

Activity Name: Nangangatok
SDG: 10 Reduce inequalities

Aims

- To foster interest in the culture of the Philippines.
- To value different cultures, respecting differences and detecting similarities with their own culture.
- To develop pair work skills, exchange opinions and make decisions together.
- To develop critical thinking.

Language focus

- To read and understand texts based on a traditional Philippine tale.
- To infer the meaning of new words and expressions from the context.
- To use vocabulary related to travel, living, home and the environment.
- To relate ideas from a text with personal experiences.
- To narrate events using present and past tenses.

Creative focus

- To use digital tools to create a blog post.

Level: A2+

Age: 11–14

Time: 150 minutes

Preparation

- Activities should be preceded by the understanding of the use of the simple and continuous tenses of present and past.
- Computers for pair work and Internet access are required.

Procedure

Pre-reading (30 minutes)

- We start with a warm-up activity to work on the main vocabulary related to the story and to travelling. The activity is designed following the television programme *Pasapalabra*, where students must guess the right word with the help of the first letter and its definition (see Annex 1).

- Next, we read specific information about a town in the Philippines as if it were a place to visit (see Annex 2). It is the town where the protagonist of the story stays. This information will serve as a reference for students to create their own blog later.

Main task (60 minutes)

- Students read the tale aloud in class. The teacher works with them on complex vocabulary by asking them to write sentences where this vocabulary is used in specific contexts: *backpacking; worth seeing; mountainside; locals; tour map; doorbell; hallways; ward off; sharp; overkill; prank*.
- When the tale is understood, a debate with the following questions will follow:
 - 1) *What kind of travelling does this person enjoy? Is he or she spending a lot of money on luxurious accommodation?*
 - 2) *Why is it common in this town to put dangerous objects by the main door?*
 - 3) *Is this person feeling afraid of local people or does he or she think that they are cool and fancy? Why do you think so?*
 - 4) *At the end of the story, this person hears something or someone knocking at the door. How could you explain it? Is it a prank? Is it a devil spirit?*
 - 5) *If you were in a similar town full of superstitious people, how would you react? Would you believe the stories they tell?*
 - 6) *Do you know any story of that kind? Are you superstitious?*

By the last questions being more subjective, students will share different opinions, hypotheses and ideas.

Post-task (60 minutes)

- In a classroom equipped with computers and Internet access, we ask students to work in pairs and write their own travel blog post, following the structure of the

text in Annex 2 and the tale itself. They need to explain and describe the places they would visit, how they would behave in similar situations, etc. They can also write personal experiences from a real trip (see Annex 3). The blog post will be created on a blogging platform like *Blogspot, Wordpress...*

Follow-up

Students will be encouraged to take an active and participative role in the class, producing as much output as possible and relating contents to their environment or to familiar situations. Evaluation will be based on direct observation during classwork. In the final blog spot activity, language use according to their level as well as creativity are to be assessed

