

101 Listening
Assignment # 5

Title: The Art of Travel (7:06)

Source: <http://discover.npr.org/features/feature.jhtml?wfId=1148208>

In this excerpt you will hear a National Public Radio interview with a writer Alain de Botton.

1. Part one (12 points)

The following words will appear in the excerpt. Give synonyms or definitions for each of them:

Word	Definition	Word	Definition
proximity		jar	
shallow		coat of arms	
fictional		to break free	
duke		mundane	
to anticipate		midwife	
anticipation		windowsill	

2. Part two: Before you start (1 point)

List some of the reasons why traveling for pleasure /being on holiday is important to YOU.

3. Part three: Comprehension questions (27 points)

As you listen, answer the questions. Some of the questions are directed to YOU. Use the back of the page if needed.

1. What book made Alain de Botton famous a few years ago? (1 point)

Why? (3 points)

3. Why is the author's trip to Barbados described as "painfully shallow" in comparison to a trip 200 years ago? (3 points)

4. What are three things that a 19th century fictional duke (an odd character from the "The Art of Travel") does in order to anticipate traveling? (3 points)

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- _____
- _____

5. What is going on a journey compared with? Why? (2 points)

6. What can go wrong on a journey according to the author? (2 points)

7. Alan de Botton briefly describes how he “broke free from the guide book” when he was in Spain. What was the purpose of his trip to Madrid? (1 point)

What three things was he especially interested in during his stay? (6 points)

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What would YOU like to do in Madrid? (1 point)

8. One of the lines from the “The Art of Travel” reads: “Journeys are the midwives of thought”. How does the author interpret it? (2 points)

9. What is the main idea of the book “Journey around my Bedroom”? (1 point)

10. PREDICT what YOU would expect to read about in the follow-up book “Journey to my Windowsill”. [The answer to this question is not in the interview] (2 points)
