



**Englisch**  
**Kompetenzstufe D**  
***Puerto Rico***



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## Liebe Schülerinnen und Schüler, Herzlich willkommen zur *Autumn School English!*

Wisst ihr wo Puerto Rico liegt und zu welchem Land es gehört? In diesen Aufgaben könnt ihr die Insel etwas besser kennen lernen.

Hier findet ihr einige Tipps für das Lesen der Texte:



Picture: Pixabay

- Überfliegt einen Text am Anfang. Das nennt man **SKIMMING**. Konzentriert Euch darauf, was ihr versteht.
- **Unterstreicht, markiert und macht Notizen** über die Informationen, die ihr für die jeweilige Aufgabe braucht. Vielleicht könnt ihr eine Mindmap für die Texte erstellen?
- Wenn ihr einige Wörter nicht versteht, versucht **aus dem Zusammenhang** zu erschließen, was diese **Wörter in dieser Situation** bedeuten könnten. Nutzt auch Wortschatzaufgaben und Fußnoten<sup>1</sup> oder fragt eure Kursleitungen nach Wörterlisten.

Für das Schreiben:



Picture: Pixabay

- Fangt mit kurzen Sätzen oder Wörtern in Lückenaufgaben an.
- Richtet euch nach den Beispielsätzen (**example**) und nach ähnlichen Sätzen in den Texten, wenn euch noch keine eigenen Ideen einfallen.
- Macht zunächst einen Plan mit Stichwörtern, die ihr im Text nutzt.
- Überlegt Euch einen guten ersten Satz. Vielleicht findet ihr Ideen in den Lesetexten.

Nach den Übungen findet ihr eine „Ampel“ zur Selbsteinschätzung *Self-assessment*. Kreuzt an, wie die Aufgabe war. ☒☒☒☒☒☒☒☒☒

Wendet euch an eure Kursleitungen, wenn ihr Fragen habt und wenn ihr fertig seid.

**Have fun with English!**

	<a href="#">↪ Self-assessment</a>
<i>For me, this task is...</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 😄 😊 😊 easy and fun	
<input type="checkbox"/> 😊 😊 okay, but challenging	
<input type="checkbox"/> 😞 difficult	

<sup>1</sup> footnote = Fußnote. Tipp: wenn es für euch zu viele Fußnoten sind, deckt den unteren Abschnitt einfach ab!



## Two very different places



**Task 1.** Study the photos. What do they tell us about the places they show?



Pictures:

Timesquare CC BY Public domain, via Wikimedia

Skyscrapers CC BY-SA 4.0 GyozaDumpling, via Wikimedia

Beach Puerto Rico CC BY 2.0 Güldem Üstün, via Wikimedia Beach San Juan CC BY-SA 2.0 Tomas Fano, via Wikimedia

top two photos:

.....

.....

.....

.....



bottom two photos:

.....

.....

.....

.....

[↪ Self-assessment](#)

*For me, this task is...*

😄 😄 😄 easy and fun     😊 😊 okay, but challenging     😞 difficult

## Talking about New York and Puerto Rico



### **Task 2**

Read the following conversation between Mia Rivera and Tom Sanchez, two teenagers who meet at a party in New York City. Underline all the interesting facts you learn about Puerto Rico.

- 1 Tom: Hey, you're Lisa's cousin, right?
- 2 Mia: Yeah, I'm Mia, Lisa's cousin. I'm visiting her; staying with her family for a couple of weeks. How
- 3 do you know her?
- 4 Tom: I go to school with her. We're both juniors<sup>2</sup> at Harlem Renaissance High. My name's Tom.
- 5 Mia: Harlem? That's a mostly African American area, isn't it?

<sup>2</sup> junior = student in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade

6 Tom: Well, some parts of Harlem are. But our school is in East Harlem, which is more Hispanic.<sup>3</sup>

7 Some people even call the neighborhood Spanish Harlem. My great-grandparents moved there,  
8 when they first came to New York from Puerto Rico. My family still lives there.

9 Mia: You're Puerto Rican, too? I would never have guessed.

10 Tom: Well, only on my dad's side of the family, and even he is only partly of Puerto Rican descent.<sup>4</sup>

11 My mom's ancestors<sup>5</sup> came from Ireland and from Scotland. I've never even been to Puerto Rico.

12 Mia: Do you speak Spanish?

13 Tom: Oh no. Even my dad speaks only English. I'm terrible at languages. I would really like to learn  
14 a foreign language, but I simply can't. Your English is incredible, though. No accent at all.

15 Mia: Well, instruction is mostly in English at my school back home in San Juan, and I visit Lisa and  
16 my other relatives here in the U.S. as often as I can.

17 Tom: Classes are taught in English in Puerto Rico? Wow. Didn't know that.

18 Mia: No, Saint John's – that's my school – is really an exception. It's a private school. Public education  
19 in Puerto Rico is in Spanish. Some Puerto Ricans are bilingual, but many speak only Spanish.

20 Tom: I would really like to visit Puerto Rico. I've heard so much about it, and I also have relatives  
21 there. Some distant cousins of my dad's. I heard the beaches are great.

22 Mia: Puerto Rico is beautiful and there are lots of nice beaches. The San Juan neighborhood where  
23 we live, Condado, has a decent beach. But I really love Luquillo beach, about thirty miles east of San

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<sup>3</sup> Hispanic = person of Latin American descent, especially of Mexican, Puerto Rican or Cuban origin living in the U.S.

