

UNIT I

WELCOME TO THAILAND

I. Listening Tasks

A. Listen and repeat the following words, phrases and sentences that will be used in this unit.

1. luggage your luggage
Please let me help you with your luggage.
2. area downtown area
Is the hotel in the downtown area?
3. sightseeing go sightseeing
It's also very convenient to go sightseeing from there.
4. number flight number
Can I have your name and flight number, please?
5. checks baggage claim checks
Do you have your baggage claim checks?

6. bus shuttle bus
I'll be taking the shuttle bus to the domestic airport.

7. atmosphere unique atmosphere
The place has a unique atmosphere.

8. journey your journey
How was your journey?

9. traffic much traffic
There isn't much traffic on Sunday afternoon.

10. exchange currency exchange
There's a currency exchange on your left.

B. Listen to the conversation carefully and fill in the missing word(s).

Montri : Pardon me? Are you Mrs. Smith from London?

Mrs. Smith : Yes, I _____.

Montri : Hello, I'm Montri from Rainbow Tours. Welcome to
_____ !

Mrs. Smith : Thanks a lot.

Montri : Please let me help you with your _____.

Mrs. Smith : That's _____ of you.

Montri : You'll be staying at _____.

Is that correct?

Mrs. Smith : Yes, _____. Is the hotel in the downtown area?

Montri : Yes, it's located at Siam Square, a popular _____.

It's also very _____ to go sightseeing from there.

Mrs. Smith : Oh, how nice!

Montri : Our _____ is ready for you.

Please _____ me.

Mrs. Smith: Very well.

C. Listen to the conversation between Barbara Schneeberger and an agent at the Thai International Airline Counter. Then answer the questions.

1. What is Barbara's problem?

2. Where is Barbara from?

3. Has she lost all her baggage?

Vocabulary 1

downtown	to or in the center of a city, especially the main business and commercial district.
convenient	situated nearby; easily accessible
sightseeing	the activity of visiting places of interest as a tourist
luggage	bags, cases, etc. containing somebody's belongings and taken on a journey. The American word is "baggage "
suitcase	a case with flat sides and a handle, used for carrying clothes, etc. when travelling
baggage claim check	a ticket used to identify and claim baggage or property taken on a plane
customs	the taxes that must be paid to the government on goods brought in from other countries

II. Reading Task

This reading passage gives useful and clear information about Bangkok International Airport. The statistical data are taken from The 1998 Annual Report of the Airports Authority of Thailand. Read the text carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Bangkok International Airport, located at Don Muang, north of Bangkok, is the largest in Thailand. It contains fifty-two aircraft parking stands, twenty-six of which are aerobridges connecting the aircraft with the terminal. The main passenger terminal is designed to accommodate sixteen million passengers per year, and the cargo terminals are designed to handle 400,000 metric tons. The main building has four storeys. The ground floor accommodates about nine hundred vehicles. The first floor and the second floor are for the disembarking passengers who pass through some of the sixty-six immigration booths, pick up baggage from one of the eight baggage carousels, then are inspected at one of the twenty-two customs check-points. After passing through all these formalities, one will find banks, a post office, tourist agencies, hotel agencies, limousines and airport taxis, and joint airport security offices, along with a lot of well-wishers before getting out of the airport for downtown Bangkok. The third floor is for the sixteen check-in counters for embarking passengers and forty immigration booths, while the fourth floor is a location where one can view the parked aircraft, or sit at leisure and dine comfortably.

1. Where is Bangkok International Airport?

2. What are the capacities of Bangkok International Airport?

3. How many storeys does the main building have?

4. For what is the ground floor used?

5. For what are the first floor and the second floor used?

6. After passing through all the formalities at the airport, what will one find?

7. For what is the third floor used?

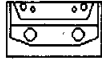
8. Where can one view the parked aircraft?

