

**Type of activity:** individual and pair work

**Focus:** expressing likes and dislikes, vocabulary connected with holidays, reading and speaking skills, writing skills (optional)

**Level:** pre-intermediate - upper-intermediate; upper secondary

**Time:** 45 minutes

**Preparation:** Make a copy of the Student's Worksheet 1 for each student and Student's Worksheet 2 for each pair.

### Procedure:

1. On the board draw pictures or symbols of the best three activities you did during your summer holidays, e.g. waves for *swimming in the sea*, a CD for *listening to a great album*, a tower for *visiting a castle*. Ask students to guess what the activities were, based on the pictures you have drawn. Students then repeat the guessing game in pairs by drawing pictures of their own favourite activities of the past summer and guessing their partner's choices.

2. Explain that in today's lesson students are going to learn about an alternative way of spending summer holidays. Give each student a copy of Student's Worksheet 1. In pairs, students discuss what a *staycation* might be and then read the text to check their ideas. They should ignore the gaps in the article at this point.

3. Individually, students read the text again, and this time they complete it using the words in the box. When students have finished, they compare their answers in pairs. Check the answers with the whole class.

**Answers:** 1. holidays, 2. phenomenon, 3. costs, 4. relaxing, 5. holidaymakers, 6. waste, 7. photos, 8. break, 9. advice, 10. daily

4. Divide the class into pairs. Give each pair a copy of Student's Worksheet 2 with ideas for a successful staycation. Students should work together and rate the activities 1-5 depending on how much these would appeal to them if they decided on a staycation. They should justify their choices. If the students in any pair have opposing views about a particular activity, they have to compromise by rating that activity as 3 or try to convince the other person to share their opinion.

Write the following phrases on the board for students to use in their discussion:

Expressing likes	Expressing dislikes
<i>I'm a big fan of ...</i>	<i>I'm not a big fan of ...</i>
<i>I'm really into ...</i>	<i>I'm not too keen on ...</i>
<i>I'm particularly fond of...</i>	<i>It doesn't appeal to me ...</i>
<i>I'm absolutely crazy about ...</i>	<i>I can't stand ...</i>

5. Find out from different pairs which activities they rated the highest and the lowest. Ask them to justify their opinions.

6. In the same pairs, students come up with five more activities for a great staycation and exchange their worksheets with another pair. They then rate the ideas they received and give feedback to the pair who came up with them.

### Extension:

Students write an article about another alternative type of holiday, e.g. *couchsurfing*, *work&travel* or *naycation*. Encourage them to do their research online and to model their text on the article from Student's Worksheet 1.