

## Пояснительная записка

Программа элективного курса «Разговорный английский» рассчитана на учащихся 8-10 классов. Тематика курса соотносится с возрастными интересами и потребностями учащихся, а также требованиями учебных программ.

**Целью** данной программы является формирование коммуникативной компетенции школьников.

В процессе обучения по курсу: развиваются коммуникативные умения в говорении, аудировании, чтении, письме (речевая компетенция); накапливаются новые языковые средства, используемые носителями языка в реальных ситуациях общения (языковая компетенция); школьники приобщаются к культуре и реалиям стран изучаемого языка, развиваются способности использования языковых средств в реальном повседневном общении (социокультурная компетенция); развиваются умения в процессе общения выходить из затруднительных положений, связанных с нехваткой языковых средств за счет перифразы, использования синонимов, «слов-заполнителей пауз» и т.д. (компенсаторная компетенция); развиваются желание и умение самостоятельного изучения языка (учебно-познавательная компетенция).

Программа рассчитана на 32 часа аудиторных практических занятий и реализуется посредством использования Интернет-ресурсов (12 диалогов (тексты помещены в приложении), составленных и записанных носителями языка, и 3 серии ситуационной комедии с участием актеров из Великобритании). Уроки построены на знакомом грамматическом материале, навыки использования которого в неподготовленной речи совершенствуется в процессе занятий. Курс насыщен новым лексическим материалом (прецизионные слова, эллиптические конструкции, разговорные формулы, фразовые глаголы, идиоматические выражения и т.д.), который учащиеся осваивают в процессе выполнения языковых и речевых упражнений (упражнения на заполнение пропусков в диалоге, последовательный перевод, составление частей разрезного диалога в правильном порядке, сопоставление, трансформацию, расширение, сжатие текста, ответы на вопросы, составление монологов и написание эссе по обсуждаемой проблеме, участие в дискуссиях и ролевых играх). Оценка деятельности учащихся происходит на каждом занятии по результатам выполненных ими упражнений на уроке и дома. Школьники принимают активное участие в процессе оценивания своей учебной деятельности, занимаются саморефлексией.

### Тематическое планирование:

| №п/п | тема                    | Кол-во часов | Лексика   | Формы контроля и примерные темы эссе, дискуссий и ролевых игр              |
|------|-------------------------|--------------|---|--|
| 1    | Эллиптические выражения | 1            | Gonna, goin', gotta, Wanna, wanna, what'd ya, y'know, kinda, em, coz, cause, Ya, whatcha doin', didja, couple'a, How bout | Упражнения на трансформацию, вопросно-ответные упражнения, диалог-расспрос |
| 2    | Прецизионные слова      | 1            | Like, uh, um, so, eh, actually, but   | Упражнения на расширение, вопросно-ответные                                |

|   |                         |   |  |   |
|---|-------------------------|---|--|---|
|   |                         |   | Just, and, oh, I mean, well, even, as well, kind of, right, uh-huh, mm, oh, sweet, hey   | упражнения, диалог-обмен мнениями   |
| 3 | Разговорный сленг       | 1 | Yeah, yep, wow, ugh, frickin', gosh, Oh man, oh my god, oh gee, jeez, guy, chick   | Упражнения на трансформацию, сопоставление, диалог-расспрос   |
| 4 | «Музыкальный фестиваль» | 4 | Run late, boonies, totally, an arm and a leg, bottlenecked, hassle, Wristband, pros and cons, a band, figured, the main attraction, resonate with sb, nature calls, definitely, a good vibe  | Упражнения на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные предложения, заполнение пропусков в диалоге, последовательный перевод, сжатие текста, дискуссия «Музыкальные фестивали: за и против», эссе на тему дискуссии.   |
| 5 | «Горящий человек»       | 2 | Fell through, can't make it, a saving grace, overwhelming, outfits, go ahead, out of hand, beforehand, show off, surreal, fever pitch, see you out there   | Упражнение на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные упражнения, составление частей разрезного диалога, ролевая игра «Рок-фестиваль «Нашествие»  |
| 6 | «Визит в Сан-Франциско» | 4 | Go with the flow, did she make it home alright, put up, think back, cram in a lot, confided in, keeper, grab a bite, breathtaking, take st for granted, far and wide, stand out in sb's mind, be up for st, chains, mom and pops, I'd much rather go, authentic, have character, support, customarily, melt in one's mouth, blow sb away, breeze in and breeze out | Упражнение на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные упражнения, последовательный перевод, упражнения на трансформацию, сжатие, дискуссия «Едим дома и в ресторане», эссе «Некоторые люди ужинают только в кафе и ресторанах, а некоторые признают только домашнюю еду», ролевая игра «Поездка в Лондон» |
| 7 | «Автостопом в Европу»   | 2 | Run into sb, get out of here, end up, go out with, look sb up, at that point, get sb a place, see how it went, over there, sick of, travel through, hook up, take off, on a whim, live large, totally broke, kids, be in the mood to feel anonymous, not into doing st, a big deal, put yourself out there, pretty good, on your own, weird, headed to,            | Упражнение на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные упражнения, последовательный перевод, упражнения на трансформацию, сжатие, сопоставление, дискуссия «Путешествие автостопом: за и против», эссе «Некоторые люди считают, что настоящие туристы путешествуют   |

|    |                     |   |  |   |
|----|---------------------|---|--|---|
|    |                     |   | cod,ecstatic, bootlegs   | только самостоятельно, а некоторые признают только путешествия по путевкам»   |
| 8  | «Чили»              | 2 | Dawn on sb, gone our separate ways, early on, good foundation, wing it, out on the town,   | Упражнение на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные упражнения,последовательный перевод, упражнения на трансформацию,сжатие, сопоставление, заполнение пропусков в диалоге, дискуссия «Выучить язык можно только в стране изучаемого языка?», эссе на тему дискуссии          |
| 9  | «Билет на поезд»    | 2 | It could have started off better, wake up on the wrong side of the bed, get down, catch the train, a pass, for lack of a better word, rack sb's brain, clipboard, on me, hold on a second, go out on a limb, citation, pretty penny, a total long shot, badmouth, water under the bridge, get upset, bottom line, top it off, done | Упражнение на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные упражнения,последовательный перевод, упражнения на трансформацию,сжатие, сопоставление, заполнение пропусков в диалоге, эссе «История про то,как я встал(а) не с той ноги», Ролевая игра «Ток-шоу «Очевидное-невероятное» |
| 10 | «Переезд в детстве» | 4 | By the way, out of the blue, city limits, get settled in, culture shock, I bet, right of the bat, ridiculed, clunkers, brand new, designer clothes, blue collar, keep up with, tease, about to cry, tackled, crying wolf, screaming at the top of one's lungs, look out of place, stuck out, look back                             | Упражнение на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные упражнения,последовательный перевод, упражнения на трансформацию,сжатие, сопоставление,дискуссия «Дети богатых и малообеспеченных родителей должны играть в разных песочницах?», эссе «Обиды детства»                     |
| 11 | «Родители»          | 2 | Appreciate, make sacrifices, retain, sure enough, basics, dread, lecture, long-winded, stand out insb's mind, bonding experience   | Упражнение на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные упражнения , упражнение на расширение диалога, дискуссия «Родители должны опекать своих детей до тех пор,пока дети сами не станут родителями :за и против»,   |

|    |   |    |   |   |
|----|---|----|---|---|
|    |   |    |   | эссе «за что я благодарен(на) своим родителям»  |
| 12 | «Бабушка»                                 | 2  | Out and about, cool, feel under the weather, grow up, a stone's throw away, awesome, escape, discipline, a little bit, shower sb with attention, bumper, beg, amazing | Упражнение на составление ситуативных предложений с новыми словами, вопросно-ответные упражнения, составление частей разрезного диалога, презентация «Мое семейное древо»                   |
| 13 | «Приезд Гектора» (фильм)                  | 4  |   | Дискуссии « Делить комнату с подругой или снимать жилье отдельно?», «Друг по переписке – настоящий друг?», «Прежде, чем поехать в другую страну, надо выучить язык, на котором там говорят» |
| 14 | Конференция «Разговорный английский язык» | 3  |   | Презентации на тему «Разговорный английский»  |
|    |   | 34 |   |   |

