

10.4 Speaking and writing

GOALS ■ Write about changes and differences ■ Make recommendations

Reading & Writing changes and differences

- 1 Work with a partner. Look at the photos of Istanbul, Liverpool and Riga and answer the questions.
 - 1 What do you know about these cities?
 - 2 What do you think they might have in common?



TRAVEL > ISTANBUL > THE NEW ISTANBUL

Istanbul has long been recognized as one of the world's great cities. However, whereas in the past it was famous for its magnificent ancient sights, today Istanbul is becoming just as well known for its modern galleries, designer shops and fashionable restaurants.

In the past decades, development has dramatically changed many parts of the city. Whereas before, the skyline was dominated by historic buildings and monuments, now it is starting to resemble Manhattan in some districts where modern skyscrapers are rapidly being built. In preparation for the city becoming European Capital of Culture in 2010, the run-down buildings in many areas were renovated and turned into boutique hotels and trendy cafés. The neighbourhood of Ortaköy is now home to sophisticated nightclubs and restaurants, in contrast to the small fishing village that was once there.

Compared to twenty years ago, the city's list of must-see attractions has also changed. In the past, most visitors explored the city's abundance of historic buildings, but today there is also a wide choice of exciting new art galleries and museums. One of the most talked about is the stunning Istanbul Modern – a former empty warehouse that is now a state-of-the-art gallery with a stylish restaurant that offers excellent views of the old city.

In 2014 the city was voted the world's top destination in TripAdvisor's Travellers' Choice Awards, and there's no doubt that Istanbul is now one of Europe's most popular and vibrant cities.

- 2a 10.14))) Listen to an extract from a radio programme and check your ideas.
 - b Which city in your country would you recommend for this competition? Why? Tell your partner.
- 3a Read the article about Istanbul and make notes about past and present Istanbul with the headings.

	Past	Present
The Ortaköy area		
Istanbul Modern		

- b Check your answers with a partner.

- 4a Look at the article again and underline five words or phrases used for comparing things. What is being compared?

- b Check your answers in the Language for writing box.

LANGUAGE FOR WRITING writing about changes and differences

When writing about changes and differences we use phrases like:

before ... now ...
whereas in the past ... today ...
whereas before ... , now ...
in contrast to ...
compared to ...
one of the most important changes ...
another important change ...

- 5 Complete the text about the city of Liverpool in the UK. Use the information in the Language for writing box to help you.

A city which has changed its image a great deal since it was named European Capital of Culture in 2008 is Liverpool. ¹ _____ before, people in the UK thought of Liverpool as a city of high unemployment and poverty, now they are more likely to link it with positive cultural events such as art exhibitions and music concerts.

² _____ has been the Liverpool One development in the city centre, which opened in 2008. ³ _____ the old, often empty buildings that were there before, this fashionable shopping, living and leisure area now attracts millions of visitors a year and is the biggest open-air shopping centre in the UK.

⁴ _____ can be seen in the Albert Dock area. ⁵ _____ in the early 1980s it lay empty and forgotten, it is now Liverpool's most popular tourist attraction, with more than four million people a year visiting its shops, museums, galleries and street festivals.

- 6a Think about a city or town you know that has changed. Make notes about at least five changes to the city.
- b Write a paragraph about the city or town. Use the language from the Language for writing box to describe the changes.

Listening & Speaking making recommendations

- 7a 10.15))) Listen to some people talking about different cities.

- Which cities are they talking about?
- What do they recommend doing?

Cities	Recommendation
1	
2	
3	
4	

- b Compare answers with a partner.

- 8a 10.16))) Listen and complete the expressions.

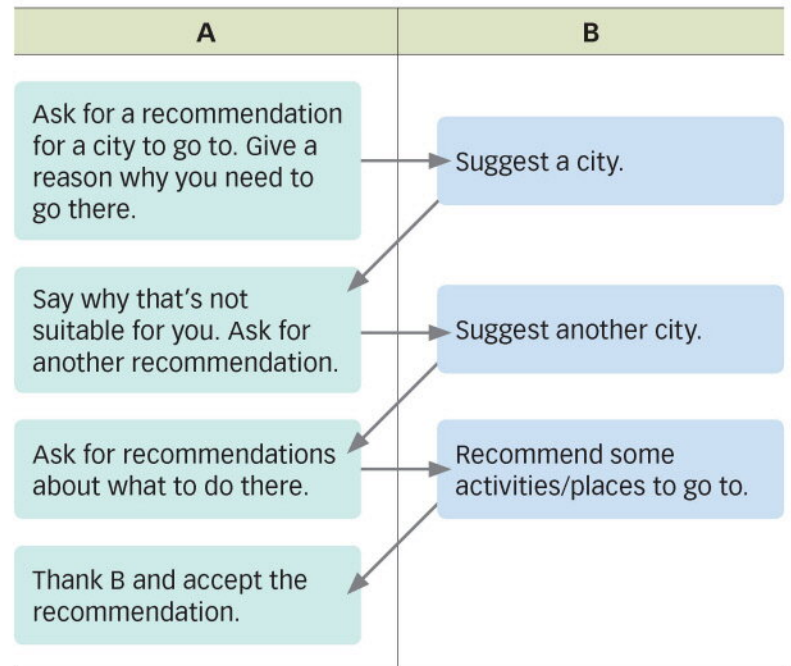
- You _____ learning flamenco ...
- OK, I'll _____.
- If you like skiing, I'd _____ Portillo or Valle Nevado, both world-class ski resorts.
- Is there anything _____?
- Where _____ I stay?
- Well, _____ trying a traditional Japanese inn?
- They're the _____ in luxury and relaxation.
- That _____. I'll definitely try it.

- b Which expressions:

- ask for a recommendation: _____
- recommend something: _____
- respond to a recommendation: _____

- 9 Choose two cities you know and make a list of 3-5 things you would recommend to someone who is going to visit the cities for work, study or social purposes.

- 10 **TASK** Work with a partner (A and B). Use the expressions in exercise 8a, the Language for speaking box and the prompts below to have a conversation about cities to visit. Then change roles.



LANGUAGE FOR SPEAKING
making recommendations

Ask for a recommendation
Could you recommend (a) ...?

Recommend something
I'd definitely recommend ...
... it might be a good idea to ...
Don't miss ...

Respond to a recommendation
Thank you, that's a great suggestion, but ...
That's a good idea, (but) ...