Learning Pack

https://english-podcasts.com/a-few-days-in-new-york/

Introduction

As a language learner you need to be able to talk comfortably about past events, recent past events, current events, and future events…. in short, you have to be able to mix different grammatical tenses.

This Learning Pack consists of a podcast and worksheets which will help you do just that.

In this podcast Sue talks to Laura about her holiday in New York. Laura is almost at the end of her trip so you will notice that she uses the Past Tense to talk about what she did before her holiday, the Present Perfect tense to describe what she has done in the past few days and then the Present Continuous as a future to describe what she is doing later.

This Learning Pack is particularly suitable for Intermediate learners upwards.

You surely recognize this iconic building. Do you know how many floors (or storeys) it has ?

When was it built?

What is King Kong 's connection with the ESB ?

This statue needs no introduction! It is such an iconic symbol of the USA but it was a gift from France. It was designed by French sculptor Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi and its metal framework was built by Gustave Eiffel. The statue was dedicated on October 28, 1886.

1	**2**	**3**
WARM-UP	**LEARNING PLAN**	**QUIZ**
This is a key step in your learning experience. Do it before you listen.	Follow the step by step guide to maxims your learning experience.	Check your understanding of the podcast. Learn new vocabulary.

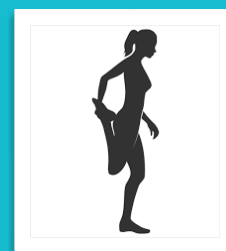| **4**	**5**	**6**	**7**
GRAMMAR	**TRANSCRIPT**	**ACTIVITES**	**FURTHER LINKS**
Focus on grammar and vocabulary you will hear in the podcast.	Use the transcript to pinpoint words you didn't hear clearly.	Expand your speaking skills by doing these guided activities.	Get curious! Look outside the podcast and expand your knowledge.

WARM UP: BEFORE YOU LISTEN TO THE PODCAST THINK ABOUT THE PROBABLE VOCABULARY YOU WILL HEAR. THESE QUESTIONS WILL HELP YOU:

How do people usually describe New York ? What kind of adjectives do they use ?

Can you name any of the iconic monuments in NYC? How would you describe them?

Can you think of difference between British and American English?

LESSON PLAN

Do the Warm Up to activate your knowledge and start to focus on necessary vocabulary.

Your main objective is to listen to how Laura and notice the different grammatical tenses she uses quite naturally.

Read the transcripts and complete the blanks in your understanding.

Finally, do the activities (preferably with a partner). Follow up and build your vocabulary with the links.

COMPREHENSION QUIZ

You will find the full quiz at the end of the Learning Pack, but first focus on these questions:

1. Where are Sue and Laura exactly during the podcast? What are they eating ?

2. What does Laura say is her top tip for a tourist visit ?

3. Which site was she a little disappointed with?

FOCUS ON GRAMMAR THIS PODCAST FOCUSES A LOT ON THE PRESENT PERFECT TENSE. LOOK AT THIS EXAMPLE:

* more grammar exercises are available at the end of this Learning Pack.

* I've done many things. (notice how Sue and Laura always use the contraction of the auxially « have »).

* I've been to see the Empire State Building.   I've spoken to some New Yorkers.

* I've taken a few cabs.   You've done so much.

TRANSCRIPT:

You can check your comprehension with the transcript. You will find the transcript at the end of the Learning Pack.

1. Pay attention to the words you have seen in the Focus on Grammar and Vocabulary section. Are these words new ? How can you use them in your conversation?

2. Listen again to the podcast and try to identify words that you didn't hear in the first time you listened.

3. Focus on words that you find difficult to pronounce. Repeat them until you feel comfortable with them.

ACTIVITES)HAVE YOU ALREADY BEEN TO NEW YORK ? IF SO, DESCRIBE IT TO YOUR PARTNER. IF NOT, DESCRIBE ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE MOVIES OR BOOKS WHICH IS SET IN NEW YORK. WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE BIG APPLE THROUGH MOVIES AND BOOKS?

1. Laura wasn't very keen on the food! This Learning Pack includes an American menu, take a look at it and imagine what you would order.

2. What about transport ? How would you get around New York ? Take a look at the Subway map and explain to your partner how to get from station to another.

3. Do the New York Skyline Quiz at the end of the podcast.

FURTHER LINKS….. GET CURIOUS !

(i) Listen to this YouTube Blog about the top 10 visits in NYC. The accent is American : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NALXQ5hkQ5I

(ii) What do you know about Ellis Island and American history? Check out this National Geographic explanation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HGkqh-iwS28

(iii) Laura mentioned the High Line. Check out this TED Talk in which one of the founders describes how it was set up; https://www.ted.com/talks/dan_barasch_a_park_underneath_the_hustle_and_bustle_of_new_york_city/transcript