### Список использованных источников

Музланова Е.С. Английский язык: Экспресс-репетитор для подготовки к ЕГЭ: «Письмо». - М.: АСТ, 2009

Соловова Е.Н. Материалы курса «Развитие и контроль коммуникативных умений: традиции и перспективы» .- М.: Педагогический университет «Первое сентября», 2006

<http://www.lingualeo.ru>

### Приложение

Скрипты диалогов взяты на сайте [www.lingualeo.ru](http://www.lingualeo.ru) в коллекциях Learn Real English Conversation:

[www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94359](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94359),  
[www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94365](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94365), [www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/95448](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/95448), [www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/95457](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/95457),  
[www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94247](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94247), [www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94261](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94261), [www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94277](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94277),  
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[www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94325](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/94325), [www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/96144](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/96144). Там же размещен и аудиоматериал.

Видеофильмы тоже с этого сайта из коллекции TV and radio shows:  
[www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/131680](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/131680), [www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/131684](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/131684), [www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/131685](http://www.lingualeo.ru/jungle/131685)

### Music Festival Part1

Kristin: So, what'd ya think of the festival tonight?

Joe: Oh, I thought it was great. I had a great time the entire day, actually.

Kristin: Yeah, good, good, me too.

Joe: Y'know, I thought it was a great idea for us all to meet over at Tim's place. I mean you and I were obviously running late because he lives out in the boonies. But, uh, y'know, better late than never.

Kristin: Yeah, I agree. When you get a group of people together to go to an event like this, it just adds to the enjoyment, y'know, the fun. And it's kind of like the saying goes, the more the merrier.

Joe: Yeah, I totally agree. And, y'know, I, I think it was really important that we all went to the concert together in one group. Because, y'know, it was so large it would have made it really difficult to find, uh, people in our group if we would have all gone separately.

Kristin: Right. I mean a-...

Joe: It actually, it actually surprised me because, that the crowd was so large. I mean the tickets cost an arm and a leg. So I was kinda thinkin' that maybe the crowd wouldn't be as big.

Kristin: Yeah, but, price doesn't usually deter you from going to hear music, right?

Joe: No, it's true. You're right.

Kristin: But, um, speaking of us staying together, it just was making me think of the crowds. And I just didn't think that in general the, the festival was laid out that well.

Joe: Well, there were four different stages.

Kristin: No, there were six.

Joe: Oh there were six stages?

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: S-, see we only went to two of 'em.

Kristin: I know.

Joe: But, the, uh, stages were kind of far apart and y'know what the, the most impractical, uh, design was? I thought that they, uh, they had very narrow walkways between the stages.

Kristin: Yes.

Joe: And sometimes you had to go through a little tunnel, like a foot tunnel...

Kristin: Yep.

Joe: ...and, uh, there'd be thousands of people trying to go through a space that only maybe twenty people could go through at a time.

Kristin: Oh, yeah. The crowd would get completely, completely bottlenecked.

Joe: Yeah, exactly. So tryin' to go from one stage to the next was just, uh... It took a lot of time and effort.

Kristin: Yeah, I agree.

Joe: So that was one thing that was, y'know, just not properly planned for on their part.

Kristin: No! And then there'd be all these random trails through the woods that people were trying to forge their way through.

Joe: Yeah, true. Y'know, another thing that, uh, was a real hassle was tryin' to get a beer.

Kristin: Oh my god, yeah.

Joe: I mean, the wait, the line was like, y'know, a hundred and twenty people long. Every time you wanted to go get a beer.

Kristin: Yeah, well first you had to stand in line just for them to check your ID and get the wristband.

Joe: Yeah, and...

Kristin: That was bad enough.

Joe: Oh, that was an even longer line.

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: Yeah.

Kristin: I mean once you had the wristband, though, then it was battling the lines just to get a beer. Each time. Yeah, it was ridiculous.

Joe: Yeah, and if you wanted to go get a beer while the band was playing, you basically had to decide whether you wanted to see the music...

Kristin: Yep.

Joe: ...or you really wanted a beer. Which was more important to you?

Kristin: Right.

Joe: You had to make a choice, y'know?

Kristin: Yeah. Make a list of pros and cons [laugh].

Joe: Yeah, yeah...how thirsty am I versus how much do I want to hear this music. And the lines to the bathroom were really long also.

Kristin: Yeah, the lines in general were just a hassle, I have to agree.

Joe: Yeah. I mean, I remember when we were leaving the event. It took us over an hour just to get out of the, uh, the stadium.

Kristin: Oh god.

Joe: Remember, there were all these people who were startin' to climb the fences...

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: ...instead of going through the little, uh, tunnel. I mean...

Kristin: Yes.

Joe: ...and the, the fence, it looked like it was gonna break. I mean it was totally an accident waiting to happen.

Kristin: Right. That was something I didn't understand. Like, at Hardly Strictly Bluegrass I never, I didn't remember seeing fences like that.

Joe: Well, y'know, Hardly Strictly Bluegrass, that festival is free... So, y'know, I don't think...

Kristin: Oh yeah...

Joe: ...they had to put up the barriers to, uh...

Kristin: ...that's, okay...

Joe: ...to entry.

Kristin: ...that makes sense. I was wondering what the deal was with the fences.

Joe: Yeah. S-...

Kristin: Okay.

Joe: So that's why that's, y'know, that's why you never have that problem at that festival.

Kristin: Right.

## **Music Festival Part2**

Joe: So I guess I need not ask who your favorite, uh, band was during the evening.

Kristin: Radiohead!!

Joe: Yeah, I figured it...

Kristin: Of course.

Joe: ...would be them. They were the main attraction.

Kristin: Yeah, I mean, I, y'know, I'm a fan of Beck, too. But I think that I was just so... Beck playing at a different stage than Radiohead and playing right before Radiohead. I was just so focused on getting back to the stage to get a good spot to see Radiohead. I just couldn't fully, uh, get into Beck. And, yeah, it, it's just, he, the music just wasn't resonating with me tonight, unfortunately. 'Coz that's the first time I've ever seen Beck live.

Joe: Yeah, y'see, for me, it was totally different because I really, really enjoyed Beck's performance and, uh, y'know...

Kristin: Y-, you, you missed half of it, goin' to the bathroom, what are you talkin'

about?

Joe: Well, y'know, sometime nature calls.

