

Going to a Museum

In this lesson, you will learn useful vocabulary and expressions for exploring museums. You will practice being a tourist and a museum attendant.



Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. Do you like going to museums? Why or why not?
2. Which museums have you been to?
3. What types of exhibits would you find at an art museum / history museum / air and space museum?

B. Vocabulary Preview

Match the words on the left with the correct meanings on the right.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. admission fee | a) a display of something such as art or work that people come to see |
| _____ 2. donation | b) a person who is displaying something at a museum or special event |
| _____ 3. fossil | c) an unset amount of money that you can volunteer to pay |
| _____ 4. brochure | d) to allow |
| _____ 5. exhibit | e) a light that goes off on a camera |
| _____ 6. exhibitor | f) a store that sells souvenirs or gifts |
| _____ 7. wander | g) the set cost to enter a building or special event |
| _____ 8. gift shop | h) printed material that provides details about a special event, attraction, or business |
| _____ 9. permit | i) to walk around casually without a set destination |
| _____ 10. flash | j) remains of something from long ago that is found inside rock |

Dialogue Reading

Read the dialogue with your partner a few times. Take turns being each character. Practice your intonation and pronunciation. Circle any new words or phrases that you need to practice.

Tourist: Hi. **Is there an admission fee** for this museum?

Attendant: Hello. Admission is by donation.

Tourist: Okay. Here's 20 dollars.

Attendant: **Thank you kindly.** Have you been to the fossils museum before?

Tourist: No. Do you have a brochure that we could take?

Attendant: Yes, there is a map in the brochure. We also have tour guides if you are interested.

Tourist: **That's okay.** We'll use the map. **Can you tell me where to find** the Darwin exhibit?

Attendant: Yes, the Darwin exhibit is on the third floor.
One of the exhibitors is giving a talk there today at 2:00 pm.

Tourist: Great. I guess **we'll just wander around** until then.

Attendant: The gift shop is located at the exit. If you need a snack, there's a cafeteria on the second floor.

Tourist: We actually have sandwiches in our bag. **Can we bring them in with us?**

Attendant: I'm afraid **no outside food or drinks are permitted** inside the museum.

Tourist: Okay. We'll eat our lunch outside before we come in then. Are cameras permitted?

Attendant: Yes. But please do not use flash photography during the lecture.

Tourist: Okay. Thanks for your help.

Practice

Work with your partner. Role-play the dialogue on page 2, substituting the different expressions below. Then switch roles.

1. **Is there an admission fee?**

- What's the cost of admission?
- How much is it to get in?
- What's the entrance fee?

2. **Thank you kindly.**

- Thank you very much.
- Thank you for your generosity.
- That's very generous. Thank you.

3. **That's okay.**

- Thanks anyway.
- That won't be necessary.
- No, thank you.

4. **Can you tell me where to find...?**

- Can you point me to...?
- Where would I find...?
- Where is...?

5. **We'll just wander around.**

- We'll just look around.
- We'll just walk around.
- We'll just browse.

6. **Can we bring them in with us?**

- Are these permitted inside?
- Are these allowed inside?
- Do we have to leave these outside?

7. **No outside food or drinks are permitted.**

- No food or drinks are allowed.
- You can't bring any food or drinks in.
- You may not bring in any food or drinks.

Listening Practice

Listen to the recording of the dialogue from page 2. Fill in the missing words as you listen. Listen again. Now look back at page 2 and check your work. Did you fill in the correct words? Did you spell everything correctly?

Tourist: Hi. Is there an admission fee for this museum?

Attendant: Hello. Admission is by _____ .

Tourist: Okay. Here's 20 dollars.

Attendant: Thank you _____. Have you been to the fossils museum before?

Tourist: No. Do you have a _____ that we could take?

Attendant: Yes, there is a map in the brochure.
We also have tour guides if you are _____ .

Tourist: That's okay. We'll use the map.
Can you tell me where to find the Darwin _____ ?

Attendant: Yes, the Darwin exhibit is on the third floor.
One of the exhibitors is _____ a talk there today at 2:00 pm.

Tourist: Great. I guess we'll just _____ around until then.

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If you need a snack, there's a _____ on the second floor.

Tourist: We actually have sandwiches in our bag. Can we bring them in with us?

Attendant: I'm afraid no outside food or drinks are _____ inside the museum.

Tourist: Okay. We'll eat our lunch outside before we come in then. Are cameras permitted?

Attendant: Yes. But please do not use flash _____ during the lecture.

Tourist: Okay. Thanks for your help.

Pair Activity

Work with a partner. Discuss what types of exhibits you might see in each museum. More than one column may be used for an exhibit.

Museum of Nature	Art Museum	Museum of History	Children's Museum

Write Your Own Dialogue

Write a dialogue with a partner using phrases from page 3.
You can visit a children's museum, an air and space museum,
or any other type of museum that you can think of.
Practice and present the dialogue to your class.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Review

Task 1

LISTEN & ANSWER

Listen to the conversation and answer the questions.
Your teacher will tell you if you have to write or say the answers.

1. What is the fee for admission?

2. What exhibit are the visitors interested in seeing?

3. What is going to happen at 2:00 pm?

4. What photography restrictions does this museum have?

5. What will the visitors do before they enter the museum?

Review cont.

Task 2

QUESTION FORMATION

A. Questions

Write five questions you might ask an attendant before entering a museum.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

B. Answers

Write five possible answers to your questions.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Task 3

ROLE-PLAY

Find a partner. Choose a type of museum. Imagine that one of you is the museum attendant and the other is the visitor. Use your questions to do a role-play for your teacher.