 3.
2.

C. Put the words in the correct order to form questions.

1. what / does / start / time / the tour ?
2. time / does / finish / it / what ?
3. cost / much / how / it / does ?
4. leave / from / where / does / it ?

D. Answer the questions about the conversation in Part 3A.

1. What time does the tour start?
.....
2. What time does the tour finish?
.....
3. How much does the tour cost for two people?
.....
4. Where does the tour leave from?
.....

4. Role-play (Student A)

Tourist Excuse me, could you give me some information about the _____ tour?

Tour Operator Of course! How can I help?

1. **Glow-worm Cave Tour**

Start time _____ Price _____

Finish time _____ Leaves from _____

2. **Sky Tower Tour**

Start time 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Price \$80 per person

Finish time 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Leaves from The lobby on the 1st floor

3. **Museum Tour**

Start time _____ Price _____

Finish time _____ Leaves from _____

4. **Bridge Bungy Jump**

Start time every hour from 10 a.m. Price \$165 for adults

Finish time 2 hours after it starts Leaves from the observation deck



4. Role-play (Student B)

Tourist Excuse me, could you give me some information about the _____ tour?

Tour Operator Of course! How can I help?

1. **Glow-worm Cave Tour**

Start time 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Price \$65 per person

Finish time 90 minutes after it starts Leaves from the front desk

2. **Sky Tower Tour**

Start time _____ Price _____

Finish time _____ Leaves from _____

3. **Museum Tour**

Start time every hour from 10 a.m. Price \$5 for adults, free for children

Finish time 2 hours after it starts Leaves from the gift shop near the entrance

4. **Bridge Bungy Jump**

Start time _____ Price _____

Finish time _____ Leaves from _____

I'm sorry, what time does the tour start?



Level: Elementary: A2

Updated: Nov 28, 2023

Language: Function: Asking and answering questions.
Forms: Present tense.

Target time: 90 minutes.

Overview: Students practice asking object questions through a series of activities based on a conversation with a tour operator. Particular attention is given to expressions that help students check and confirm information when they didn't hear or understand.

0. PREPARATION

Cut Page 3 in half, one half for Student A and the other for Student B. Each half should be distributed to students during the lesson. Consider not distributing the activity at the beginning of the class as students will compare and spoil the activity later.

1. WARM UP

A warm up activity helps set the mood for the topic/lesson and is a good opportunity to assess students' ability to generate language as well as elicit target vocabulary used in the lesson. If students struggle to engage with their partners, ask questions to encourage participation. Allow a few minutes for students to complete the activity and continue the conversation if interesting.

Elicit answers from students.

2. READING

- A. Read the missing words in the box and have students repeat after you to help with pronunciation and syllable stress. In pairs, students read about three tours and fill in the gaps with the words in the box. Have the student reading focus on pronunciation. The student listening can circle new words. Review new words with students after completing the reading.

1. 360 degree
2. tour guide
3. visit
4. accommodation
5. attractions
6. unique

- B. Students match the tours with the pictures. Check answers as a class.

- C. In pairs, students ask and answer the questions. Students can write a, b, or c next to numbers (1-6) in the space provided.

1. c. The Glowworm Cave tour takes 1.5 hours (90 minutes).
2. b. The Island Wine tour is for adults only. Children shouldn't drink alcohol.
3. a. The Island Wine tour has delicious food.
4. b. The Sky Tower tour has panoramic views.
5. c. The Sky Tower tour has a famous building.
6. Answers will vary. If time permits, students can share their chosen tour with the class and explain why.

3. ASKING QUESTIONS

- A. In pairs, students read the dialogue, change roles, and practice again. Answer any questions students have about vocabulary or meaning.

- B. Individually or in pairs, students scan the conversation, find, and write the three expressions the tourist used when he/she didn't understand what was said. Check answers with the class.

1. I'm sorry, could you speak more slowly please?
2. I'm sorry, could you say that again please?
3. Excuse me, quarter past seven? <repeat what was heard>

- C. Individually, students unscramble the words to form questions. Answer any questions that arise. If students struggle, suggest they review the dialogue again. Students can compare their answers with a partner and discuss any differences or check answers with the class.

1. What time does the tour start?
2. What time does it finish?
3. How much does it cost?
4. Where does it leave from?

- D. Individually, students answer the questions about the conversation. Encourage students to give full sentence answers. Students can compare their answers with a partner and discuss any differences or check answers with the class.

1. The tour starts at half past two (2:30).
2. The tour finishes at quarter to seven (6:45)
3. It costs \$250 for two people.
4. The tour leaves from Pier B at the Auckland Ferry Building.

4. ROLE-PLAY

Distribute the activity on Page 3 to student pairs. One will be Student A and the other Student B. In turns, students ask their partner about the missing tour information. The questions and answers have been reviewed in the handout so students should be able to ask and answer the questions with ease.

Explain that this is a good opportunity to practice responding to someone when they couldn't hear or didn't understand what was said. Encourage students to practice the expressions in Part 3B, even if they understood what their partner said.