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: But, uh, y'know, I, I also, I wasn't familiar with Radiohead's music at all. I really enjoyed it. And, uh, y'know, I, I would definitely go see them again. But I, I'm more familiar with Beck's music so maybe that helped me to enjoy it. Plus, I, I just like that style, Beck's style of music, more than Radiohead's, y'know? But I really did enjoy the Radiohead music. I liked the fact that, uh, the crowd was really into them. Y'know, like you looked out in the crowd and you saw everyone smiling. Y'know, everyone seemed happy. And like some people were dancing. And, uh, a lot of people were singing their songs. You could tell that they, they were very familiar with the music. So, uh, y'know, it was just a good vibe. I, and I really enjoyed that part of it.

Kristin: Oh, they were off the hook. I mean they sounded just as if I had put a CD in the CD player.

Joe: Yeah, well, y'know ...

Kristin: And, that's...

Joe: ... practice makes perfect.

Kristin: Yeah, it's difficult to find that live. But, I will say, too, well, let me back up. I'm, I'm really glad I took it easy last night, just so I could save some energy up for tonight 'coz I danced my ass off. And I thought that I would.

Joe: Yeah.

Kristin: And I did, I had so much fun. But, um, going back to what you were saying about the crowd being really into them... They were, I agree. But I would say that more people didn't dance than those that did, which kind of surprised me. It's so different compared to the music we usually go to see.

Joe: Yeah, I mean I totally agree. When we usually go see music, everybody is dancing. And, uh, you're right in that there were maybe - I wouldn't even say half the crowd was dancing.

Kristin: Yeah. I guess there were more people singing, as you experienced. [laugh] Some people standing next to you...

Joe: Yeah, there was a guy who was standing next to me who was singing. I mean he was, it was like he was screaming at the top of his lungs. I just could not, uh, hear the music at points. I had to move away from him at one point.

Kristin: [laugh] That's so funny.

Joe: And then there were some teeny boppers who were over near me who were just like screaming. They weren't even singing the music. They were just yelling. Y'know, so...

Kristin: Oh, just like out of excitement, I mean...

Joe: Yeah, they were so excited...

Kristin: ...yeah.

Joe: ...yeah, they were just like yelling. But, you know what, they were having a good time. And the way I look at it, this was their favorite band probably. So, y'know, more power to 'em. They were having a great time and I was happy to see that.

Kristin: Well, without a doubt Radiohead is one of my favorite bands.

So I was

happy to see them live. I hadn't seen them live since I was in college and didn't even appreciate 'em then.

Joe: Yeah, well, y'know, uh, maybe next year they'll play the festival again.

Kristin: Yeah, if they have one. Wasn't this the first year they had this festival?

Joe: Yeah, that's true.

Kristin: Yeah, and this was the first time ever someone played at dark in Golden

Gate Park.

Joe: Yeah, that's true. I hope that, uh, we didn't wear out our welcome, as fans.

Kristin: How so?

Joe: Well, y'know, people...

Kristin: Leaving trash and stuff behind?

Joe: No, I think more so when people were leaving the concert. Since Golden Gate Park borders, uh, y'know...

Kristin: Oh.

Joe: ...a bunch of neighborhoods, people were walking out of the concert at the end of the night and making a lot of noise and...

Kristin: Right.

Joe: ...I think that, and it was getting late at night. So I think that it, uh, might have woken up a lot of the people who live in the area. So I just hope that the people weren't, uh, y'know, too much of a burden on the neighborhood.

Kristin: Yeah, y'know it did kind of suck that the sound cut out twice, but I guess that's just...

Joe: Yeah, what was up with that? I mean the guy who was at the soundboard must have been asleep at the wheel.

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: That's like so unprofessional.

Kristin: Yeah, that was, that was really disappointing.

Joe: Well, at least when the music was playing, uh, it sounded good and the band performed well.

Kristin: Yeah.

### **Visit to San Francisco Part 1**

Kristin: Hey, I just got an e-mail from Katy.

Joe: Oh, did she make it home okay?

Kristin: Yeah, she did. It was a really nice e-mail. She was thanking us for the nine days that we put her up when she was here and also for the great time that we showed her.

Joe: Yeah, I mean, thinking back, we really crammed in a lot.

Kristin: We did. She also said she enjoyed meeting you and getting to know you. She, uh, confided in me that you're a keeper.

Joe: [laugh] Oh, oh, that's nice. Good.

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: Yeah, I like, y'know, it was, it was cool the way she pretty much just was able to go with the flow. I mean, y'know, we pick her up at the airport. I knew that she was really tired because she had said that she had to get up really early in the morning to catch her flight and that she really only slept a few hours...

Kristin: Right.

Joe: ...so right after we pick her up, we go out and grab a bite to eat. And then we came home for, I don't know, maybe an hour? And before you know it, we're off to see that concert at the Warfield.

Kristin: Right. Yeah, and so we did that Saturday night. And then Sunday morning we had to wake up early and go to Bay to Breakers which she thoroughly enjoyed. And then that night we went back to the Warfield for the very last show before it closed.

Joe: Yeah, that was really cool that she was able to go to the Warfield because, I mean, that place is a landmark. It's been around since like, y'know, the late 1800s. And, uh, here it is now that they said that they were gonna be closing it. There really was no other opportunity to go and, y'know, to see a piece of history.



Kristin: Yeah.Yeah.

Joe: What'd she have to say about Bay to Breakers?I mean that's an, that's an iconic San Francisco event.

Kristin: I think she was, uh, pretty shocked.Y'know Bay to Breakers, although it's a race, you would never, never be able to tell it because it seems like it's just a drunk costumed fest.

Joe: It seems like a party, actually, to me.

Kristin: It does.Or uncostumed, there are so many naked people as well.

Joe: Yeah, y'know what...

Kristin: So...

Joe: ...y'know what the mayor said when he ran it, uh, last year?

Kristin: I, I know what you're gonna say, but go ahead.

Joe: Yeah, he said, I was surprised there weren't more naked people.

Kristin: I know, I love that... that, he made...

Joe: That was funny.

Kristin: ...that comment.That was right when I first moved here.And I was like, yes, I've moved to the right place.

Joe: [laugh] That's great.

Kristin: [laugh] But you know, as far as like other things that we did... I think she also really enjoyed getting out of the city.Um, it, y'know, one day Tim took her to Muir Woods.So she really had a great time, uh, there...

Joe: Oh man.

Kristin: ...just seeing the redwoods.

Joe: Yeah, it's beautiful up there.I mean when you go through that area... I mean, it's breathtaking.It makes for a great picture.

Kristin: Yeah.Yeah...

Joe: The other great thing is I love the fact that so many people come from all over the world to see, uh, the big redwoods.I mean it's really something that, y'know, you can take for granted living here.But then when you see all the people who come from, y'know, far and wide just to, y'know, come to see 'em, you really see like, y'know, how much of an appreciation you should have for them.

Kristin: Oh yeah.Yeah, and...

Joe: Some of those things you can't even put your arms around they're so big.

Kristin: I know.

Joe: You can step inside some of the trees.I mean, it's crazy, y'know.

Kristin: Yeah.And then, uh, remember that other day, too, he drove she and I down Highway 1.That's always nice, to drive along the coast.It's a really pretty drive.

Joe: Oh yeah, and you can stop and go to the beach.Man, San Francisco... We have the beach.We have mountains.We have the trees.Like, we have the best of both worlds here.

Kristin: I know.My brother commented on that when he visited here.

Joe: Yeah.

## **Visit to SF p2**

Joe: So what else do you think, uh ... stood out in Katy's mind?

Kristin: Well...

Joe: From her visit.

Kristin: ...y'know, for me it was really fun taking her around to all my favorite bars. And she's always up for a drink.Uh, something else that just made me think... She really enjoyed all the ethnic restaurants.Y'know...

