How to Survive in the U.S.A.

Nancy Church and Anne Moss

English for travelers and newcomers

Contents

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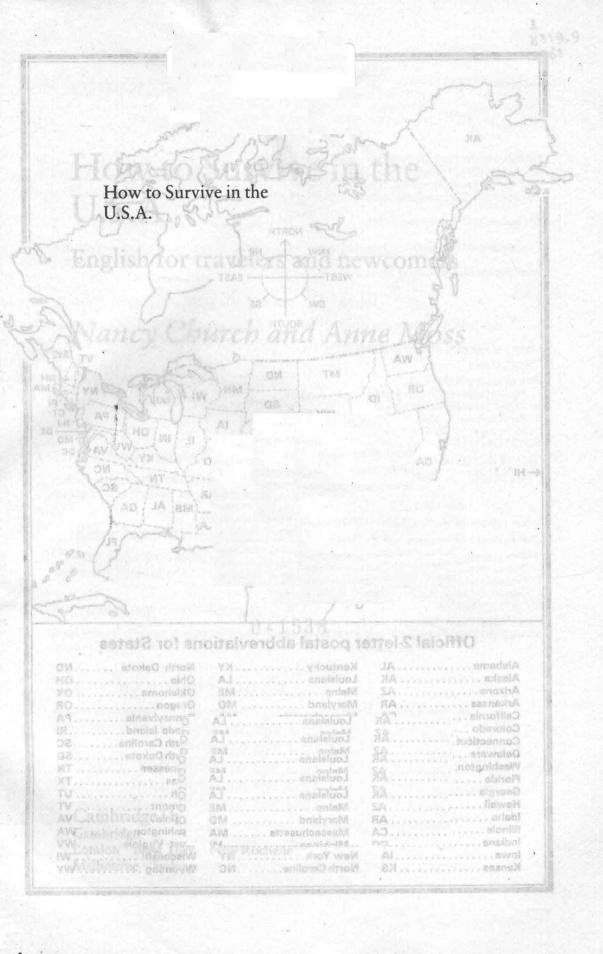
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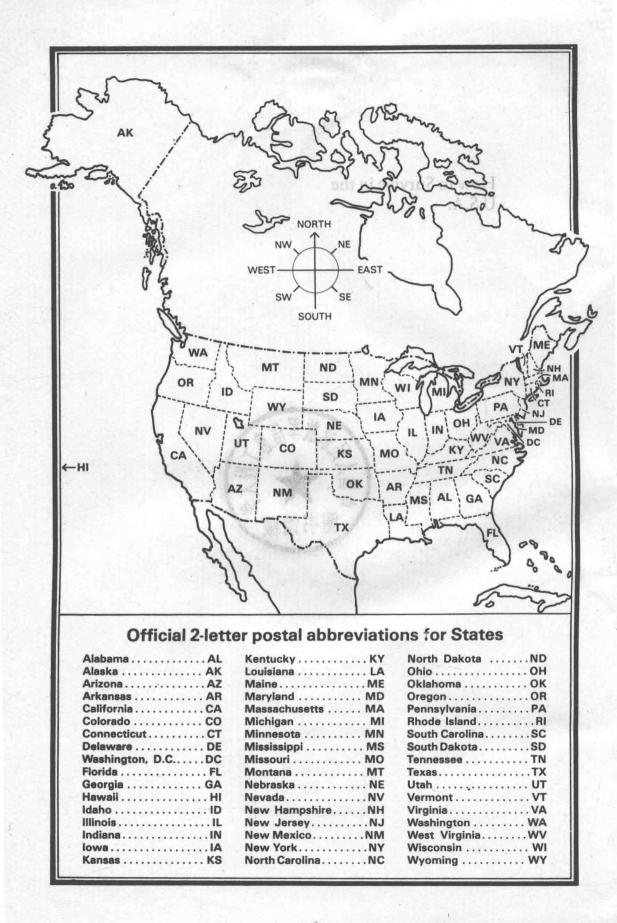
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English for travelers





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conversation on the cassette several times

Listen and read. Without

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Introduction

Who is this course for? How to Survive in the U.S.A. is an English Language Teaching book and cassette especially for people who already know some English and want to travel, vacation, study, do business, or live in the United States. It will help you to prepare for everyday language situations you may find yourself in when you are visiting the U.S. (or if you are meeting Americans* outside the U.S.)