Additional resources

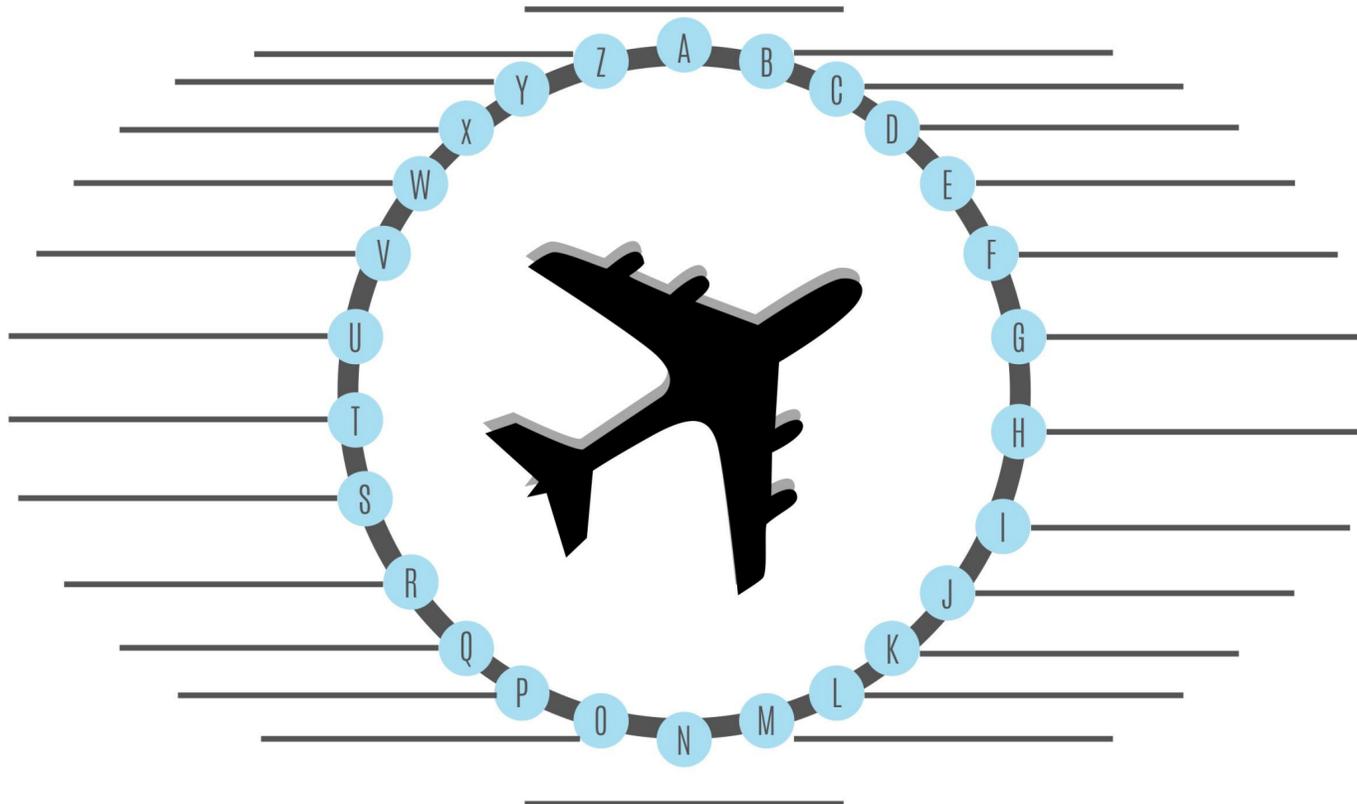


Nangangatok

PRE-READING



1. Let's play Pasapalabra. You need to discover the following 26 words that will help you to plan your trip to Philippines!



- | | |
|---|---|
| A A place that has facilities for the landing and takeoff of a plane when you want to travel. | N The mixture of elements that are found in the natural world, such as mountains, trees, animals, rivers, etc. |
| B To go on a hike or travel using a backpack. | O Vast surface made of salt water that covers most of the Earth's surface (There are 5: Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic and Antarctic) |
| C The mixture of arts, manners, customs and habits of a certain civilization. | P Official document that allows you to travel to foreign countries. This document verifies your origin and the place you come from. |
| D A person who drives a vehicle. | Q When something happens fast or rapidly is... (Opposite of slow) |
| E Last part of something. All the trips have a beginning and also an... | R Natural stream of water that flows in channels. |
| F Act of flying. Trip done by plane. | S Season between spring and autumn in which the weather is usually very hot and sunny. |
| G The person who helps and accompanies tourists that are discovering a place. (By narrating the history, giving directions, recommendations) | T A person who is travelling for pleasure is usually called this way. |
| H A building in where you can stay, rest and sleep when you are travelling to a different place. | U Instrument you need to use to cover and protect you from the rain. |
| I Knowledge about a particular circumstance. When you are informing, you are giving... | V A device by which someone is carried (synonym of automobile). |
| J When you travel to another place, you are taking a ... (Synonym of trip) | W Weather characterised by a of of wind. |
| K A small metal instrument that you use to open a closed door. | X (Includes the x) Journey or trip that you take to discover, visit or explore a specific place. |
| L Something pertaining to a city, town, district or neighbourhood. | Y (Includes the y) Weather characterised by the warm and direct rays of the sun. |
| M A representation or drawing on paper of parts, features, names, information of a place. | Z An African animal similar to a horse that has black and white stripes and lines in their fur/hair. |

2. Now you are ready to plan your own trip. You look for information to know a little bit about your destination. You are travelling to Manila City, which is in Philippines. This is something that you have found.



TRAVELLING BLOG: MAKE A TRIP TO HEAL YOUR SOUL



Manila



Manila is the capital city of Philippines. It is the centre of the country's economic, political, social and cultural activity.

Located on the island of Luzon, it is the most populous city in the Philippines Islands. There are around 1,780,148 people in this city.