Joe: Oh yeah, there's great variety here.

Kristin: Yeah, we, we could eat something different every night.And although you

can get ethnic food back east, they're chains, y'know. They're not the mom and pops that we have here.

Joe: Yeah, I'd much rather go to an independent, uh, restaurant. I mean there's so much more... they're so much more authentic. And they have so much more character when the people are actually from the area, uh, which the restaurant is, y'know, prov-, uh, serving food from.

Kristin: Yeah, and I would just rather support a family than some big company.

Joe: Totally. Yeah, like Baobob. That's a great example, y'know.

Kristin: Yeah. We went there one night. She loved it.

Joe: But, y'know, the people who work there and own it are from... Y'know, the food's East Senegalese. And all the people who work there are from West Africa. They dress, uh, y'know, in, uh... in clothes that are, y'know, uh, customarily worn by people in those regions. You look on the wall, you see all this artwork that was, uh, painted there.

Kristin: Yep.

Joe: Y'know, I love it. And then plus, my gosh, what about those coconut infused rum drinks there.

Kristin: Oh, that's my favorite.

Joe: Oh, man.

Kristin: That's why I like to go there, just for those drinks.

Joe: Those things melt in your mouth.

Kristin: I know.

Joe: I, I would love to have the recipe for that.

Kristin: Y'know, they have such great music, too. They really get good bands in there.

Joe: Yeah, my gosh. Uh, there was this one guy that we saw perform there. And I don't know what his name is. But he was playin' this instrument that was native to, uh, Africa. And I had never seen it before. But the sounds that were coming out of it just blew me away.

Kristin: Oh, wow.

Joe: Yeah.

Kristin: Y'know, we, um, we definitely crammed a lot in that week. But we still... There's so much we didn't get to do. I mean she says she wants to come back. In fact, she's tryin' to talk two of my friends into coming back with her next year. So we could do those things that she didn't get to do when they all come back. But, I... Like, we went to Chinatown. We went to North Beach. We did that in one day. But, we just didn't...

Joe: Yeah, there's a lot to see there.

Kristin: There's a lot to see and we just kind of breezed in and breezed out. So she'd probably definitely want to go back to Chinatown. We didn't make it to Japantown at all. Y'know, you and I live here in The Mission. So she got to, to, uh, experience The Mission, y'know... see a good bit of The Mission I should say, but...

Joe: Yeah, we didn't even take her to The Haight. She didn't get to see all the hippies and stuff.

Kristin: No, no, no, we... no, we did.

Joe: Oh, I wasn't with you guys, that's right. You guys went one afternoon...

Kristin: No, no we went... no, we went for lunch one day, remember? Me, you, your friend Dan was in town, too.

Joe: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, okay. I do remember. Yeah, okay. Yep. Yeah, okay, good. So she did get to go to The Haight.

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: Y'know what I would have, uh... that I really enjoyed doin' when she was here was goin' up to Sonoma. I mean I felt like...

Kristin: Yeah, that was a perfect way to top off her trip. That was the last day she was here.

Joe: I mean if you like wineries, I don't know how you couldn't like a trip like that.

Kristin: I know.

Joe: The other thing that was great is, this time when we went to Sonoma, we went to some really small wineries. And I just felt like they were so much more accommodating and welcoming when you went there, y'know? I mean, they like... some of 'em serve snacks even. But most of them had like free tastings. Whereas when we go to those larger wineries, you just don't get that sort of uh, um... They're just not as, uh, as friendly and...

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: ...it seems like they don't go out of their way to try and, uh, y'know, make you feel welcome.

Kristin: Right. Yeah, I agree.

### **TICKET ON THE TRAIN**

Joe: So, uh, how's your day goin'?

Kristin: Oh, it could have started off better. Actually, I feel like I woke up on the wrong side of the bed.

Joe: Why, what happened?

Kristin: Well, things were going okay. I mean I'd gotten the e-mails done. I'd gotten all the dishes done. Took a shower. Got ready to go. Um, but as usual, I was running against the clock, trying to, uh, get down and catch the train on time.

Joe: Yeah.

Kristin: So, I got on the train. I go in the back like I usually do because I have a pass. Sit down, we go one stop. We, we're actually coming up to 18th, y'know, just the next stop. And I see the, the ticket checkers, for lack of a better word...

Joe: Oh, yeah. Yeah, yeah, I know who you're talkin' about.

Kristin: People who are always checking for passes...

Joe: Right.

Kristin: ...they're on and I thought, okay, great, yeah, I've, y'know, I've got my pass on me. So one of them comes up to me asking to see my pass. I start looking in my bag for the place that I always keep it, and it's not there.

Joe: Oh, are you serious?

Kristin: So, yeah! I'm looking, looking, thinking, oh where is it? Then suddenly... eh, y'know, and this is after, too, I start checking my pants and just racking my brain tryin' to think of where, where my pass could be. Then suddenly it dawned on me that I had left it in the pocket of a pair of pants that I'd worn two days before to work.

Joe: Oh, and they were still at home, I'm sure.

Kristin: Yes, they were still at home. So, I start explaining this to the woman. And, she, um, she whips her clipboard out. And I'm like, "Y'know, I just got on." And she's like, "Oh right here?" 'Coz, y'know, we'd just gotten to 18th Street. And I was like, "No, no, no, no, I, I, um, I got on just one stop back at 20th. But I always have my pass on me and that's why I got on the back. I've got money. I can go up and pay right now." And she's like, "Oh, just hold on a second." And she starts writing.

Joe: Let me guess. I'm gonna go out on a limb here and say that she still gave you the ticket.

Kristin: Yes. I still got the citation. So, but, I thought that there still might be hope. So I keep trying to ask her questions, or... And letting her know I can go and pay.

And she's like, "Just, just hold on, let me, let me focus on this and we'll talk in a minute when I get done writing." So then I start panicking, thinking, oh great, I am getting it, for sure. And I remember back to somebody telling me that they'd gotten one, a ticket once before on the train and, um, for not havin' their pass, and it ended up costing 'em like 250 bucks...

Joe: Well, I've gotten...

Kristin: And you know with the...

Joe: ...one of those tickets before. And, and I mean, I recall it cost a pretty penny. But I don't remember it being that much.

Kristin: Well, eh, this is what I'm thinking it's gonna cost. And with the money that we're tryin' to save for our trip... I just, I almost started crying, thinkin' I can't afford this, y'know. So she finishes writing and hands it to me and it ends up being only 50 bucks.

Joe: Oh, they must have cut down the fine then, because I remember I paid more than that.

Kristin: Yeah, she had circled 50 bucks. She's like "I'm assuming this is your first offense." And I was like "Yeah, it is." She's like "Okay, um, it'll be 50 bucks. Now I did write down here that you do, you claim you have a pass and you just left it in a pair of pants back in your apartment. So what you can do is go here." And she's showing me all this on the ticket. "You can go here and contest it. So..."

Joe: Pffft.

Yeah..yeah, go down there and contest it. That basically means you're gonna spend, y'know, most of a day sitting in the courtroom waiting for the case to get called. And then when it finally does get called, y'know, you gotta try and convince the judge that you actually had a ticket. I mean, it's a total long shot. I wouldn't, I mean...

Kristin: I know.

Joe: ...I don't even know, it's a waste of time.

Kristin: Yeah, I agree. I was talkin' to somebody here at work about it and they were like, y'know, if you do that you're gonna be sitting there for a few hours at least...

