

NOTE: In the introduction, the thesis is broken up into 3 colors. These colors start each body paragraph. They are also included in the conclusion to show you how each color summarizes the main ideas.

Your Name

Writing 4

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Travel

What makes travel so alluring? One trip to another country opens Pandora's Box of mystery, wonder, and delight. Travel enlightens the mind and feeds the soul. One step onto a new land changes a person forever and in some, ignites a lifelong passion that can only be quenched by experiencing adventures to exotic places. Embrace the wanderlust. It is through travel that we grow as human beings by opening our minds and hearts. In turn, **travel immerses us in new cultures**, **forces us to communicate in new ways**, and **awakens the senses to the irresistible smells of food**.

Travel is important in our lives because it immerses us in new cultures, forces us to communicate in new ways, and awakens the senses to the irresistible smells of food and life.

First, travel immerses us in new cultures. That first step onto a new land can be both scary and exhilarating, with excitement winning out every time. According to the article "5 Reasons Travel Feeds Your Soul", the author states, "Being removed from your normal every day existence gives you a fresh perspective on life" (Sutriasa). Truer words were never spoken. No matter the mode of travel, people are transported to another place, literally. As this isn't

home, it encourages individuals to momentarily forget their everyday responsibilities and explore their new surroundings. People are free to explore the customs of another country. When in Rome, dress as the people do, and if that means wearing a colorful sari as many traditional women in India wear, then don the brightest colors that accentuate the best features.

Second, travel forces us to communicate in new ways. When traveling to another country, it can be daunting trying to speak a language that ‘no pun intended’ feels foreign to even the most experienced traveler. In turn, a phrase book, smile, and a few phrases will let the local people know that although the accent may be muddled, the effort certainly isn’t. This means that by putting in some effort to try and speak another’s language, we are opening up the lines for communication. According to Matt Long, a travel writer, he talked about an experience of when he visited Germany. He said,

I can barely communicate in German, but what little I understand and can read helps me whenever I’m in a German speaking country. Even if it’s enough to say, “I’m sorry I don’t speak German”, that helps! (“Importance of Language When You Travel”).

What this means is that knowing a phrase or two can show the people native to the country that travelers are at least trying. Matt may not have been fluent in the language but because he put forth some effort, he opened the lines of communication. This in turn, encourages friendly exchange and often times leads to help that is needed.

Third, travel awakens the senses to irresistible smells of food. According to Brent Crane who wrote “For a More Creative Brain, Travel” he says, “New sounds, smells, language, tastes,

sensations, and sights spark different synapses in the brain” (2015). Our senses are heightened when we enter the realm of a new place. Aromas trigger memories of long past, which broaden our perspectives and forever change how we think. Food awakens passions for new flavors and tastes. It is through trying new foods that we broaden our perceptions of the culture and people.

Within each of us exists a need for truth and knowledge. We discover truth by opening our minds to experiences that like it or not, change us. They expand our perceptions and help us discover truths that we might not otherwise have known existed. Experiencing new cultures is an example of this. By experiencing different places, we force ourselves to communicate by the age-old way of body language. This form of communication encourages tolerance of others and ourselves. By accepting who we have become via these experiences, we are able to enjoy the world around us. Furthermore, what is more irresistible than the aroma of spices? Whether purchased from a vendor on the street among crowds of people, or sitting down in an open restaurant, food opens our senses and forever changes how we view the world. The next time you travel, what exotic land will you discover, how will you communicate, and what exotic foods will you endeavor to try?

*Note: The blue sentence is my “Final Thought” and tells the reader why I want them to remember my topic on travel.

Works Cited

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