

How to Stay Awake on a Road Trip

More than a hundred questions for initiating interesting conversations!

The best part of a road trip is getting to know your traveling companions. It can be more than entertaining—it can be positively revelatory!

Simply print the five pages of topics and cut on the lines. Light cardstock is best, but any paper will do. Rotate who draws the question and gives the first answer.

Suggestion: In a small group, it's fun to hear each person's candid answer before drawing the next question.

<p>Tell about meeting each of your traveling companions for the first time.</p>	<p>What is the top thing on your bucket list? (Take turns describing these with your traveling companions.)</p>	<p>What do you most look forward to in the next five years of your life?</p>
<p>What training contributed most to the success of your current occupation?</p>	<p>Name one thing you particularly enjoy or appreciate about your traveling companion to the left.</p>	<p>What do you think is your best physical attribute?</p>
<p>If you could safely spend an hour underwater, where in the world would you like to do it and what would you hope to see?</p>	<p>Describe your dream house if you lived in the equatorial jungle.</p>	<p>Describe a sport or game you would like to invent.</p>
<p>If time and money were not an issue, what hobby would you pursue?</p>	<p>If you could change places with an animal, what animal would you choose to be?</p>	<p>Describe how to build the ultimate sandwich.</p>
<p>What pleasurable day in your life would you like to relive?</p>	<p>If you could trade places with someone for a day and live in his/her body, whom would you choose?</p>	<p>Talk about a place in nature you have visited that was exquisitely beautiful.</p>
<p>Describe the time you were most moved by beautiful music.</p>	<p>If you could choose a different occupation from the one you have now, what would you choose?</p>	<p>What do you think is your best non-physical attribute?</p>
<p>What thing or event scares you the most?</p>	<p>If you could eat from only one cuisine for the rest of your life, what would you choose?</p>	<p>If your pet were transformed into a world leader, who would it be?</p>
<p>What would be your dream vacation (other than the one we're on, of course)?</p>	<p>If you could spend an hour with one of your ancestors, who would it be and what question would you ask?</p>	<p>If you could have hyper-perception in one of your senses, which would it be?</p>
<p>Describe your dream house if you lived in the desert.</p>	<p>If you could fly for thirty minutes, what birds-eye view would you most enjoy?</p>	<p>Tell us a joke that gave you a good belly laugh.</p>

Think of a cataclysmic event in nature that has altered history. What would the world be like if it had never happened?	If you could choose when to have your body stop aging and remain that age for the rest of your natural life, what age would you choose?	If you could have only one of your senses, which would you choose to keep?
If you could live in a different historical period, which would you choose?	What grade school teacher made the most positive impact on you and what did you learn?	What motion picture influenced you the most as a teen?
What's the most beautiful man-made object you've ever seen? (Apart from your children!)	Describe the person you would like to have evaluate you in your professional life.	What was the most fun date you ever had?
Tell about a moment in time when you felt completely and utterly satisfied with who you are.	If you could have your portrait painted by any of the masters of the past, who would you choose and what would you wear?	Describe one conversation in which you felt completely understood.
If you were a country-western song, what would the title of the song be?	If you were Captain America, how would you have saved New York City on 9-11?	Describe a scene from the funniest movie you've seen.
If you could have a servant completely take over one of your daily tasks, what would it be?	If you were Captain Hook, how would you finally beat Peter Pan?	Describe your dream house if you lived in the temperate rain forest.
What was the most ridiculous date you ever had?	What character from a book of fiction would you most want to meet and why?	Share a favorite childhood memory about a sibling.
A villain is only intriguing to the extent that we perceive s/he would be a good person except for one specific flaw. What fictional villain do you find the most compelling?	If money and health were not factors, what volunteer work would you most enjoy?	If you could develop a TV series, what would be the premise and plot line?
What is the most surprising gift you ever received on your birthday?	What is your favorite kitchen utensil or appliance?	In high school what was your most prized article of clothing?