Joe: Yeah.

Kristin: ...and it's just not worth it.

Joe: No, I agree.

Kristin: Yeah, so, I'm tryin' not to have a chip on my shoulder about it. I don't wanna badmouth them. I know they're just doin' their job...

Joe: Pffft. Yeah, it's, it's...

Kristin: ...y'know...

Joe: ...yeah, I mean it's water under the bridge at this point, so, y'know, don't...

Kristin: It is.

Joe: ...get upset about it.

Kristin: Yeah, I. Bottom line is I'm gonna be havin' to pay 50 bucks, so...

Joe: Yeah, yeah, that sucks. I'm sure that was a great way to start the day, huh?

Kristin: Well, to top it off then, I also realized that the pair of pants that my pass, I left my pass in - the pocket that I left them in - I washed those pants last night.

Joe: [laugh] Oh, so the pass is probably shredded.

Kristin: So, it's probably shredded, it's probably done, yep.

Joe: Oh, yeah.

## Parents

Joe: Y'know, I don't think that people really appreciate their parents until they get older. I mean, at least I can say that about myself. And I think it's true of, y'know, here in America.

Kristin: Yeah, I was gonna say in this culture, anyway. Yeah I can totally agree with that.

Joe: Yeah, I, eh, y'know, looking back, I think I only really came to, y'know, see all the sacrifices my parents made, and appreciate those sacrifices, when I went away to college.

Kristin: Mm-hm. That's probably when I started appreciating my parents, too.

Joe: Yeah, I mean, y'know, now looking back I can see that my dad... He was always trying to teach me things. And at the time I, I couldn't even tell that it was going on. But, y'know, now I see there's method to his madness, like...

Kristin: Like, what's an example?

Joe: Alright, well, for example, like on Saturdays, y'know, what I liked to do was probably what any, y'know, little boy used to do. I liked to go out, play with my friends, y'know, play some baseball or some football or, y'know, just, just hang out with my friends.

Kristin: Right.

Joe: Well, my dad on the other hand, y'know, he was really strict. And, uh, he ran a tight ship. I'm tellin' ya. I mean, I, I think there was this unspoken motto that he had which was my way or the highway.

Kristin: [laugh] I can see that.

Joe: So come Saturday morning, it was time to do some work, and...

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: ...so it was time to spoil the fun I wanted to have.

Kristin: Right.

Joe: So, he'd say something like, "Hey, y'know, uh, today we have to change the oil on the car, I'll show you how to do it."

Kristin: Oh boy.

Joe: I'd be thinkin', yeah, I'd be thinkin', oh that sounds like fun... y'know. Or like, uh, y'know, another time he'd say, "Okay, uh, y'know, we have to change the brakes today. And I think that, uh, I'll show you how to do it this time. And you'll... You can do it next time." And I'm sittin' there, I, I must be eleven years old, I'm thinkin' to myself, I'm not gonna remember how to do this. I'm not gonna retain any of it.

Kristin: Right.

Joe: But sure enough, he showed me how to do it. And, y'know, now looking back, y'know, I can see that, y'know, it was, uh, probably something that he wanted to make sure I knew how to do as I grew older...

Kristin: Sure.

Joe: ...but I didn't really pay attention, y'know. I couldn't appreciate it at the time.

Kristin: Yeah, my, my dad, uh, taught me some things about the car, not as detailed as changing the brakes or changing the oil. But he taught me basics like just checking my fluids, like power steering fluid, um, brake fluid, the oil. At the time, y'know, I would dread him teaching me. I wouldn't retain it. I would forget so he would constantly be teaching me. And it would just... I knew it would be this long-winded lecture. When I would be wanting just to get in the car and leave, go meet my friends.

Joe: Yeah, sure.

Kristin: But now I, I appreciate that he taught me those... how to, uh... check my fluids actually. It's a useful thing to know.

Joe: Yeah, there, there were some things that my father would teach me, like, when I was younger, and I did appreciate it. And I mean like the one thing that stands out in my mind is learning how to cook. Y'know, my dad was really good about allowing us to be in the kitchen while he was cooking. 'Coz my dad's an amazing cook, and...

Kristin: Yeah, he is.

Joe: ...y'know, when we were growing up... I remember like all my friends and, uh, my mom's side of the family, it was only the women who cooked. But...

Kristin: Uh-huh.

Joe: ...from my dad's side of the family, the men totally cooked.

I mean, I just said

my dad was a great cook. He learned from his father, my grandfather, who was a great cook. My grandfather's brother, my great-uncle...

Kristin: Mm-hm.

Joe: ...he was a great cook. So it really wasn't a gender specific trait in my family. And I think as a result, uh, we weren't afraid to be in the kitchen. And my father allowed us to. So, uh, y'know... And my dad was always good about teaching me how to cook. I mean I remember this one time. . . I was a little kid. I must have been six years old. I wake up on a Sunday morning. And I go downstairs and I say, uh, "Hey Dad, can you make me French toast for breakfast?" And I remember him saying something like, "Okay, yeah, I'll make it for ya. I'll teach you how to make it and then the next time you make it for me."

Kristin: [laugh] That's great.

Joe: So I was thinkin' this is great! I'm gonna be able to make French toast for myself whenever I want. And then, y'know, also I wanted to try and impress my dad, uh, y'know. So I wanted to make it for him, too.

Kristin: Uh-huh.

Joe: So, y'know, that was, y'know, that was something that was a bonding experience with my father and I as well.

### **Moving as a child**

Kristin: Hey, I was on the phone with my mom earlier today. I had a nice long conversation with her.

Joe: Oh, how's she doin'?

Kristin: Yeah, she's doin' good. She said to tell you hello, by the way.

Joe: Oh, nice.

Kristin: Yeah, I thought this kind of came out of the blue. I'd never heard it before. But she was tellin' me how my nephew moved.

Joe: Oh, he just moved?

Kristin: Yeah, um, they had been living in the city limits and now they're living in the county. So that means he's no longer gonna be going to the city schools. He'll be going to a county school. He's changed school districts.

Joe: Oh, wow, that can actually be pretty traumatic to do something like that as a kid. I mean...

Kristin: Yeah, and they've just started back to school. So I'm wondering how he's doing at a completely new school... new, new kids, everything being new.

Joe: Well, at least he didn't have to move, like, mi-, in the middle of the school year. I mean, that can be really difficult from an educational standpoint. And, y'know, it's really tough to get settled in. Y'know, especially when you do it mid-year, um...

Kristin: That's true. And although, y'know, he's still in the same area, he's close enough to still be participating in the same, uh, little league sports. Like, I think he's still gonna be on the same baseball team. So he'll still see those same kids.

Joe: Oh, that's good. That'll make the transition easier.

Kristin: Right.

Joe: Wow, eh-... Man. Y'know what? That just made me remember the time when I moved as a kid. Y'know, I was pretty fortunate. I only moved one time. And, y'know, some kids have to move a lot. Like, I mean, like army brats, for example.

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: I mean, I've had some friends whose parents were in the Army and they moved a lot. But, y'know, I, I guess it's easier when you're younger. But there comes a point where, y'know, it gets really difficult. Like when you're a teenager. Like...

Kristin: Oh, yeah, I, I've...

Joe: When I moved I was just about a teenager, so I know.

Kristin: Well, I, I've only moved once, too, when I was a child and I was eight. And that was pretty tough for me.

