



HELLO!

I HAVE MISSED YOU! WELCOME TO MY FIRST NEWSLETTER.

Hope you've had a lovely summer and got some well-deserved rest away from the office. I am alive and well and as of this Wednesday I am officially a resident of Vienna - I now have a Meldezettel!

With these monthly newsletters I'd like to help you maintain your level of English, have fun and keep the Berlin/Brandenburg-Vienna connection alive.

LET'S START WITH: SOME SUMMER-RELATED VOCABULARY

get away from it all

if you get away from it all, you go on a holiday that is very different from your usual everyday work and life routine

- He was hoping to **get away from it all** but in the end he couldn't take any time off work.
- **get-away-from-it-all** holiday

Indian summer

a period of warm weather in autumn (Altweibersommer)

mocktail

a cocktail which doesn't contain any alcohol

- The guests enjoyed a menu of healthy snacks and **mocktails**

staycation

a holiday in which you stay at home and visit places near to where you live, or a holiday in your own country

- Although I live in Brandenburg, I don't always manage to enjoy all it has to offer because of my busy job but I had a lovely time during my spring **staycation**.



Think about how you could use the above words in a sentence of your own. Remember: you only start remembering a new word once you have used it in your own sentence.



Here's where I live now, by the way. (4 km from my apartment, a short, not-so-easy bike ride)

HERE ARE TWO VIDEOS TO WATCH THIS SUMMER:

"Why I'm a weekday vegetarian"

#authentic video #easy topic #short (05:45) #good for improving food and lifestyle vocabulary

www.ted.com/talks/graham_hill_weekday_vegetarian

"Your body language may shape who you are"

#authentic video #easy topic #medium long (21:02) #good for general vocabulary

www.ted.com/talks/amy_cuddy_your_body_language_shapes_who_you_are



Try to watch the videos without subtitles.

Why not watch it twice for a better understanding as well?

HERE'S SOME LIGHT SUMMER READING:

"New Danger: The Bottom of your Shoes"

#basic level #easy topic #good for improving general English vocabulary

www.thetimesinplainenglish.com/new-danger-the-bottom-of-your-shoes/

"More People Are Allergic to Peanuts, Why?"

#basic level #easy topic #good for improving general English vocabulary

www.thetimesinplainenglish.com/more-people-are-allergic-to-peanuts-why/

"How to Take Care of Your Clothes"

#advanced level #easy topic #good for improving every-day vocabulary

www.nytimes.com/guides/t-magazine/how-to-take-care-of-your-clothes

"The United States in shambles"

#advanced level #medium topic #good for politics vocabulary

international.sueddeutsche.de/post/163671224790/the-united-states-in-shambles

"Fidelity Says Retirees Need \$275,000 Just For Health Expenses"

#advanced level #medium topic #good for business English vocabulary

www.forbes.com/sites/ashleaebeling/2017/08/24/fidelity-says-retirees-need-275000-just-for-health-expenses/#29a6a8798c29



Try to read the articles without a dictionary for the first reading. And if you want, read the texts again and underline 5-10 new words/phrases. Then copy this new vocabulary somewhere (your notebook, a vocabulary learning app or flashcards)

SHORT GRAMMAR LESSON FUN

PRESENT PERFECT

When you talk about your summer holidays it sounds very good and very natural if you know how to use the Present Perfect Tense correctly. This grammar helps you to describe your holiday experiences and things that were new to you.

I've eaten ants!

We've seen the tallest building in the world.

I've met some very interesting people.

STRUCTURE

😎 + have/has + 3rd form of the verb ...

Have/has + 😎 + 3rd form of the verb ... ?



Do not use specific past time reference in your sentence:

- I've eaten ants last week! ❌
- I've eaten ants! ✅

PRACTICE



Complete these sentences:

1. I _____ (visit) the most beautiful city ever.
2. We _____ (have) some problems with our car, unfortunately.
3. We _____ (see) many interesting old buildings.
4. _____ you _____ (taste) some local wines?
5. What's the best restaurant you _____ (visit) this summer?
6. We _____ (speak) to some locals.

KEY

1. I've visited the most beautiful city ever.
2. We've had some problems with our car, unfortunately.
3. We've seen many interesting old buildings.
4. Have you tasted some local wines?
5. What's the best restaurant you've visited this summer?
6. We've spoken to some locals.



“Travelling with kids: Your child will get sick the day you leave - likely with an illness that involves puking or requires antibiotics, or maybe both.”

MURPHY'S LAW