

Module 2090: Tourism Interpretation 1

During your trip, you will develop an understanding and appreciation for another culture. You will research a tourist attraction in Paris, act as an interpretive guide while in Paris for your attraction, and then reflect on your experiences in a personal journal. Throughout your battlefield studies, you will develop an understanding of historical events that have shaped our world, and in turn, will reflect on these in your journal.

3 goals of tourism interpretation:

- increase visitor awareness, appreciation and understanding
- accomplish management goals of thoughtful use and minimal visitor impact
- promote visitor understanding of the host tourist area

Requirements for the assignments:

1. Research Project. Your research will be presented at a French Cultural Fair on the evening of March..... (Your topic and group members have already been assigned).

- Research the history of your tourist attraction.
- Create a timeline of dates and major historic events.
- Determine the location of your landmark in Paris and indicate this on a map of the city. Then, research at least 2 subway routes by which you can travel to the location.
- Determine the visitor hours and cost of entry for your site.
- How much time would be required to travel to the site, visit the site, and return “home”?
- Make sure to consider how you will display and promote / market your attraction as “the best” at the French Cultural Fair evening.
- This section of your project will be evaluated by people attending the cultural fair (eg. teachers, parents, members of the public).

2. Presentation on-site in Paris

As the expert, you will be responsible for taking your group to the site (on the subway), acting as a tour guide for the site, and answering any questions your group members might have, then taking your group back to the hostel.

Points for consideration:

- You will need to bring information relating to the attraction with you. Example: historical significance, city map, subway map, etc.
- As the expert tour guide for your attraction, decide how you will best showcase its appeal.
- You will be evaluated on site by your teacher leader according to your level of preparation, your performance as a tour guide and your ability to navigate the city of Paris.

3. Personal Journal

As you travel through France, you will make *daily* entries in your journal. This journal will be handed in to your teacher-leader at the end of the trip. You may be asked for it at various points during the trip as well.

Points for consideration:

Section A:

- Personal thoughts and feelings regarding your travel experience with your friends and colleagues as it unfolds
- Self-evaluation of your experience as a tour guide
 - Evaluate your on-site presentation to your Paris group.
 - Do you feel that your presentation was successful?
 - What would you do differently if you were to do it again?
- Reflect on your interpersonal interactions (including your coping abilities and strategies with a busy travel schedule) throughout the trip. How did you get along with your group members? Are you a flexible traveler?
- Reflect on differences perceived among the 2 different cultures. For example, societal differences, differences in lifestyle, school, home life, food, entertainment, etc.
- Did you catch the “traveling bug” on this trip, or have you realized that you are more of a “homebody”? Explain.

Section B:

- Reserve about 5 pages at the back of your journal. Keep a list of all the sites and attractions that are visited from the very beginning to the end of the trip. For each site, briefly list the type of tour taken, and whether or not it was self-guided or there was an interpreter available.
- At the end of the trip, comment on the types of tours you prefer. If planning another trip, what type of interpretive activities would you seek out?
- What was your favourite tour / attraction / visit on the trip?

Evaluation:

Research Project and Presentation at French Cultural Fair
On-Site Presentation in Paris
Reflective Journal
Attendance