The streets are alive with colorful jeepneys, rumbling buses and sleek automobiles. In old sections of Manila like Intramuros (the old walled city) and Chinatown, clip-clopping horse-drawn carriages pick their way through traffic.

Premier gateway to the many islands and tourist destinations north and south of the Philippines, Metro Manila has its own share of attractions to suit almost every interest.

And everywhere, a friendly, festive people who smile readily, adore music and love to welcome visitors with their world-famous brand of hospitality.



Do not forget to follow us in all social media. Give us a thumbs-up!

<http://www.manila.ph/manila/info/intro01.html>

READING

3. Read the following blog post you have found. This person is travelling to your same destination! It is quite interesting because this will show you another point of view of the place you are visiting and you can discover new things before going there.

N A N G A N G A T O K

A lot of people don't have the best impression of backpacking, but there are a lot of things worth seeing. Once you get off the regular roads, away from all the tourists and really settle down in the rhythm of the local life you'll discover just how much it has to offer.

I went to a small town not far from Manila to start my journey in the Philippines. After a few misadventures with some buses and some jeepneys**, I stopped by this tiny community on the edge of a mountainside called Sta. Montinola. I was hungry so the moment I saw a Bulalo*** shop, I dropped my bags and did my best to interact with the locals.

They were very kind people, they told me all about the places I should visit around their town. The hot spring, the mountainside and the beautiful river were all wonderful surprises. This is why I enjoy backpacking. You get to see sights that aren't on any tour map or travel blog. You get to see the beauty of the area on your own.

The town itself had very interesting architecture. I was about to knock on a door when a local grabbed my hand and stopped me. He explained that the door was covered in bubog (broken glass) and that I should use the doorbell instead. I asked why they would put something so dangerous on a door and if it causes accidents but the local just said that that's the way they do things in this town, it helps people live longer.

The doors seem to be covered with dangerous things. In my hotel there are some nails attached to the front of all the doors in the hallways. I asked the manager about this strange tradition and she said it was to ward off evil spirits. She told me that they would never open a door to anyone that doesn't use the doorbell.

It seems like an odd thing to do in a town and very dangerous. I don't want to think about all the accidents that might happen with those sharp things on the doors. It just seems overkill.

But I don't want to judge the locals. They're very friendly people and it seems to be working out for them. They even gave me a schedule of when I should go up the river so I can see the sunset.

I should sleep early tonight so I can get a head start, but someone keeps knocking on my door. I think it's a prank by one of the local kids because every time I open the door no one's there.

I'll talk to the manager about it in the morning.

* Invisible spirits who knock at people's doors where misfortune will happen. They are evil spirits that bring bad luck.

** Sometimes called simply jeeps (Filipino: dyip), are the most popular means of public transportation in the Philippines.

*** Bulalo is a Filipino stew made from beef shanks and marrow bones.

POST - READING

4. Do you know the meaning of all the underlined words? Can you write sentences using these words? Let's see if you know how to use them.

Backpacking:

Worth seeing:

Mountainside:

Locals:

Tour map:

Doorbell:

Hallways:

Ward off:

Sharp:

Overkill:

Prank:

5. Let's debate on the following questions to understand better the situation that this person is narrating in the blog.

- What kind of travelling does this person enjoy? Is he or she spending a lot of money on luxurious stuff?
- Why is it common in this town to put dangerous elements in the entrance doors?
- Is this person feeling afraid of the local people or does she / he think they are cool and fancy? Why do you think so?

- At the end, this person explains that he / she hears how something or someone is knocking at the door. How could you explain it? Is it a prank? Is it a devil spirit? What do you think?
- If you were in that situation, in a town full of superstitious people, how would you react? Would you believe the stories they tell?
- Do you know any story of that kind? Are you superstitious?

6. WRITING ACTIVITY

You have read this post and you have changed your mind. Maybe you don't want to visit that mysterious place now. Do you? Maybe strange things start to happen to you when you are there! Where are you travelling then? Write your own post describing the kind of trip you want to do, what you will visit, how you will behave according to the customs and the culture of the destination of your choice.

You can also write the post on a real trip that you have done recently! Maybe you can tell your own experience and adventures on a real place that you have already visited.

Work in pairs to write an amazing blog post. And remember, try to be creative. This is an online blog and it should be read by a lot of people, so the more original, the better.

By the way, you have learnt a lot of new vocabulary regarding travelling and holidays. Use these words in your blog post! ;)