



Going Through Customs

**DIALOGUE - Going Through Customs**

(Mr. Jacques Lepac arrives from Paris to Chicago).

CBP (Customs and Border Patrol) Officer: Welcome to the United States. Can I see your I-94 form, please?

Mr. Lepac: I'm sorry, my what?

CBP Officer: Your I-94 form. It's the white Arrival/Departure form a flight attendant gave you on the plane.

Mr. Lepac: Oh, yes, the one with my name and the address of where I'm staying in the U.S. (hands it to CBP Officer).

CBP Officer: Why are you visiting the United States, Mr. Lepac?

Mr. Lepac: On business.

CBP Officer: What type of business are you in?

Mr. Lepac: I'm in sales. I sell computers.

CBP Officer: Do you have any documentation from your company?

Mr. Lepac: Yes, here is my business card.

CBP Officer: What will you be doing in the United States, Mr. Lepac?

Mr. Lepac: I'm attending a company meeting at our office in downtown Chicago.

CBP Officer: How long will you be here?

Mr. Lepac: One week. I'll be participating in meetings through Friday and then will catch up with a friend for the weekend. I will return to France on Sunday.

CBP Officer: I see. Where will you be staying while you're in the country?

Mr. Lepac: I'll be at the New Continental Hotel.

CBP Officer: Have you been to the United States before?

Mr. Lepac: No, this is my first trip to this country.

CBP Officer: Can I see your passport, please?

Mr. Lepac: Sure. I have my passport right here.

CBP Officer: I'll stamp that for you. I'll also need to see your customs declaration form.

Mr. Lepac: I don't have anything to declare. I haven't brought anything other than my clothes with me.

CBP Officer: All of your paperwork is in order, Mr. Lepac. Keep your documents with you at all times. Have a good visit.

Mr. Lepac: Thank you.

**VOCABULARY CHECK - MATCHING**

Match the words and phrases in the left column with the descriptions in the right column.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. I-94 form _____ | A. a small card containing information about a company's employee |
| 2. customs declaration form _____ | B. a government-issued document that is required to exit and enter other countries |
| 3. business card _____ | C. another name for the I-94; the form contains basic information and the address where the person is staying while visiting. |
| 4. passport _____ | D. a white form given on the airplane |
| 5. arrival / departure form _____ | E. all paperwork required while visiting another country |
| 6. documents _____ | F. a form that asks a person what items are being brought into the country and how much money was spent on items while visiting another country |

**VOCABULARY CHECK - FILL IN THE BLANK**

Choose the correct verb from the list below to complete the sentences. You may need to change the form of the verb to make sure the sentence is grammatically correct.

distribute	attend	catch up with	bring
stay	participate	stamp	declare

1. The immigration officer _____ the visitor's passport with an official imprint that allowed entry into the United States.
2. When Kelly returned from her trip to Paris, she _____ she spent 500 dollars on souvenirs for her family.
3. I _____ an extra suitcase to Los Angeles so I could buy clothes in the many famous stores there.
4. The flight attendant _____ the forms and asked us to fill them out before we went through customs.
5. Janean _____ with her friends in Minneapolis, but spent the night at a hotel when she arrived back in Duluth.
6. Many of Michael's friends still live in California where they went to school so he _____ them when he went to his college class reunion.
7. Jonah _____ an orientation before traveling to the United States so he would know what to expect when he went overseas.
8. Nicolas is going to a sales meeting where he will _____ in many training sessions and meetings.



CONVERSATION STARTER

Put the following pictures in chronological order. Then work with a partner to practice what the people are saying in each picture.

Describing business

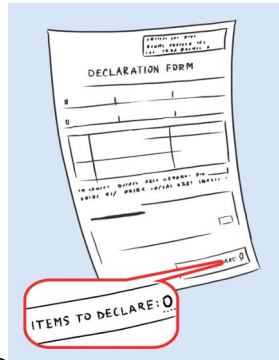
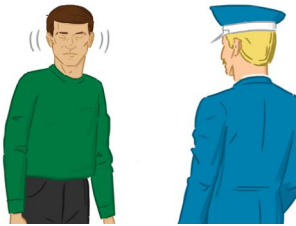


o



A. _____

Items to declare



B. _____

Showing I-94 form



C. _____

Showing passport

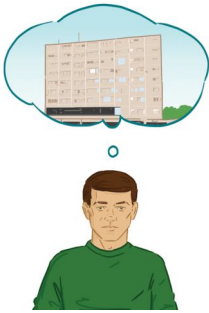


D. _____



CONVERSATION STARTER - continued

Describing accommodations



E. _____

Arriving at customs



F. _____

Returning documents



G. _____

Stamping passport



H. _____

Showing business card



I. _____

**DIALOGUE BUILDING**

ESL Lesson Plans - Traveling in English - Customs

Fill in the blanks using the vocabulary from the dialogue. Then put the sentences in the correct order to form a dialogue.