Vocabulary 2

aircraft	any machine or structure that can fly in the air and carry goods or passengers
aerobridge	an extendable tunnel-like device which goes from the airport gate to the airplane and allows passengers to walk in comfort to the plane
terminal	a building at an airport that provides services to passengers arriving and departing by plane
accommodate	to provide space for somebody or something
passenger	a person travelling in a car, bus, plane, etc., other than the driver, the pilot or a member of the crew
cargo	a load of goods carried in a ship or an aircraft.
storey	floor or level in a building
disembarking passenger	arriving passenger
immigration booth	an area at an airport at which the passports and other documents of people wanting to come into a country are checked
baggage carousel	a large moving belt that baggage is put on after it is taken off a plane; the passengers then may get their baggage
formality	an official rule or procedure
tourist agency	an organization or business that provides a travel service

limousine	a large, expensive, comfortable car, especially one with a glass screen separating the driver from the passengers.
embarking passenger	departing passenger.
at leisure	without hurrying.

III. Speaking Tasks



A. Practice these conversations aloud with your friend(s), making sure you understand the situation, and then trade roles.

1. Supha met Tony on the plane. They have just arrived at Bangkok International Airport.

Supha : Here you are! Welcome to Thailand!

Tony : Oh, thanks.

Supha : What are your plans?

Tony : I plan to stay in Bangkok for a week.

Supha : That's a good idea. There's a lot to see and to do in Bangkok. Are you going to the hotel by taxi?

Tony : No, I'll use the airline transfer service. Aren't you going to Bangkok?

Supha : No, I've got to catch a flight to Chiang Mai, my hometown. I'll be taking the shuttle bus to the domestic airport.

Tony : Oh, really? I've heard a lot about Chiang Mai. It must be a very beautiful city.

- Supha : No, I've got to catch a flight to Chiang Mai, my hometown.
I'll be taking the shuttle bus to the domestic airport.
- Tony : Oh, really? I've heard a lot about Chiang Mai. It must be a
very beautiful city.
- Supha : It is, indeed. It's dubbed "The Rose of the North."
- Tony : Look, there's a shuttle pulling out now!
- Supha : Here comes my bus! I must go. Enjoy your stay in Bangkok.
- Tony : Thank you. Good-bye.

Answer the questions.

(a) What are Tony's plans?

(b) What does Supha think of Bangkok?

(c) How is Tony going to the hotel?

(d) What are Supha's plans?

(e) What is Tony's opinion of Chiang Mai?

(f) How is Supha going to the domestic airport?

2. An American couple is walking towards Danai who is carrying a sign with their name on it.

Mr. Moore : Hi, we're Mr. and Mrs. Moore.

Danai : Oh, hi! Welcome to Bangkok! I'm Danai, your hotel representative.

Mrs. Moore : We're happy to see you here.

Danai : Let me help you with the suitcases.

Mr. Moore : Thank you. That's very kind of you.

Danai : We're going to the China Town Hotel where you have made a reservation for three nights.

Mr. Moore : Is the hotel in the Chinatown of Bangkok?

Danai : Yes, it is. The place has a unique atmosphere--very ethnic, lively and colorful. I'm sure you'll enjoy it.

Mrs. Moore : We're also looking forward to staying there.

Answer the questions.

(a) Who is Danai?

(b) Where are Mr. and Mrs. Moore going to stay, and for how long?

(c) What does Danai think of Chinatown?

3. Danai is riding in the limousine with Mr. and Mrs. Moore to the China Town Hotel.

Danai How was your journey?

Mr. Moore : It was nice, but we've been sitting on the plane for a long time. It's about eighteen hours.

Danai : Where did you fly from?

Mr. Moore : Los Angeles.

Danai : I see. Do you live there?

Mr. Moore : No, we live in Ohio. Have you heard of Cincinnati? We're from there.

Danai : Yes, it's a big city where the Procter & Gamble Company is.

Mrs. Moore : That's right. You're very well-informed.

Danai : Thank you. Actually, my sister graduated from Miami

University in Oxford, Ohio.

Mrs. Moore : Oh, really? Cincinnati is about thirty miles away from the university.

Danai : My sister always says that it is beautiful.

Mr. Moore : It's also one of the best schools in the Mid-west. All my children go to Miami.

Danai : How many children do you have?

Mrs. Moore : Three--two boys and one girl. They're all grown.

Danai : That's why you have some time off for travelling. Have you been in Thailand before?

Mr. Moore : No, this is the first time.

Danai : I'm sure you'll like Thailand and want to come back. It's a fascinating country.