<sup>4</sup> descent = origin or background of a person

<sup>5</sup> ancestor = person from whom one is descended, e.g., grandparents or great-grandparents

24 Juan. It has white sand, gorgeous palm trees, shallow<sup>6</sup> water, and there's always a great vibe<sup>7</sup>, lots  
25 of music, lots of people and lots of fun. I think I went there at least thirty times last year.

26 Tom: Now I really want to go! Sounds awesome. I love beaches.

27 Mia: Yeah, well, Puerto Rico is very nice, but I wish my parents would decide to move to America.

28 San Juan is boring compared to New York City.

29 Tom: Moving to the U.S. is not as easy as it used to be.

30 Mia: That may be true, but Puerto Ricans are American citizens. They can move here whenever they  
31 want to.

32 Tom: You're kidding! Puerto Rico is not an American state. I would know that.

33 Mia: You're right, Puerto Rico is not an American state, but it is what is called a U.S. "territory." It  
34 has been American for a long time. And the people who live in Puerto Rico are all U.S. citizens by  
35 birth.

36 Tom: Interesting. So, your parents vote in our presidential elections?

37 Mia: No, Puerto Ricans who live in Puerto Rico cannot vote in American elections, but once they  
38 move here, they can.

39 Tom: That's weird.

40 Mia: Yeah, lots of Puerto Ricans think so too. Some want Puerto Rico to become an independent  
41 country. Others want it to become the 51<sup>st</sup> state of the U.S.A.

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<sup>6</sup> shallow = not deep

<sup>7</sup> vibe = atmosphere

42 Tom: How about you? What do you think?

43 Mia: Well, I think the status quo<sup>8</sup> isn't so bad. We are different. Puerto Rico is a Spanish-speaking  
44 Caribbean island after all. So, I don't really think it would be a good idea to become an American  
45 state. But we are too small and too poor to survive as an independent country. I'm okay with things  
46 as they are right now. We can always move to the U.S. if we want to. There are already over five  
47 million people of Puerto Rican descent in the U.S.

48 Tom: And how many people live in Puerto Rico?

49 Mia: The island has a little more than three million inhabitants.

50 Tom: More Puerto Ricans in the U.S. than in Puerto Rico? That's a little sad.

51 Mia: I don't know. At least we have a choice. I am actually thinking about moving here in a year or  
52 two to go to college.

53 Tom: Well, then I should probably visit you in Puerto Rico as soon as possible.

54 Mia: You should. Promise? Are you going to visit me in San Juan?

55 Tom: Yeah. Absolutely.

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<sup>8</sup> status quo = present situation/existing state of affairs



## Looking at vocabulary



### Task 3.

Match the following terms with the correct definitions. If you are not sure about a word, find it in the text and re-read the whole sentence in which it is used. The context can help you to understand what it means.

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| a) accent       | 1) beautiful  |
| b) bilingual    | 2) child of one's uncle or aunt   |
| c) citizen      | 3) choose between different candidates and/or different political parties                             |
| d) college      | 4) district/area within a city  |
| e) cousin       | 5) educational institution where one goes after graduating from high school                           |
| f) election     | 6) free from outside control  |
| g) exception    | 7) person connected by blood or marriage  |
| h) gorgeous     | 8) person or thing that does not follow a rule or is very unusual                                     |
| i) independent  | 9) person who lives in a country and has all the official rights that people can have in that country |
| j) inhabitant   | 10) person who lives in a place   |
| k) instruction  | 11) speaking two languages  |
| l) neighborhood | 12) teaching/education  |
| m) relative     | 13) way of pronouncing a language that is typical of a person or a group of people                    |
| n) vote         | 14) way to choose a person for a political office   |

→ Self-assessment  
For me, this tasks on  
this page are...

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**Task 4.** Compare Mia and Tom by completing tasks a), b) c), d).

a) *Three pieces of information about Mia*

✓ .....

✓ .....

✓ .....

b) *Three pieces of information about Tom*

✓ .....

✓ .....

✓ .....

c) *Three things they have in common*

✓ .....

✓ .....

✓ .....

d) *Three differences between them*

✓ .....

✓ .....

✓ .....

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**Task 5a).** A day after their conversation, Tom tells his best friend about his meeting with Mia. Use the verbs in brackets to complete the text with correct forms of reported speech.

I went to Lisa's party last night and talked to her cousin Mia. Really nice girl. And pretty too. She's visiting from San Juan, Puerto Rico. She ..... if Harlem was mostly African American (*ask*). I told her that my great-grandparents moved to East Harlem after they ..... Puerto Rico (*leave*). Mia's English is simply fantastic. She goes to a school where classes are taught in English. Then we talked about Puerto Rico. I asked her about the beaches and she described a beautiful beach, where she ..... a lot of time last year (*spend*). Sounded cool. She talked a lot about the political situation of Puerto Rico, too, and explained that the island ..... American a long time ago (*become*). Finally, she asked me if I ..... her in San Juan and I promised I would (*visit*). I can't wait to see her again.



**Task 5b).** A day after the party, Mia tells her cousin Lisa about her meeting with Tom. Use the verbs in brackets to complete the text.

I met your classmate Tom at the party yesterday. Did you know he is partly Puerto Rican, too? He said his great-grandparents ..... from Puerto Rico (*come*). But he told me that he did not speak Spanish and that he ..... no talent for languages (*have*). He does not know much about Puerto Rico either. He was surprised when I told him that Puerto Rico ..... American for a long time and that Puerto Ricans were free to move to the U.S. (*be*). When he asked me how I felt about the political situation of Puerto Rico, I told him that I ..... okay with the status quo (*be*). He