- ___ a) On _____.
- ___ b) I'm _____ a company meeting at our office in downtown Chicago.
- ___ c) _____ to the United States.
- ___ d) Can I see your _____ form, please?
- ___ e) I'm _____, my what?
- ___ f) One week. I'll be _____ in meetings through Friday and then will catch up with a friend for the weekend. I will return to France on Sunday.
- ___ g) Your I-94 _____. It's the white _____ form a flight attendant gave you on the plane.
- ___ h) Oh, yes, the one with my name and the _____ of where I'm staying in the U.S.
- ___ i) I see. Where will you be _____ while you're in the country?
- ___ j) Why are you _____ the United States, Mr. Lepac?
- ___ k) What type of _____ are you in?
- ___ l) What will you be _____ in the United States, Mr. Lepac?
- ___ m) Yes, here is my _____ card.
- ___ n) I'll _____ that for you. I'll also need to see your customs declaration form.
- ___ o) How _____ will you be here?
- ___ p) Can I see your _____, please?
- ___ q) Do you have any _____ from your company?
- ___ r) I'll be at the New Continental Hotel.
- ___ s) I'm in _____. I sell computers.
- ___ t) Have you been to the United States _____?
- ___ u) I don't have anything to _____. I haven't brought anything other than my clothes with me.
- ___ v) No, this is my _____ trip to this country.
- ___ w) Sure. I have my _____ right here.
- ___ x) All of your paperwork is in order, Mr. Lepac. Keep your _____ with you at all times. Have a good visit.
- ___ y) Thank you.

**DIALOGUE PRACTICE**

Read the dialogue from the fill-in-the-blank exercise on the previous page. Practice for intonation, pronunciation, and elision.

DIALOGUE COMPREHENSION - Matching

How does Mr. Lepac answer each of the following questions?

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Can I see your I-94 form, please? | A. No, this is my first trip. |
| 2. Why are you visiting the United States, Mr. Lepac? | B. Sure. I have my passport right here. |
| 3. What type of business are you in? | C. One week. |
| 4. Do you have any documentation from your company? | D. On business. |
| 5. What will you be doing in the United States? | E. I'll be at the New Continental Hotel. |
| 6. How long will you be here? | F. I'm in sales. |
| 7. Where will you be staying? | G. I'm attending a company meeting. |
| 8. Have you been to the United States before? | H. I'm sorry, my what? |
| 9. Can I see your passport, please? | I. Yes, here is my business card. |


DIALOGUE PRACTICE

Look at the question cards below. Ask your partner one of the questions from the dialogue and wait for the response. Then have your partner ask you a question. Respond appropriately.

How long will you be here?	Can I see your I-94 form?
Why are you visiting the United States?	What type of business are you in?
Do you have any documentation from your company?	What will you be doing in the United States?
How long will you be here?	Where will you be staying while you're in the country?
Have you been to the United States before?	Can I see your passport?

**WRITING TASK - (Option A - Without Images)**

What country have you always wanted to visit? Imagine you are visiting that country. Write a dialogue by answering the CBP Officer's questions. Fill in the answers for the country you're visiting and the reasons you are there.

Then practice the dialogue with a partner. Consider changing some of your answers. For example, practice declaring items on the customs form or traveling to the country on vacation rather than business.

CBP Officer: Welcome to the _____ . Can I see your I-94 form?

You: _____ .

CBP Officer: Why are you visiting _____ ?

You: _____ .

CBP Officer: What type of business are you in?

You: _____ .

CBP Officer: What will you be doing in _____ ?

You: _____ .

CBP Officer: How long will you be here?

You: _____ .

CBP Officer: Where will you be staying while you're in _____ ?

You: _____ .

CBP Officer: Have you been to _____ before?

You: _____ .

CBP Officer: Can I see your passport, please?

You: _____ .

CBP Officer: Do you have anything to declare on your customs declaration form?

You: _____ .



WRITING TASK - (Option B - With Images)

What country have you always wanted to visit? Imagine you are visiting that country. Write a dialogue by answering the CBP Officer's questions. Fill in the answers for the country you're visiting and the reasons you are there.

Then practice the dialogue with a partner. Consider changing some of your answers. For example, practice declaring items on the customs form or traveling to the country on vacation rather than business.

Welcome to the _____.
Can I see your I-94 form?

You: _____

Why are you visiting _____?
_____?

You: _____

What type of business are you in?

You: _____

What will you be doing in _____?

You: _____



WRITING TASK - (Option B) - continued



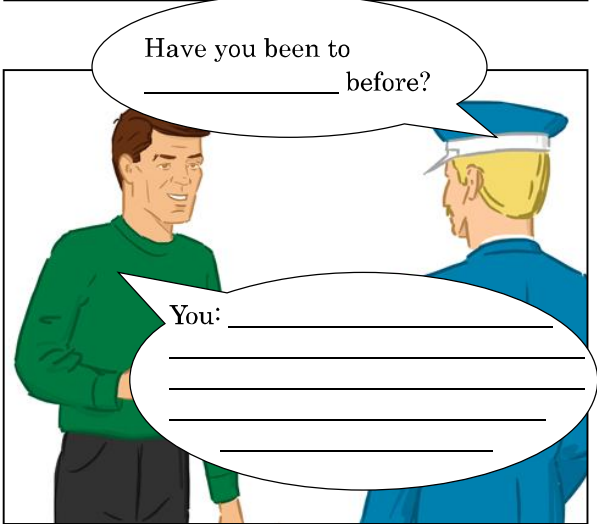
How long will you be here?

You: _____



Where will you be staying while you're in _____ ?

You: _____



Have you been to _____ before?

You: _____



Can I see your passport, please?

You: _____



Do you have anything to declare on your customs declaration form?

You: _____

