

A2.6 Holidays - Handout

- 1 The topic is introduced through these four short readings about successful and unsuccessful holidays. The first will be very familiar to British people – a holiday in the U.K. spoilt by the weather. The second in San Francisco is very much more successful. The only negative comment being about jetlag. The third in Holland is the only description that is totally positive. The fourth in Tunisia is also very negative, about the hotel food and problems with excursions. The descriptions can, as usual, be read aloud. Firstly by the native speaker to provide a model then by the learner for pronunciation practice. The readings are also designed to provide some ideas for the short writing task at the end, which is writing a letter of complaint about a terrible holiday experience.
- 2 These questions to personalise the discussion might lead to vocabulary occurring which may be useful in the later activities, such as: *five star hotel, caravanning, cheap, expensive, tourist attraction, overbooked, delays* etc..
- 3 Some points that should come up in this discussion are related to the kind of holiday that might suit: a single female traveller (Brigid); a pregnant lady, her partner and large dog, unless he can be found temporary alternative accommodation (Tom, Mandy and Rex); a young couple, who are possibly students (Matt and Amy); and a single mother with a young child (Jill and Ann). The language will involve some use of modal verbs and hypothetical language as you will be speculating with your partner – "*I think Brigid would/might/may enjoy...*".
- 4 This email is more informal than an email complaining to an organisation (as it is to a friend) and is similar to the examples in the first activity.