What is in the book? There are ten units with many authentic examples of forms, documents, and written material that you may have to use or fill out in real life. There is useful information for you to look at and read in the illustrations, conversations, and texts. There are questions, answers, notes and additional recorded conversations to help you understand and test yourself.

What is on the cassette? There are 1) Listen and read conversations, in which you read the text after you have listened to it on the cassette and 2) Listen and answer and Look and listen conversations, which you only listen to on the cassette; we suggest that you do not read the texts of these conversations at all, but if you don't have the cassette you can find them at the back of the book in the Tapescript (pages 125–133). All the conversations are spoken by people from all parts of the U.S., from many social and cultural backgrounds in typical American accents. For review, the idioms from the Test yourself exercise at the end of each unit are also recorded on the cassette.

How do you use the course? You can use the book with or without a teacher, with or without a partner, and with or without the cassette. (When you see this symbol in your book, you can find the conversations on the cassette.) If you do not understand every word when you are reading or listening, don't worry. Read or listen to the part several times and it will get easier each time. Always try to get the general meaning first without using the glossaries or the dictionary – and without looking up answers to the questions. You can look them up after you understand the general idea of the conversation.

Self-study guide

Each unit has five parts. Be sure to read the directions before you start each new part.

PART I sets the scene of each unit.

- A. Study the illustration.
- B. Read the information.
- C. Answer the questions.
- D. Listen and answer presents a recorded conversation which you do not see. Read the questions first; then listen to the conversation on the cassette several times and answer the questions.
- E. Listen and read. Without looking, just listen to the conversation on the

cassette. While you are listening a second time, read the conversation. Listen and read several times until you are ready to answer the questions that follow.

F. Answer and act. If you are using the book with a partner, you can act out the conversation together when you see this symbol . After you have played one role, trade roles (exchange parts) with your partner. If you do not have a partner, cover one of the parts and act out the other part yourself.

^{*} People from the United States usually refer to themselves as "Americans." People from Canada (Canadians) and Latin America (Latin Americans – Brazilians, Mexicans, etc.) are Americans, too, but the name of the country, not the continent, is usually used to describe nationality.

PART II presents a problem for you to solve. World ask of some of a work solve.

- A. Study the illustration carefully.
- B. Answer the questions. You are likely to learn some new words!
- C. Look and listen presents three or four recorded conversations. Read the directions and exercises you see there first; then listen to the conversations on the cassette several times. While you are listening, look at the illustration (A) on the opposite page. Take information from the illustration or the conversations, and use it to do the exercises.
- D. Problem solving gives you a chance to create your own conversations and say as much as you can. (If you do not have a partner, imagine the situation and think of what you would say.)
- E. Make conversations like the ones on the cassette in *Look and listen (C)* above.

Put yourself in the place of one of the cartoon characters and act out that part. Your partner can act out the other part. Follow the instructions in the speech balloons. Here is an example of how you could do both parts of the pattern in Unit 1 (page 5) to make a conversation about Asking and giving directions:

- -Excuse me. Could you please tell me the way to the Northwest counter?
- -Sure, just go up the escalator and you'll see it on your right when you get to the top.
- Okay, let's see . . . I take the escalator up and it'll be at the top?
- -Right
- -Great. Thanks.
- -You're welcome. On to string out analise

Use some of the ideas in the directions, and then think of one or two of your own.

PART III presents more language situations.

- A. Study the illustration.
- B. Answer the questions.
- C. Listen and read. Listen to each of the conversations on the cassette first without looking. While you are listening a second time, read the first conversation. Listen and read again, if you want to.
- D. Answer the questions about the first conversation. Do the same for each of the conversations.

