

11.027 City to City

Session 5 Notes

Guest Presenter: Ole Madsen

PART I: Trip Details:

1. Hostel
 - a. Bring or rent bedding/towels
 - b. Pay for breakfast
 - c. Closed for certain hours during the day
 - d. Instructors
 - i. At nearby hotel
 - ii. Room will be meeting place during the day
2. Schedule:
 - a. Saturday:
 - i. Arrival (around noon)
 - ii. Check in at hostel
 - iii. Meet at hotel
 - iv. Possible walking tour
 - v. Dinner together
 - b. Sunday:
 - i. Scavenger hunt
 - ii. Think about report and presentation (May 11th DUSP Forum)
 1. Digital images
 2. Short movie clips
 - c. Monday:
 - i. Morning:
 1. Bo Grundland, Professor at Architecture School at University of Copenhagen with students from Belgium
 - ii. Afternoon:
 1. Harbor Walking Tour
 - d. Tuesday:
 - i. Morning:
 1. Roskilde University outside the city
 2. Commuter Train
 3. Viking Ship museum
 - ii. Afternoon:
 1. Malmo Bridge to Sweden
 - e. Wednesday:
 - i. World Health Organization?
 - ii. Research/Study Day

- f. Thursday:
 - i. World Health Organization?
 - ii. Research/Study Day
- g. Friday:
 - i. Final Meeting
 - ii. Evening
 - iii. Dinner Together
- h. Things to Bring:
 - i. Rechargeable batteries
 - ii. Cameras
 - iii. Rain Gear
 - iv. Notebooks
 - v. Converters

PART II: Project Update

1. Interview Progress
 - a. Tejus: First interviews completed. Need to schedule interviews in Copenhagen.
 - b. Shawntel: City Bike Program
 - c. Ruth: Interviews lined up
 - d. David: Interviews lined up
 - e. Lucia: First interviews completed.

2. Copenhagen Preparation (In-Class Writing Exercises)

PART III: Guest Presentation by Ole Madsen, MIT Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering

1. Currency and Money Issues
 - a. Danish Krone is monetary unit
 - b. No tipping in Denmark: tips are included in the prices of restaurant meals
 - c. Everything is given a 25% sales tax (which is included in the price)
 - d. Purchases on the main pedestrian street can generally be shipped and you will get a discount (value-added tax is taken away) such that the total cost (with shipping) is the same as what is listed.

2. Denmark in 1960s:
 - a. Manners
 - i. At dinner party, arrive on time
 - ii. Eat with your left hand.
 - b. Race
 - i. Very white
 1. Hometown: 2nd largest town in Denmark (200,000)
 - a. 1 black person

- ii. There were no racial problems because there was nothing to have a problem with
- c. Immigration
 - i. In 1966, foreign workers start entering the country
 - 1. They were allowed to save money before they were taxed (not true for native workers)
 - 2. Prices increase as immigrant cultures impact behavior
 - 3. Stores change what they carry
- d. Food
 - i. Potatoes and gravy
 - ii. Butter
 - iii. Plenty of fatty foods
 - iv. Smaller servings than in the U.S.
- e. City Amenities
 - i. Tivoli Garden (open in the summer):
 - 1. Concerts
 - 2. Free entertainment
 - 3. Water fixtures
 - 4. Lights
 - 5. Very nice place to walk around
- f. Politics
 - i. Liberal
 - 1. High taxation, esp:
 - a. sales tax
 - b. smoking
 - c. drinking
 - d. driving
 - e. income tax:
 - f. Danes are taxed on the money they made the year before, and can deduct the next year
- g. Education
 - i. Completely free
 - ii. Private schools were where you went if you couldn't get good grades in public school
 - iii. Very few people would go to high school
 - 1. 11 years old: exam to put you on a high school track vs. technical track
 - 2. Nearly impossible to cross over after that point
 - iv. High schools:
 - 1. 3 in his hometown: 2 public, 1 private
 - 2. 250-300 people/year
 - 3. Now everyone goes to high school
 - v. College:
 - 1. Tuition free
 - 2. Room/board/books cost money

- h. Health care
 - i. Virtually free
 - ii. Monthly fee (16 Kr. = \$2.50)
 - iii. Doctor – Hospital: no bill
- 3. Denmark 1970s – Present:
 - a. Attitudes Change
 - b. Previous:
 - i. Strong Family Ties
 - ii. Unions
 - 1. Viewed as a safety net
 - c. Current:
 - i. Sense of entitlement
 - 1. Personal responsibility transferred to the government
 - 2. Changed quite a bit
 - 3. Still a very strong social attitude
- 4. Danish/Sweden Relationships
 - a. Scandinavian Stereotypes
 - i. Norwegians: austere
 - ii. Swedes: reserved
 - b. Christian the IV
 - i. Copper roofs on buildings built by him
 - ii. Fought and lost many wars (with Sweden)
 - iii. Magreta I – queen of Scandinavia (run by Danes)
 - iv. Christian II: Bloodbath of Stockholm – noblemen of Stockholm beheaded
 - 1. Swedes won their freedom from Denmark
 - 2. Could never take Copenhagen
 - a. Danes had the best navy
 - v. Rosenborg Castle (one of the first WCs in the world)
 - 1. Christian IV handkerchief used to stop the bleeding in the eye he lost – lost all of southern part of Sweden.
- 5. Norway:
 - a. 1807: British attacked the Danish Navy and won
 - b. 1815: Norway partially independent, tied up with Sweden
 - c. 1905: Norway voted themselves free of Sweden
 - d. Took a Danish King
 - e. Good relationship between Danes and Norwegians
 - f. Animosity between Norwegians/Danes and Swedes
- 6. WWII:
 - a. Danes treated initially very well by the Germans
 - b. Norwegians treated very badly

Student Questions:

1. What makes people in Copenhagen choose to live in a small/smaller town or a big city?
 - a. Commuting times are dictated by the size of the country
 - i. A 2-hour drive is a big trip
 - ii. People very bound to their towns, where they grew up.
 1. Wanted to live near their workplace
2. How has the bridge to Sweden impacted Denmark?
 - a. The southern part of Sweden is coming back to Denmark, so many Swedes can commute fairly easily.
 - b. Sweden has become part of Copenhagen's accessible workforce.
3. If you had 12 hours to spend in Copenhagen, what would you do?
 - a. Get up early
 - b. Go to Town Hall Square and watch the bicycles
 - c. Walk down the main shopping street
 - i. The only way to get the feel of a city is by walking around and observing
 - d. Go to the Bishop Absalon statue (founder of Copenhagen)
 - i. The Church has two spires because when the king went to war, his wife was pregnant: spire would be flat if it were a girl, a spire if it were a boy. They had twin boys.