

Names:		

Objective: To read and understand a text about solo travel.

1. **Warm Up:** Answer orally the following questions:

- Do you like to travel?
- What places have you been to?
- When you travel, who do you usually go with?

2. **Before Read:** Read the title and look at the picture. Based on them, type your answer to the question.

READING

GOING SOLO IS THE WAY TO GO!



What do you think the article will be about?

3. **Read for gist.** [Listen](#)/Read the article quickly. What is the author writing about?

READING

GOING SOLO IS THE WAY TO GO!

How do you usually travel? Do you normally go somewhere with your family, a close friend, or a group of friends? Do you like joining a tour group where someone else makes the schedule?

Have you ever thought about "going solo"? In recent years, more and more people have started striking out on their own. A recent travel report found that a quarter of all travelers are planning a solo trip this year, and, interestingly, 84% of solo travelers are women.

You may think that traveling alone would be scary or boring, but according to people who do it, that's not exactly true. Though solo travelers have to plan their own itineraries and deal with travel requirements like applying for visas alone, they often have positive experiences and make new friends. Many enjoy booking the flights and hotels of their choosing, and when planning and packing for the journey, they only need to worry about their own wants and needs.

There are many different things you can do on a vacation alone. Some solo travelers use the time to learn or practice an outdoor activity, such as golf, mountain climbing, or scuba diving. You can even go and stay on a ranch and learn how to ride a horse. Why not pretend to be a cowboy or cowgirl for a day?

You may not believe this, but some travelers like to study on their vacations. They even go to "vacation college" at a university or join a research team as a volunteer worker. This allows them to "play scientist" for a week or two while helping someone with his or her project. It can be hard work, but it's also very satisfying.

For solo travelers of different ages and genders, there are many travel options. There are tours for women only and for people over the age of sixty. And, of course, there are trips for singles who are looking to meet someone special. One company offers trips that focus on fine dining—there is time for sightseeing during the day and for sharing delicious meals with new friends at night.

So, for your next vacation, if you haven't considered going solo, think about it.

Bon voyage!

a.	The advantages of traveling alone.	
b.	Memories of traveling alone	
c.	The costs of traveling alone	

4. Read the article again. Which of the items does it mention about solo travel? Check (✓) your answers.

1	The cost of travel	
2	Women traveling alone	
3	Preparing for a solo journey	
4	Getting travel insurance	
5	Learning new outdoor activities	
6	Study vacations	
7	Packing carry-on luggage	
8	Making new friends	

5. Guess meaning from context. Circle words and expressions in the text with the following meanings. Then compare your answers with a partner's.

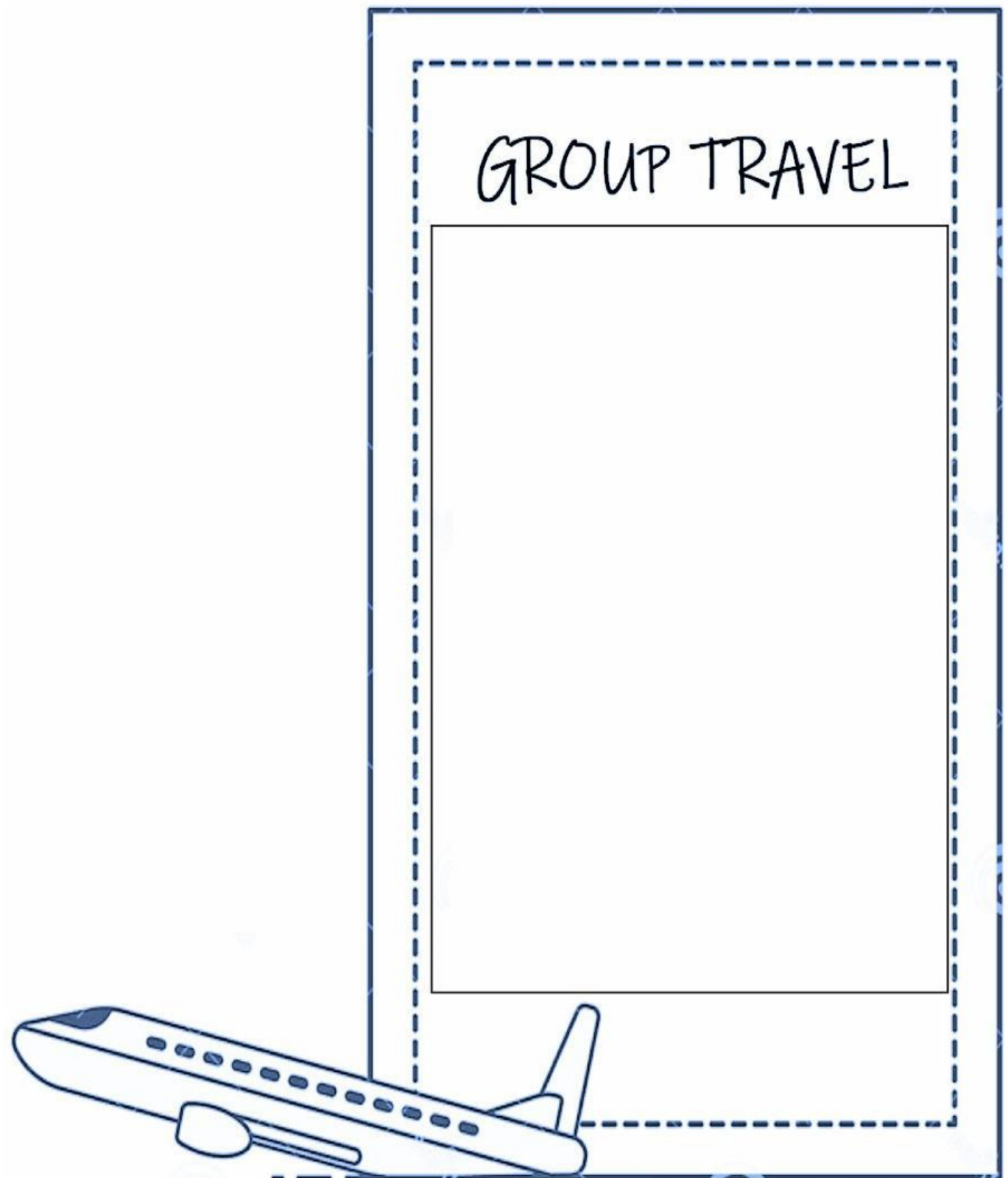
		Word/Expression
1	Doing something new without other people	
2	Things you need to have or do in order to travel somewhere	
3	A large type of farm with many cows and horses (usually in the US or Australia)	
4	Pretend to be someone whose job is to study and do research	
5	Unmarried people	

6. Think critically.

1. Make a list of the advantages of traveling solo. Use ideas from the article and add some of your own.

SOLO TRAVEL

2. Make a list of the advantages of traveling with a group, using your own ideas.



3. Compare your lists and decide which is better: traveling solo or in groups. Present the conclusion to the class and give your reasons.