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E. Act out the scenes with a partner, if you have one. Put yourself in the situations, and practice some of the things you heard in the conversations.

PART IV gives some useful things for you to know.

- A. Read the information about traveling and living in the United States. If you have a chance, talk about this and other things you know with people interested in the same subject.
- B. Compare the meanings and uses of the American and British English words. Remember that many words sound different in British English.

GLOSSARY. At the end of each unit there is a list of important words with definitions in simple English. Some words may have more than one meaning, but only meanings from the units are in the glossaries. Abbreviations (short forms) used in the glossaries are:

- (n) noun (v) verb
- (adj) adjective
- (adv) adverb
- (prep) preposition (interj) interjection
- (e.g.) interjection for example
- (etc.) et cetera, and so on

PART V gives you a chance to see how much you've learned.

First study the illustration and do the exercise, then go on to the Activities.

Test yourself by listening to the ten idioms on the cassette. They are expressions you will have heard in the unit. Listen several times before you do the matching exercises and answer the questions.

ANSWERS AND NOTES. Answers to all the questions and exercises are on pages 107–124. Think about your answers on your own before you look them up. Then, even if you think you know the answers, look them up, because you will often find extra information about the United States with the explanations and answers.

TAPESCRIPT. The texts of all the recorded conversations in Listen and answer and Look and listen are on pages 125–133. It is best to read them only after you have listened to the cassette and only if you really need to. If you do not have the cassette, read each of the conversations before you answer the questions for that part.

At the beginning of the book, you will find a map of the United States with names of all the states, the points of the compass, and the abbreviations for the states.

At the end of the book, there is a list of abbreviations often used in the U.S. There is also information about American weights and measures.

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PART IV gives some useful things for you to know.

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10 Being a welcome guest

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10 Being a welcome guest

Staying at someone's home; agreeing to your host's suggestions or getting out of something politely; being invited to parties; arranging to get together again.

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PART I

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C. Answer the questions

- 1. Who requires this form?
- 2. Who has to fill it out?
- 3. Do you have a middle name?
- 4. What's your address in your country of residence?
- 5. Is your country of citizenship the same as

	IMPORTANT NOTICE
For sale b	 You are authorized to stay in the U.S. only until the date written on this form. To remain past this date, without permission from immigration authorities, is a violation of law.
y the Bug	SURRENDER THIS PERMIT WHEN YOU LEAVE THE UNITED STATES
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B. Read

This form is called an I-94. It is the first U.S. form you see (except the ones you filled out to get your visa) and you see it whether you enter the country by air, sea or land. If you come by air, your flight attendant gives you one before the plane lands. After landing, you go to Immigration (INS), where you have to wait in line until the counter is free. Then the inspector checks your visa, completes your I-94 and staples it to your passport. Your next stop is the baggage claim area. Then you go through Customs. After that, you're on your own!

your country of residence?

- 6. What should you do with this form while you're in the U.S.? What about when you leave?
- 7. Try to fill out the form.

D. Listen and answer

You will hear a conversation at a Customs desk. Listen first and then answer the questions.

- 1. Who are the speakers?
- 2. Where are they?
- 3. Why does the man ask so many questions?
- 4. Have you ever gone through U.S. Customs?
 - 5. Where do you go after Customs?

E. Listen and read



These people have just gone through Customs at JFK (John F. Kennedy International Airport is known as "JFK") in New York.

PETER: Well, this is it! Welcome to America! COLLEEN: Thanks.

PETER: What are your plans?

COLLEEN: I want to go into Manhattan for a few days.

PETER: That's a good idea. It's a great town, New York. You going to take the bus to the East Side Terminal?

COLLEEN: Where?