Joe: Yeah, well you can't imagine how difficult it must have been for me. I mean, I moved from New York where I had lived my entire life. My whole family was there. Uh, y'know, I'd, I had never moved before so all my friends lived there. And then I moved to Pennsylvania, rural Pennsylvania. I mean, it was a complete...

Kristin: Oh gosh.

Joe: ...culture shock.

Kristin: Yeah, I bet.

Joe: And, y'know, what's worse is, uh, not only did it seem different to me, I seemed totally different to all the kids there...

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: ...because, I mean first off I had this really thick New York accent...

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: ...so right off the bat, y'know, they knew right away that I was not from there.

Kristin: [laugh] Right.

Joe: Y'know, it was obvious I was the new kid on the block.

Kristin: Uh-huh.

Joe: And I looked different also because the style in New York was much different than it was in Pennsylvania.

## Part2

Kristin: That makes me think, um, when we moved, I was, we were living in Michigan. At the time we always considered it "the North". But actually it's the north of the Midwestern states. But then moving to a southern state, I definitely had a northern accent. And some of the words I used were different, too, like "pop" for, for...

Joe: Soda.

Kristin: ...soda. So I was, I was ridiculed by kids for my accent, for sure.

Joe: Yeah, you know another difficult thing for me was that the area that we moved to was affluent. And, I mean, we certainly were not rich. So, y'know, uh, and you could see it from the clothes we wore to the cars that my parents drove. I mean...

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: ...y'know, we had these old clunkers and everyone else in the neighborhood has these brand new cars, y'know. So it was pretty obvious, like, we would turn a lot of heads driving past people.

Kristin: Oh my god, that sounds so much like, like my situation. We moved from a very blue collar area - my, my parents being teachers, were very blue collar as well - to a very affluent area, a lot of doctors and lawyers. And I can remember moving. We [laugh]... My mom drove this yellow and black Gremlin [laugh]...

Joe: [laugh] Yeah, they don't make those anymore...

Kristin: [laugh] No. I....

Joe: ...and there's a reason for it.

Kristin: [laugh] I would get dropped off at school from... come in the Gremlin. I would be so embarrassed. And then, y'know, we didn't have the designer clothes

that all the kids we went to school with wore. So, we w-, it just was very stressful trying to keep up with the Joneses and buying these designer clothes. It was, uh, very stressful for me and my brothers. But also we put a lot of pressure on our parents to buy these. And they just couldn't afford it.

Joe: Yeah, that sounds familiar.

Kristin: I c-, I gotta tell you one story I can remember. My mom actually, she can't sew. And she had sewn me this pair of knickers... Knickers at one point were back in style. Do you know what those are?

Joe: Yes, yeah.

Kristin: And they were horrible looking. And I wore 'em to school and all the kids were makin' fun of me on the playground.

Joe: Oh, my gosh.

Kristin: I was just standing in the corner by myself about to cry. And then I went home and I was like "Mom, I want real knickers. I want you to buy 'em in the store for me."

Joe: Yeah, kids can be cruel.

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: I know kids can be cruel because, I'll tell you what, I had to, uh... I had a really bad experience right before I started school the summer that I moved to Pennsylvania. I'm playin' football with the kids in the neighborhood...

Kristin: Uh-huh.

Joe: ...and, of course, what happens is, I get tackled and someone falls on my leg and it breaks my ankle.

Kristin: [laugh] Oh no.

Joe: I couldn't believe it. So I'm sittin' there, tryin' to, y'know, act as, uh, if, like, it doesn't hurt that much. But, I mean, it hurt a lot. And then, y'know, the kids thought I was cryin' wolf. They didn't really think I was hurt at all.

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: So I have to walk away and, uh, walk home on a broken ankle. And, I mean, I just felt like screamin' at the top of my lungs. I was in so much pain. But I couldn't. I couldn't do it because I didn't want the kids to think I was, like, some wimp.

Kristin: [laugh] Oh, oh...

Joe: So, it gets worse [laugh]. I have to go to school with a cast on my leg to start the school year.

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: So I'm the new kid with the thick accent, the clothes that look out of place, y'know. Nobody knows me and I have a cast on my foot.

And my, y'know, I can't

take a shower, y'know. I can't shower the leg so my toes are a little dirty...

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: ...I mean I wanted nothin' more than to move back to New York that very moment, the first day of school.

Kristin: God, I bet you stuck out like a sore thumb.

Joe: Oh ma-, you can't imagine. It was the worst. I, I mean I think for the first two years I lived in Pennsylvania I just wanted to hop on a bus and get back to New York as fast as I could.

Kristin: Yep, that was me... wanting to move back to Michigan, too.

Joe: Wh- [laugh]...

Kristin: [laugh]

Joe: But, uh, y'know, I, at least you moved at an earlier age. It's a lot easier because, y'know, when you're younger it's just, uh... Y'know, all the kids are getting



familiar with each other. But when you move, and you're a little older, the kids already know each other. Y'know, they've already combined the elementary schools into the middle school, uh, for when I had moved there.

Kristin: Yeah, but you know, ironically enough, um, my older brother, I think, had an easier time adapting. And he was starting seventh grade. I was starting third grade. My younger brother was starting second grade. And my younger brother and I had a really rough time.

Joe: Yeah, well, y'know, as much as I hated it when I first, uh, had moved to Pennsylvania, now in looking back, I think it was really a blessing in disguise. I mean there were so many other opportunities that came available to us from living in Pennsylvania and going to a school district that, y'know, was, uh, had a lot more money. And the education that we got was better. And it just provided me, uh, with a much better starting point for, uh, college.

Kristin: Right.

### **Grandmother**

Kristin: Hey, how's it goin'? I'm home.

Joe: Hey, yeah, I'm in here.

Kristin: Oh. Okay.

Joe: How are you doin'?

Kristin: Pretty good.

Joe: Nice. Where you comin' from?

Kristin: I have just been out and about doin' some shopping. I was, uh, here in The Mission and then I went to Haight Street, just goin' to some secondhand stores.

Joe: Oh, okay.

Kristin: One of my favorite things to do.

Joe: Yeah, cool.

Kristin: So who are you just ge-, gettin' off the phone with?

Joe: Oh, I was speakin' to my grandmother.

Kristin: How's she doing?

Joe: Yeah, she's doin' okay. She was actually feelin' under the weather last week but, uh, now she's alright.

Kristin: Oh, did she just have a cold or somethin'?

Joe: Yeah, she said that there was somethin' goin' around. Uh, my aunt had it and my niece had it. So she might have caught it from one of them.

Kristin: Oh, okay.

Joe: Yeah. Y'know, speaking with my grandmother on the phone, sometimes I feel like I'm a little kid again...

Kristin: Yeah, why is that?

Joe: ...I get like transported back to the time when we used to live close together and, uh, y'know, and I was a kid. I mean my grandparents, when I was growin' up, they lived just like a stone's throw away from us. Maybe like, I don't know, two miles or somethin'. So we used to...

Kristin: Wow.

Joe: ...see them all the time.

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: Yeah, it was awesome. I mean, y'know, when you're a kid one of your favorite things is to see your grandparents.

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: Y'know, it's like you get to escape the discipline of your parents for a little bit.

Kristin: Right.

Joe: And, y'know, your grandparents, they'll always shower you with attention.

And, y'know, my grandmother would always, y'know, make us some sweets. And, y'know, and she was just always like, uh, always really, uh, uh, happy to see us, y'know?

