

Air bridges open to allow more people to travel

24th June, 2020



There is a new meaning for the word "air bridge". Before the coronavirus pandemic started, an air bridge was the walkway that linked an airport departure lounge to an airplane's door. Now, it also means

an agreement that people can travel between two countries. Many people are also calling this a "travel bubble". Australia and New Zealand have an air bridge as both countries have successfully managed their responses to the coronavirus. The United Kingdom has also signed air bridge agreements with several other countries. The agreements mean there are no quarantine requirements for those travelling between the countries. Travellers currently need to quarantine for two weeks in the UK.

Travellers arriving in the UK must inform the government of their contact details, travel details and the address of where they will isolate for two weeks. Anyone who breaks the 14-day quarantine period will get a fine. However, the UK is trying to open up its economy and allow more people to enter the country without the 14-day quarantine. It wants to allow visitors from France, Greece, Portugal and Spain to enter the country. A British newspaper said these countries are "most advantageous" to the UK economy. The newspaper reported that the UK is also thinking about air bridges with Australia, Bermuda, the Falkland Islands, Gibraltar and Montserrat.

Sources: [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) / [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com) / [newshub.co.nz](https://www.newshub.co.nz)

Writing

There should be no international travel until the pandemic is over. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

meaning / air / bridge / coronavirus / pandemic / bubble / agreements / quarantine / travellers / contact / isolate / fine / economy / newspaper / advantageous / Australia

True / False

- a) An air bridge is a walkway that connects an airport and airplane. T / F
- b) A travel bubble is a way of people visiting another country. T / F
- c) Australia has an air bridge with New Zealand. T / F
- d) People do not need to quarantine when they visit the UK. T / F
- e) People visiting the UK must let officials know their contact details. T / F
- f) The UK is trying to keep visitors from Europe away. T / F
- g) A newspaper said countries like Greece provide no benefit to the UK. T / F
- h) The UK wants to build a bridge to Australia. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. meaning | a. various |
| 2. linked | b. deal |
| 3. agreement | c. penalty |
| 4. several | d. beneficial |
| 5. requirements | e. definition |
| 6. inform | f. let |
| 7. isolate | g. needs |
| 8. fine | h. connected |
| 9. allow | i. quarantine |
| 10. advantageous | j. tell |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of travelling during coronavirus?
- b) Do you think it is better to travel in your own country?
- c) Which countries would you most like to visit?
- d) How successful is your country at managing coronavirus?
- e) What do you think of a 14-day quarantine?
- f) What do you think of people from other countries visiting your country?
- g) How would you feel about flying again?
- h) What advice do you have for your government about air travel?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. There is a new meaning for the | a. details |
| 2. an airport departure | b. for two weeks |
| 3. both countries have successfully | c. to the UK economy |
| 4. signed air bridge agreements with | d. lounge |
| 5. Travellers currently need to quarantine | e. up its economy |
| 6. inform the government of their contact | f. several other countries |
| 7. they will isolate | g. word "air bridge" |
| 8. the UK is trying to open | h. visitors from France |
| 9. It wants to allow | i. for two weeks |
| 10. most advantageous | j. managed their responses |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What should happen to people who break quarantine?
- Do you think there should be more or less international travel?
- What's the best way to stay clear of coronavirus?
- What damage has coronavirus done to your country's economy?
- Which countries are most advantageous to your country?
- When will the world be back to normal?
- What questions would you like to ask coronavirus doctors?

Spelling

- Before the coronavirus pdaincem started
- an reneemtag that people can travel
- managed their sorpense to the coronavirus
- with vreslae other countries
- ertqmriusene for those travelling
- Travellers utcrnyler need to
- their contact aildtes
- ostlaie for two weeks
- the 14-day qtnreainau period
- allow isiotsvr from France
- open up its yceonom
- most daonvtgeuasa to the UK

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. h	3. b	4. a	5. g
6. j	7. i	8. c	9. f	10. d

Role Play

Role A – Brazil

You think Brazil is the best country to visit. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their countries. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): India, Kenya or China.

Role B – India

You think India is the best country to visit. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their countries. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Brazil, Kenya or China.

Role C – Kenya

You think Kenya is the best country to visit. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their countries. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): India, Brazil or China.

Role D – China

You think China is the best country to visit. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their countries. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): India, Kenya or Brazil.

Speaking – Countries

Rank these with your partner. Put the best countries to visit at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| • India | • Brazil |
| • China | • UAE |
| • Kenya | • Canada |
| • New Zealand | • Spain |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	T	d	F	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.