PETER: The East Side Terminal. That's in Manhattan. There's a bus from here every half hour or so. The stop is right over

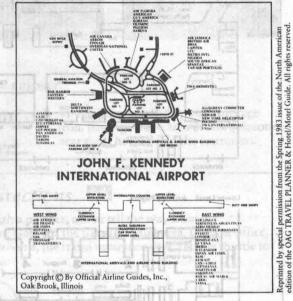
COLLEEN: Oh, thanks. Aren't you going to Manhattan?

PETER: No. I've got to catch a flight to L.A. in a couple of hours. I'll be taking the shuttle to LaGuardia.

COLLEEN: Did you say "shuttle"?

PETER: Mmm-hmm. COLLEEN: What's that?

PETER: A bus that goes from IFK to LaGuardia. There are also a lot of shuttle flights to other airports and there are shuttle buses between the nine terminals here at the airport.



COLLEEN: Oh.

PETER: Look, there's a shuttle pulling out now. Costs quite a bit, but it's still a good deal. Hey! Here comes your bus!

F. Answer and act

Listen to the conversation two or three times. Then try to answer the questions without looking at the text.

- 1. What are Colleen's plans?
- 2. What does Peter think of New York?
- 3. How can Colleen get to the city?
- 4. Where is the East Side Terminal?
- 5. How often do the buses go?
- 6. What are Peter's plans?
- 7. How is he going to get to LaGuardia?
- 8. Does he think the airport shuttles are cheap?

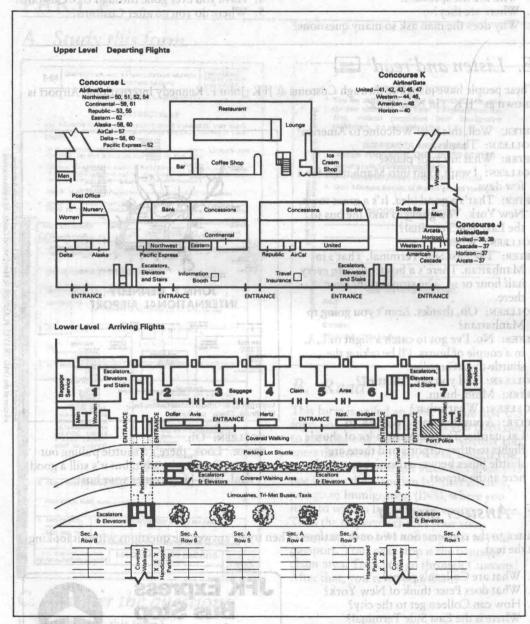


Read the conversation with a partner. Then one of you can read Peter's part while the other covers the page and plays Colleen. Trade roles.

PART II

A. Study this map and because the restal shop amount a se necessary men a sent like now

This is the terminal layout of a small American airport.



B. Answer the questions

- 1. If your flight is leaving from Gate 42, which concourse do you take?
- 2. When you enter the airport on the upper level, where are the nearest restrooms?
- 3. There's more than one place to get 6. Is this airport served by buses? something to eat. Can you name two? a shall assiled at
- 4. You land here and want to rent a car. Can you?
- 5. Do you have to walk to the parking lot? How can you get there?

C. Look and listen

You will hear three conversations at the airport. Looking at the map on page 4, figure out where the speakers are and where they have to go. Listen to the way people ask for and give directions.







D. Problem solving 44

Look at the map on page 4 again. Work with a partner.

- 1. You arrive by taxi for an Eastern flight to Boston. Where do you go? Ask someone near the taxi stand for directions to the Eastern counter.
- You have just picked up your luggage from baggage claim area 3. Ask someone near there how to find the restrooms.

E. Asking for and giving directions

Using the following pattern and working with a partner, ask or tell the way from the information booth to the Northwest counter, Gate 39, the baggage claim area, the post office, the taxi stand, the concessions area, the restrooms, the travel insurance desk and the shuttle to the parking lot.

Get attention and ask directions.

Give directions.

Repeat directions.

Confirm or correct.

Thank.

Respond.



PART III

A. Study this form

You will get this form when you enter the U.S. See if you can understand it.

