

READING COMPREHENSION

B1 | Adults / Teens | Reading + Vocabulary | 30-40 minutes

Topic: Travel | Skills: Reading, Vocabulary, Speaking

Read the text carefully. Then answer the questions on Page 2.

The Photo I Did Not Take

I used to photograph every interesting moment when I travelled. My friends joked that they could follow my entire holiday without asking me a single question. I enjoyed sharing pictures, and I liked having a **record** of small things I might otherwise forget.

During a weekend trip, I visited a market with my aunt. At one **stall**, a woman was teaching her grandson to fold paper birds. His first attempts were uneven, and they both laughed when one fell apart. I lifted my phone, expecting to **capture** a perfect travel photograph.

My aunt quietly suggested that I ask first. The woman was friendly, but she shook her head. Her grandson did not like being photographed by strangers. I put my phone away and felt awkward. I worried that I had interrupted a private moment.

A few minutes later, the boy offered me a sheet of paper. His grandmother showed me the first fold, and I tried to copy it. My bird looked more like a boat. We all laughed, and I bought a small packet of paper to practise at home.

I still take photographs when I travel. However, the paper bird on my desk reminds me of something my online album cannot show. Sometimes asking **permission** changes what happens next, and sometimes leaving without a picture gives you a different kind of memory.

Key vocabulary

record - something that keeps information about a past event

stall - a small stand or area where things are sold

capture - record a moment in a photograph or other form

permission - agreement that allows you to do something

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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Answer in complete sentences. Use the text to help you.

1. What did the narrator enjoy about taking travel photographs?

2. What was the woman teaching her grandson?

3. Why did the woman refuse permission for a photograph?

4. How did the narrator become involved after putting the phone away?

5. What did the narrator buy?

6. Did the experience make the narrator stop taking photographs? Explain.

Discuss with a partner

- When should you ask before taking a photograph?
- What object reminds you of a good experience?

ANSWER KEY

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Suggested full-sentence answers. Accept equivalent answers with the same meaning.

1. What did the narrator enjoy about taking travel photographs?

The narrator enjoyed sharing pictures and keeping a record of small details.

2. What was the woman teaching her grandson?

The woman was teaching her grandson to fold paper birds.

3. Why did the woman refuse permission for a photograph?

She refused because her grandson did not like being photographed by strangers.

4. How did the narrator become involved after putting the phone away?

The boy offered some paper, and his grandmother taught the narrator the first fold.

5. What did the narrator buy?

The narrator bought a small packet of paper to practise at home.

6. Did the experience make the narrator stop taking photographs? Explain.

The experience did not make the narrator stop, but it changed how the narrator thought about permission and memories.

Teaching notes

Read once for the main idea, then reread for evidence. Compare answers before discussing the two open questions.

Language and reading focus: Past narrative; permission and reflective conclusions.

Text: Original fiction. Discussion questions have no fixed answers.