Mrs. Moore : Well, we believe so.

Danai : We're getting close to the hotel now. You see the hotel sign over there?

Mr. Moore : Oh, that's pretty fast.

Danai : Well, there isn't much traffic on Sunday afternoon.

Answer the questions.

(a) Where did the Moores fly from?

(b) Do they live in Los Angeles?

(c) Where do they live?

(d) Where is Miami University?

(e) What is Mr. Moore's opinion of Miami University?

(f) What does Danai think about Thailand?

B. Match the following exchanges between the tourist in column A and the guide in column B.

The Tourist

The Guide

Column A

Column B

(1) Is the airport far from town?

(a) In that case, you'd better go to the Lost and Found Section.

(2) When will we get to the hotel?

(b) Yes, it's in a suburb of Bangkok.

- (3) I'm impressed with your airport. (c) Certainly! There's a currency exchange on your left.
It's pretty modern!
- (4) Can we change some money first? (d) At this time of the day, it will take about an hour and a half to get to the Landmark Hotel on Sukhumvit Road.
- (5) Oh, I've lost one of my bags! (e) They are at the far end of the building. The men's room is on the left, and the ladies' room is on the right.
- (6) Excuse me, could you tell me where the restrooms are? (f) It was just expanded and rebuilt to cope with the rapid growth of aircraft movement.

C. Complete the dialogue.

A : Excuse me! Could you tell me where the baggage claim area is?

B : _____

A : Okay, let's see... . I take the escalator on the left down there and turn right when I get to the first floor. Then, I'll see it.

B : _____

A : Thanks a lot.

B : _____

Vocabulary 3

transfer service	a service of taking passengers from the airport to a hotel or downtown areas
flight	a journey made by air, especially in an aircraft
shuttle bus	a bus that travels regularly between two places
domestic airport	an airport that accommodates flights to and from places within a country
couple	two people who are seen together or are associated, especially a man and a woman together
hotel representative	a person who represents the hotel
unique	unlike anything else; being the only one of its type
ethnic	typical of a particular cultural group
look forward to	to be eager for something that one expects to be enjoyable to happen
journey	an act of travelling from one place to another
well-informed	having or showing relevant knowledge
fascinating	having great attraction or charm
traffic	vehicles moving along a road or street

IV. Language Focus

Present tense of the verb be

I'm Montri from Rainbow Tours.
(am)

He's the marketing director.
(is)

She's Mrs. Smith from London.
(is)

You're a guide.
(are)

They're tourists.
(are)

This is Danai, the hotel representative.

My name's Ladda.
(is)

A. Fill in the appropriate form of the verb be.

1. She _____ my new boss.
2. _____ you Mr. Johnson from New York?
3. I _____ Wipha, your guide.
4. This _____ Maria Roger. She _____ the receptionist.
5. My name _____ Somsak. I _____ a tourist policeman.

B. Use the words in the box to complete the sentences.

I He She They This

1. Hello, _____ 'm Suda from Weekend Tours.
2. _____ are passengers from Europe.
3. _____ is John Peterson. _____ 's the product manager.
4. _____ are Japanese tourists.
5. _____ is Sumalee. _____ 's the hotel representative.

V. Communicative Tasks

A. Write out the sentences in complete form. Change the verb form where necessary.

Example: capital / Thailand / be / Bangkok / of / the .

Bangkok is the capital of Thailand.

1. downtown / in / area / the / be located / the / hotel.

2. suitcases / you / how many / lose / ?

3. sightseeing / would like / to / they / go.

4. tourists / their / enjoy / Bangkok / in / the / stay.

5. have to / I / a / Songkla / flight / catch / to.

6. city / fascinating / a / be / Bangkok.

7. Ramkhamhaeng University / my / graduate / from / sister.

8. Ohio / Cincinnati / a / be / big / in / city.

9. will / they / the / shuttle bus / take / to / the / airport / domestic.

10. passengers / the / pick up / can / baggage / at / the / their / baggage claim area.

B. Use the following words and expressions to write a complete sentence.

Example: look up

She looked up the meaning of the word in an English-Thai dictionary.

1. look forward to

2. at leisure

3. international airport

4. baggage claim checks

5. well-informed