Kristin: Uh-huh. Yeah, I never had the luxury of even, uh, being around one set of grandparents. My dad's parents died before I was born so I never even met them. And then my, uh, mom's parents, we lived close to them but not as close as, as you to your grandparents. I'd say it was like a twenty to thirty minute drive. And that was only until I was eight, 'coz then we moved away from Michigan to Georgia. So then it would be seein' them once a year.

Joe: Yeah, I mean, my brothers and I were really fortunate to have both sets of grandparents around.

Kristin: Yeah, you were.

Joe: Uh, and, uh, I mean, my, my father's parents moved down to Florida when we were like eight years old. And, y'know, that, that was a bummer for us at the time, uh. But at least my mom's parents lived around us, y'know, until we were teenagers...

Kristin: Mm-hm.

Joe: ...and we moved to Pennsylvania.

Kristin: Mm-hm.

Joe: But it's uncommon these days. I mean the generations before us always had their family right near them.

Kristin: Right.

Joe: I mean, I hear these stories from my grandmother. She says that her entire family lived in like one, y'know, on one block. And that wasn't uncommon. I mean, a lot of the times they would, uh, the whole family would live in the same house. Usually people didn't leave until they got married. And even if they did leave and get married, they lived just down the block.

Kristin: Well, speaking of the same block... That, that, uh, made me think of my brother. My younger brother, when he was in high school, dated this girl and her whole family lived on the same street. And I can remember thinkin' how strange that was.

Joe: Yeah, I mean, now it is.

Kristin: Yeah.

Joe: But back then it wasn't at all.

Kristin: Yeah, right.

Joe: Yeah. Oh, when I was talkin' to my grandmother, as we do a lot of the times, I was reminiscing with her about when I was younger. And, y'know, um, y'know, we... Not only did we live very close to my grandparents, we all went to the same church. So, y'know, every Sunday afternoon we'd see them at church and we'd sit near them. And, uh, then after church was over I'd always like beg my parents to let us go over to my grandparents' house. And, y'know, we'd go over there and eat dinner. And I'd watch baseball games with my grandfather. So that was always a lot of fun, y'know.

Kristin: Uh-huh.

Joe: It was just, y'know, just spending time with them, y'know.

Kristin: Yeah, was it...

Joe: We just had a great time.

Kristin: Was it like a big Sunday dinner?

Joe: Oh yeah, and my grandmother would cook a huge meal. And, my grandmother was an amazing cook. She would always cook like some amazing Italian dinner...

Kristin: Mmmmm.

Joe: ...and, y'know, we just loved goin' over there for that reason as well.

Kristin: Oh, that's great.

### **Burning Man**

Joe: Hey, Terence, so how'd you spend your Labor Day weekend?

Terence: Um, I spent my Labor Day weekend not doing anything except wishing I was at Burning Man. I had, uh, plans to go but they fell through.

Joe: Oh, man, I know that, uh, you've really enjoyed it in the past.

Terence: Yeah, I've, I've... As you know, I've gone quite a few years in a row. But this year I couldn't make it. Um, y'know, but I guess that the, the saving grace about it is that I'm not in the heat. And I really can't stand the dust.

Joe: Oh yeah? I know. I hear that the heat and the dust can be overwhelming. I've had some friends who have gone in the past years and they didn't prepare enough. And they said they were in over their heads.

Terence: Oh yeah, yeah, it's definitely the kind of thing that, um, it helps to know what you're getting into with the conditions and just what to expect. Because no amount of description can really, really help with what you're gonna experience.

Joe: Yeah. I was talking with a friend of mine who lives in Canada and I mentioned Burning Man and he'd never heard it. And he was like, "Well, y'know, what's it about?" And he wanted me to describe it. And I realized that, y'know, I wasn't really... I'm not really able to describe it to him because I've never been.

Terence: Yeah, um, it's, it's one of those things, it's kind of hard to describe. I mean the first time you go you really can't... you really can't believe your eyes. What you see, I mean just all the people and all the effort they put into it, all the creativity. It's really something to behold.

Joe: So, um, how would you describe it though, like...

Terence: I would describe it just as a, just really large festival where basically anything goes. Anything you wanna do is accepted. Um, any way you wanna express yourself, it's okay, whether it's how you dress, what you say, um, the kind of music you wanna play, anything.

Joe: Yeah, I've heard there's some pretty wild outfits. People just dress up as, uh, crazy as they possibly can.

Terence: Yeah, you never know, you never know what people are gonna do, um, I'm, I, I never cease to be amazed with what's gonna, I'm gonna see there.

Joe: [laugh] Nice, that's great. How long...

Terence: But...

Joe: ...is it, uh, oh, I'm sorry, go ahead.

Terence: Y'know, but, y'know, like I said, it's, it's, I've gone five years and the, the process of going does get a little old. I mean the first time I went, y'know, I definitely was, um, had that first time blown away feeling...

Joe: Yeah.

Terence: ...but, y'know, then after a while, you, subsequent years, y'know, it's not quite as, as exciting and fresh. So you start to maybe focus a little more on some of the, um, discomforts. Y'know, you, you have no creature comforts when you're there.

Joe: Yeah, and the traffic's out of hand, too. I hear you end up sitting in like traffic jams for hours.

Terence: You can. You can. Especially, y'know, towards the end of the week when everybody's in a rush to get there, it, it's absolutely can be that way...

Joe: What were...

Terence: ...but then, y'know... go ahead.

Joe: When do people start getting there?

Terence: Um, some people go as early as a week before. I mean they really wanna, they really wanna get there and maximize their time.

Joe: Yeah.

Terence: You, you can be up there basically, um, for, uh, nine days, if you...

Joe: Is that like people who wanna build like structures and stuff?

Terence: Yeah, definitely, there's some people who can actually go even before it starts and you can, y'know, if you're building a special art project, you could get there as early as a month beforehand. But the maj-, y'know, people that are there setting up big camps they, they tend to get there, um, probably like nine days beforehand.

Joe: It sounds like it's just like a really art-, uh, artistic event, like where everyone just trying to express themselves and their artistic sides and showing off their art and stuff and just acting a little crazy.

Terence: Absolutely, absolutely. It's definitely an environment where, it's, and the fact that it's in the desert, um, you, it just adds to the just surreal atmosphere of it. I mean you're there and you might as well be on the moon, with a...

Joe: [laugh]

Terence: ...with the costumes and people just totally trick out their cars.

Joe: Yeah. And then, eh, what do they do at the end? Like, I know they burn something. But I'm not even sure what it is. Because, like I said, I've never been there.

Terence: Yeah, it's kind of this... It's kind of the culmination of the event, um. It's why it's called Burning man. They, there's this giant man that's basically burned. I mean he, y'know, it's kind of this tribal festival that, um, reaches a fever pitch. Lots of fire dancers, uh, people just basically going crazy.

Joe: What's the man made out of?

Terence: Made of wood.

Joe: Oh, okay.

Terence: He's made of wood. And there's, and then there's definitely some neon light on him 'coz when you... The event is kind of surrounding a middle area and the man is in the middle. And that Saturday night, which is on Labor Day weekend, pretty much the entire place kind of just surrounds it and that's when it all starts. And then it's, finishes with him getting burned down. And the place just reaches a fever pitch at that point.

Joe: Yeah, I hear that, uh, it becomes like, with the number of people there, it becomes one of the largest, uh, towns in all of, uh, Nevada...

Terence: Yeah, I know it's...

Joe: ...for that weekend.

