

## AMIR, KAZAKHSTAN

### TEACHING NOTES

Using the first set of discussion questions below would make this video especially appropriate for use in a unit on the theme of exploring places and cultures. The second set of questions might work well at any time.

### A FEW WORDS

**Stay hard:** Many speakers would say “stay strong” here, but this is a personal choice. There is more than one way to express this idea.

**Eye-opening:** This adjective describes something that is surprising because it teaches you something you did not expect to learn or shows you something wonderful that you did not expect to see.

### SOME QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR WRITING

#### Exploring Places and Culture

1. Is there a place in your region that you think other people would enjoy visiting? What makes it special?
2. Have you ever traveled to other countries that felt completely different from your home? What did you learn from the experience?
3. Do you think traveling helps people become more open-minded? Why or why not?

#### Learning, Growth, and Curiosity

1. Amir said, “Stay curious and keep learning.” What is something you are curious about right now?
2. Imagine someone gives you a free week to learn anything you want —no school, no rules. What would you choose to learn and why?
3. What is something new you’ve learned recently that surprised you?

### TRANSCRIPT NOTES, TEXTBOOK ENGLISH

**No one anywhere in the world speaks “perfect textbook English” at all times. We certainly do not want to demand that our students use only “perfect textbook English.”**

**These notes are provided to help you if your students ask questions about some small points of usage.**

**What have you been doing this week?**

This week has been really productive because we are on summer break. I spent a lot of time reading books, learning English, and working out.

**Do you often spend time in nature?**

Yes, I do. Nature is the best place to relax and clear my mind. Also, running outside feels amazing, and I enjoy breathing the fresh air after sitting indoors for too long.

**Is there a place in your region you think everyone should visit?**

Definitely. If you ever visit Kazakhstan, you should see Aktau in the Caspian Sea. The water is beautiful and the cliffs near to the coast look like something from another world. There is also Bozhyra, which has an incredible landscape. It's a perfect place for people who love nature and adventure.

**Have you ever traveled to other parts of Kazakhstan?**

Absolutely. I have been to Aktau, and it was a truly eye-opening experience. The combination of the deep blue sea, stunning white cliffs, and the seafood are is amazing.

**Do you think it is important to know about different parts of your own country?**

Being knowledgeable about different regions makes you more culturally aware and broadens your worldview.

**Is there anything you would like to say to kids in other countries?**

Yes. Stay curious and keep learning. If you ever visit Kazakhstan, I think, I hope, you will enjoy our tradition, nature, and food. Keep learning and stay hard.