EACH ARRIVING TRAVELER OR HEAD LOWING INFORMATION. PLEASE PRINT		FOL-
1. FAMILY NAME GIV	VEN NAME MIL	DDLE INITIA
2. DATE OF BIRTH (Mo./Day/Yr.)	3. VESSEL, OR AIRLINE & FL	T. NO.
4. CITIZEN OF (Country)	5. RESIDENT OF (Country)	
6. PERMANENT ADDRESS		
7. ADDRESS WHILE IN THE UNITED ST		indiana.
8. NAME AND RELATIONSHIP OF ACC		
Are you or anyone in your party carrying other plant or animal products, birds, and the plant or animal products.	OMPANYING FAMILY MEMBERS	ostana Ostana Car the I
Are you or anyone in your party carrying other plant or animal products, birds, and any kind? Have you or anyone in your party been.	OMPANYING FAMILY MEMBERS og any fruits, plants, meats, alls, or other live organisms	ostana Ostana Car the I
9. Are you or anyone in your party carrying other plant or animal products, birds, and any kind? 10. Have you or anyone in your party been the U.S.A. in the last 30 days? 11. Are you or any family member carrying lent value in any currency in monestary currency, traveler's checks, money order bearer form? (If yee, you must file a rap.	OMPANYING FAMILY MEMBERS Ing any fruits, plants, meats, alls, or other live organisms Y on a farm or ranch outside Y over \$5000.00 (or the equiva- instruments such as coin, s, or negotiable instruments in out on Form 4790, as required ort over \$5000 in monestay	ES N
9. Are you or anyone in your party carrying other plant or animal products, birds, and any kind? 10. Have you or anyone in your party been the U.S.A. in the last 30 days? 11. Are you or any family member carrying lent value in any currency in monetary currency, traveler's checks, money order bearer form? (If yee, you must file a rap by faw.) Note: It is not illegal to transpring the property of the property	OMPANYING FAMILY MEMBERS In any fruits, plants, meats, alls, or other live organisms On a farm or ranch outside Y Over \$5000.00 (or the equiva- instruments such as coin, s, or negotiable instruments in ort on Form 4790, as required ort over \$5000 in monetary d.	ES N ES N
9. Are you or anyone in your party carrying other plant or animal products, birds, and any kind? 10. Have you or anyone in your party been the U.S.A. in the last 30 days? 11. Are you or any family member carrying ient value in any currency in monetary currency, traveler's checks, money order bearer form? (If yee, you must file a rap bearer form? (If yee, you must file a rap instruments, however, it must be reported. 2. I carrify that I have declared all items ac written statements which I have made as	OMPANYING FAMILY MEMBERS ag any fruits, plants, meats, ails, or other live organisms on a farm or ranch outside y over \$5000.00 (or the equiva- instruments such as coin, s, or negotiable instruments in out on Form 4790, as required out over \$5000 in monetary id. quired abroad as required herein and the true, correct and complete.	ES N ES N ES N

ou will hear three conversations at the airport. Looking at the ma

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

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B. Answer the questions

- 1. Who do you have to give this form to?
- 2. Which members of your family do you have to list on this form?
- 3. Do you have to declare the amount of money you're bringing into the country?

C. Listen and read

Here are two conversations that often take place at airports. The first one is at the check-in counter.

AGENT: Good morning. Your ticket, please? And set your suitcase upright and I'll check it through.

PASSENGER: Okay.

AGENT: And where would you like to sit?

PASSENGER: Make it a window seat, but if
there aren't any left, I'll take an aisle seat.

AGENT: Smoking or nonsmoking?

PASSENGER: Nonsmoking.

AGENT: Uh-huh, here you go. I'm sorry, but

there will be a 20-minute delay, so your flight will be boarding in about half an hour.

PASSENGER: I sure hope that's the only delay. Oh, where are my baggage claim checks?

AGENT: They're here with your ticket, sir. PASSENGER: Great! Uh, thanks a lot.

AGENT: You're welcome. Have a nice flight.