Terence: Yeah, I know it's top ten, yeah, definitely. It's a, it's a real good experience.

Joe: Yeah, you know what, I'd, I'd really like to go next year but, uh, y'know I'm, I'm gonna plan for it but you never know what can come up, y'know, so I'll just have to see how it goes.

Terence: Maybe I'll see you out there.

Joe: [laugh] Yeah, well if I go, you'll definitely be one of the first ones to know.

Terence: Awesome.

### **Hitchhiking in Europe**

Joe: Hey, you know I ran into John today and he's gonna actually be doin' some travelin' in Europe. He's, uh, he says he's gonna spend a lot of time in Prague.

David: Oh, Prague's awesome. Ah . . . did I tell you I lived there?

Joe: No, get out of here. You never told me that.

David: Yeah, I lived in Prague about 15 years ago.

Joe: Oh, whoa, du-, what were you doing there?

David: Well, I was traveling. I didn't actually know that I would end up in Prague. I was just gonna do whatever came along.

Joe: Wait, where'd you start out traveling?

David: I got a one way ticket to Amsterdam.

Joe: [laugh] Oh, nice.

David: And one of the only people that I knew in Europe was this chick that I used to go out with. So I figured I'd look her up. I knew she had another boyfriend at that point. But she said she could get me a place to stay and she was in Prague. So I figured I'd go there for a few weeks and see how it went.

Joe: She was from Prague? Or...

David: No, she was American, but she was over there teaching English.

Joe: Oh, nice, nice.

David: Yeah.

Joe: So wait, how long did you spend in Amsterdam?

David: I only spent about four days in Amsterdam before I got kind of sick of it.

Joe: So you were just goin', you were just basically like, uh, travelin' through.

David: Yeah, and then I started hitching.

Joe: Oh, nice, nice.

David: And kind of hooked up with some English chicks and just kind of spent a little bit of time with them on the road. And then eventually ended up, uh, on a train late at night and, uh, didn't have any money, but pretended I didn't understand what anyone was saying and ended up in Prague.

Joe: Wait, when you first took off, um, from the U.S., were you actually traveling alone?

David: Totally by myself.

Joe: Oh, sweet.

David: Yep.

Joe: Nice...

David: It's funny, looking back, I didn't have anything with me, y'know.

Joe: Yeah, you could just like basically, uh, take off on a whim.

David: I had like one pair of shoes and no health insurance and I was just, uh, livin' large.

Joe: [laugh] That's nice. And you know what, now you would probably look back and think that you were totally broke. And, uh, that, now that you have kids, that would be a difficult, a very difficult thing to think of.

David: If I had to be responsible for them it would be difficult. But, y'know, I, uh, I was only responsible for me. And I kind of... I was, I was in the mood to, uh, to feel anonymous. I wanted to go where no one recognized me.

Joe: Yeah, no that sounds great. So you, I, that's great that you just traveled alone.

A lot of people, uh, are not into doin' that, y'know?

David: Yeah, well, it's a big deal.

Joe: Yeah, some people...

David: You've got to kind of put yourself out there and just see what happens, y'know.

Joe: Yeah, exactly. I actually, I've never traveled alone. But, uh, I, I'm sure I could do it, y'know, because, uh, I'm good, I, I feel like I'm pretty good at meeting people, y'know?

David: Yeah, yeah. Well sometimes it's fun to meet people and other times it's fun to just truly be on your own. And, y'know, you get into a situation where you, where you realize that nobody knows where you are...

Joe: [laugh]

David: ...and you just have this total sense of, uh, freedom.

Joe: Yeah.  
David: It's crazy.  
Joe: Yeah, I can only imagine.  
David: Yeah.  
Joe: You took the train from Amsterdam to, uh, to Prague?  
David: No, I took the train to somewhere in Germany and then I started thumbing on the side of the road.  
Joe: [laugh] Oh, how long did you stay in Germany?  
David: Uh, like two days.  
Joe: Oh, that wasn't long at all.  
David: Yeah, just long enough for a couple of weird people to meet me and, uh, help me out, and take me to different places.  
Joe: So they actually picked you up?  
David: Yeah, at one point I decided that I didn't really care what direction the car was going as long as it was warm and dry, I was getting in.  
Joe: Wait, did you, were you actually like, uh, did you believe that you were headed to Prague at that point or were you just...  
David: Yeah...I was...  
Joe: ...headed wherever?  
David: No, I was headed to Prague, but I didn't really care if it took me a while or what.  
Joe: Oh, that's cool.  
David: So I just kind of went with the flow of what was happening.  
Joe: Yeah, what did you think of Germany while you were there, because I've never been there...  
David: Kind of weird...  
Joe: ...either.  
David: ...kind of weird.Uh, y'know, being, uh, being a Jew, uh...  
Joe: [laugh]  
David: ...I was kind of aware of the history.  
Joe: Yeah, I'm sure that that's something that is pretty hard to forget.  
David: Yeah, although, you know interestingly, the only person I met in Europe who was a deadhead was in Germany.  
Joe: Oh really!  
David: Yeah, and he was like so happy that I was into the Dead when he met me and I gave him one tape that I had...  
Joe: [laugh]  
David: ...and he was just ecstatic, because they weren't able to get tapes like we were at that point.  
Joe: Oh, so he was actually German.  
David: Yeah.  
Joe: [laugh] That's great.  
David: Because this was before computers.  
Joe: Yeah, well if you think about it the Dead played there in, uh, '81, and, uh...  
David: Yeah, he, he knew about them.He knew what was up, but he was like, y'know...  
Joe: Yeah.  
David: ...I could use some music.And he had a Dead shirt on.He showed me.It was funny.  
Joe: Wait, he, he was actually wearing a Grateful Dead shirt when you met him?  
David: Uh-huh.  
Joe: [laugh] That's great.

David: It was like underneath a sweatshirt. He was like, "No, really." He pulls over... He lifts up the sweatshirt. He was like "Look." It was like an old tie-dye.

Joe: Were you wearing one also?

David: No.

Joe: Oh, so how did he know?

David: Uh, I just started talking about it and I had bootlegs with me.

Joe: Oh, that's great.

## Chile

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Joe: Were you wearing one also?

David: No.

Joe: Oh, so how did he know?

David: Uh, I just started talking about it and I had bootlegs with me.

Joe: Oh, that's great.

And I just thought,

I'm just gonna wing it, uh....I'm never gonna be able to get a job here and, uh....I just, uh, went on this fantastic trip. And when I got back to the city, uh, realizing that since I wasn't able to get a job I was probably gonna have to go home....One of the people that I met, um, in the first week that I was there offered me a job. Or told me about a job that I later got at the school that she worked at. So I was able to live there a whole year.

Joe: What were you doin' there?

Will: I was teaching, uh, geography and literature to, uh, a lot of different aged kids, mostly around eleven and twelve.

Joe: Oh that sounds like a great job. You actually get a chance to interact with, uh, the younger generation as well.

Will: Absolutely. That's why I went there in the first place. Although goin' salsa dancing and, uh, hanging out with my friends was, uh, was another really good part of it.

Joe: [laugh] I can just see you out on the town salsa dancing.

Will: Yeah, I, uh, I was a pretty terrible salsa dancer, it's true. But I had a lot of fun.

Joe: Well, you know what? I guess that's really all that matters, doesn't it?

Will: That's right. Yeah, absolutely when you go on a trip like that. That's what you want is to learn a lot and have a really good time.