Prepare for Re-Entry & Document Your New Skills



Think now about career tips for when you return home

Essential resources from MyWorldAbroad!

Before going abroad, envision how you will maximize the career value of your journey when you return home. **First**, familiarize yourself with the re-entry process and what to expect. **Second**, prepare now to analyze your experience while abroad and upon your return. **Third**, return home and capture your experiences. **Fourth**, learn how to articulate and showcase the professional skills you acquired while abroad.



1

Take Care! Know About Re-Entry Shock!

The process of returning home is an important and challenging one.

Reflecting on the life-changing experience you just had is a great way to ensure a smooth re-entry. See below how to Incorporate your time abroad into the next phase of your life.

Re-Entry Shock

This is a must-read Quick Guide: It outlines the symptoms of re-entry shock and everything you need to know about the cures.





2

Self-Evaluation: Your Travel Experiences

Prepare to analyze your experience while abroad and upon your return.

Think Analytically While Abroad! Traveling is an exciting and enriching experience – but don't forget that it's also an incredible opportunity for learning and professional skill development.

14 Questions to Get You Thinking Analytically About Your Experience

MyWorldAbroad has compiled a selection of **14 questions** that will help you focus your writing and prepare you for the moment when a potential employer asks you about your time abroad. Think about now and while abroad in preparation for writing your answers when back home.

- **1.** When and where did you travel abroad?
- 2. What made you want to travel abroad?
- 3. What has been the biggest surprise about your travel experiences abroad?
- 4. Have you participated in cultural activities abroad? If so, how did they differ from the ones in your home culture?
- 5. What has made your travel experience abroad a success?
- 6. How did you fund your trip and what creative solutions did you use?

- 7. Can you talk about a particular instance that gave you insight into your host culture or that helped you build cross-cultural communication skills?
- **8.** How did you deal with the cultural divide?
- 9. Have you returned? If so, what was the return like?
- **10.** What is your number one tip for anyone hoping to follow in your footsteps?
- **11.** Describe an experience that made a particularly strong impression on you.
- **12.** What do/did you miss most about your home while traveling abroad

Writing Tips

- Even if writing isn't your thing, jotting down a few notes about your adventures can really boost what you get out of your travels. It's a simple way to learn more and make your journey even more valuable!
- Move beyond simple enthusiasm and basic anecdotes ("The Taj Mahal was incredible!")!
- Maximize the professional value of your international experience by thinking more deeply about your experiences.
- Incorporate an analytical perspective as opposed to simply recounting your experiences.
- Write as if you were speaking to a employer, a mentor or a professor.
- Show your knowledge, skills and attitude.
- Develop career stories: Ask yourself what specific interactions with locals gave you insights into the culture and allowed you to build valuable skills like adaptability?
- Demonstrate your insights in terms of global competencies & career readiness as well as intercultural interactions.
- **13.** Do you have any final observations on your experience?
- **14.** What are your future plans for going abroad and for your career?

Answer these questions by downloading this Word Document





3

Get Ready to Document Your New Skills

You are now home after going abroad.

Since you have built up international credentials you may have aspirations to find full-time work abroad. Alternatively, you may have decided to look for domestic employment and want to know how to market your international expertise to employers who have no international experience. In either case, this Quick Guide is here to help you get the best from your international travel experience and market it to employers.



This QG gives you the best ways to capture everything you've learned while abroad!



Take an Inventory of Your Experience



How to Explain Your International Experience



How to Boast About Your Skills



Write an Elevator Pitch



Develop a Stock of Career Stories



Writing About Your Travel Credentials in a Resume



Dealing With International Employers



Dealing With Employers Who Have No International Experience



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Career Tips After Your Time Abroad

You'll need a plan for the best ways to capture everything you've learned while abroad. This is our best overview document! Dive in and jump into the next stage for your Job Search Journey.

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4

Convey Your International Experiences Professionally Upon Your Return

Learn how to speak and write professionally about your new-found international competencies. "Be proud" —your future employers will love it!





Everyday Skills for Succeeding Abroad

Can you articulate what made you successful abroad? This article offers a basic outline of skills that international people possess.

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An Inventory of Cross-cultural Skills

Here, you'll find specific crosscultural skills and keywords to help you speak about your experience.

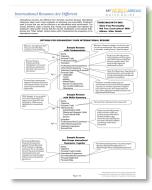
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Marketing Your International Experience to Employers

Your time abroad was more than just "awesome!" Now you must learn how to speak about your time abroad in a professional manner.

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International Resumes Are Different

Whether you're a second-year university student, or a recent grad, you should incorporate your international experiences into your resume.

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