

Level: B2: Upper Intermediate

Skill: Reading

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## Solo Trip

### Julia

I recently went on a solo trip to New Zealand and it was one of the best experiences of my life. Travelling alone gave me the opportunity to discover new things about myself and gain a sense of independence that I had never felt before. I was able to make all the decisions about where to go and what to do, and this freedom was incredibly liberating. I met so many interesting people along the way, both locals and fellow travellers, and I found that being alone actually made me more open to socialising with others. I also had the chance to really immerse myself in the culture of the country, as I was forced to interact with the locals and learn about their way of life. Of course, there were times when I felt a bit lonely or scared, but these moments were far outweighed by the positive aspects of the trip. I would definitely recommend travelling alone to anyone who is considering it – you won't regret it!

### Maria

I have mixed feelings about travelling alone. On the one hand, I can see why some people find it empowering and exciting. When you're on your own, you're more likely to meet new people and step outside your comfort zone. However, there are also a lot of downsides to travelling solo. For example, eating alone in restaurants or going to the cinema by yourself can be quite depressing. It's also nice to have someone to share the experience with, especially if something amazing happens. I remember when I was travelling in Mexico with a friend, we saw a double rainbow and it was such a beautiful moment – I don't think it would have been as special if I had been on my own. In conclusion, while I can appreciate the benefits of travelling alone, I personally prefer to travel with others.

### David

I can understand why some people enjoy travelling alone, but personally, I much prefer going away with friends or family. For me, the whole point of travelling is to share experiences with the people you care about. When I'm on holiday, I love being able to relax and have fun with my loved ones, and I think that this is something that you just can't do in the same way when you're on your own. It's great to be able to reminisce about past trips and look forward to future ones together. Another reason why I don't like travelling alone is because it can sometimes be dangerous, especially if you're a woman. There are certain situations that are best avoided if you're on your own, such as walking alone at night or getting into unlicensed taxis. Overall, I believe that travelling with others is not only safer, but also more enjoyable.

### Mark

I'm not really a fan of travelling at all, whether it's alone or with other people. I find the whole process of planning and organising a trip incredibly stressful, and I hate the feeling of being away from home. I'm also quite a shy person, so I find it difficult to strike up conversations with strangers, which makes travelling alone even more uncomfortable. The only type of travel that I enjoy is going on short city breaks with my partner, as these trips tend to be less overwhelming than longer holidays. However, given the choice, I would always choose to stay at home rather than go away somewhere.



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**Choose the correct answer.**

What does Julia mention as one of the positive aspects of travelling alone?

Feeling safer when exploring new places.

Having someone to share experiences with.

Making all decisions independently.

Avoiding interaction with locals.

**According to David, why does he prefer travelling with friends or family?**

To have more independence.

To avoid feeling lonely.

To immerse himself in local culture.

To experience new things alone.

**Why does Maria have mixed feelings about travelling alone?**

She finds it empowering and exciting.

She dislikes sharing experiences with others.

She enjoys eating alone in restaurants.

She values having someone to share special moments with.

**What does Mark dislike about the process of travelling?**

Planning and organizing trips.

Striking up conversations with strangers.

Going on short city breaks.

Feeling comfortable when away from home.