What item in your house (not a human or an animal) is most important to you?	If you were required to spend a million dollars on yourself, what would you buy?	If you could design the perfect family vacation vehicle, what would it look like?
Describe the best ever date night with your spouse/partner.	Think of a highly meaningful chance encounter when you knew that meeting that person again would be unlikely or impossible? What was that like for you?	Describe a person you know that seems the most satisfied and happy with his or her life.
Do you have a “road less traveled by” (the Robert Frost poem)? What was that turning point in your life?	Imagine that on your next birthday all your best friends from every period of your life arrived together at your house. Describe the party.	If you were recently isolated in a remote location and your survival was in question, what historical figure would you call on to share the experience?
Describe your most valuable non-human possession.	What was the best thing about your elementary school experience?	Describe your dream house if you lived in the temperate rain forest.
On the day you first left home for a job or as a student, what was the biggest thing on your mind?	In middle school what career did you have in mind for yourself?	<i>A Pride and Prejudice</i> topic for men only: [Please answer why or why not] Given your obvious differences, would you have proposed to Elizabeth Bennett?
If your home and family could be incorporated as a country, what would its flag look like?	Supposing you knew you were going to be famous, what would you choose to be known for?	Everybody has a story, maybe one you’ve never shared. This is your opportunity: tell your story.
If you could design a new animal, what would it look like? (If we can have a duck-billed platypus, why not?)	If you could design a piece of furniture or a tool that would make your life more efficient or interesting, what would it look like?	Imagine giving a dinner party for 12 in which the guests come from India, China, and France. What commonalities would you find to talk about (not trade or politics)?
If you had access to a gene bank and could design the ideal baby, what would you choose as the most important trait??	When you meet a person for the first time in a business setting, what is the first thing you want them to know about you?	What concept is difficult to describe in our language? What word(s) would you coin to cover the nuances?
If you could design the climate and topography of a new world, how would it differ from ours?	If someone wrote a biography of your life, what would be an appropriate title?	Describe your dream house if you lived in the Arctic.

<p>If you were the benevolent dictator of a small country, what would be the three most important laws you would enact?</p>	<p>Talk about a time when you felt extremely vulnerable and somebody came to your aid.</p>	<p>If you could trade places with someone for a day, who would it be?</p>
<p>A <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> topic for ladies only: [Please answer why or why not] If you'd been Elizabeth Bennett, would you have accepted Mr. Darcy's first marriage proposal?</p>	<p>What conversation from history would you most like to have heard?</p>	<p>Imagine the title of your last lecture to a group of young people with the intent that you will share your accumulated wisdom.</p>
<p>If you were banished to a remote area for a decade and could have only one food from each of the five food groups, what would those five foods be?</p>	<p>Most restaurants have floors, walls, and ceilings. Imagine an unusual venue and what it would be like to eat a meal there.</p>	<p>If you could temporarily step into the life of someone you know and make a few changes, who would it be?</p>
<p>What's the most unusual food you've eaten and what were the circumstances?</p>	<p>Describe the funniest looking person you've ever seen.</p>	<p>Julie in the movie <i>Julie and Julia</i> paid homage to Julia Child with a pound of butter. What would your family offer to you for your cooking?</p>
<p>If you could create a world, what would you use as the three main colors?</p>	<p>What sporting event from the past would you like to see replayed from a front-row seat?</p>	<p>What musician from the past would you most like to know personally?</p>
<p>What cataclysmic historical political event would you choose to change or prevent in order to alter the course of history?</p>	<p>If you could be athletically gifted, what sport would you choose to pursue?</p>	<p>If you were challenged to invent a new way to use chocolate, what would it be?</p>
<p>When you feel empty and need to be emotionally recharged, do you seek company or solitude?</p>	<p>Describe your dream house if you lived above the tree line on a mountain.</p>	<p>If you were born the opposite gender, would you make different choices than you do now?</p>
<p>If an alien were to view the vehicles on planet Earth as the dominant life form, what vehicle would most nearly represent your personality?</p>	<p>If you could safely perch on the top of a skyscraper anyplace in the world, what one would you choose and what do you think you'd see?</p>	<p>If you could have one magic capability, which would you choose?</p>
<p>Suppose you were on a cooking show and were told to combine radishes, a boneless pork chop, and vanilla ice cream into a main dish. How would you do it?</p>	<p>If you could be a movie character come to life, who would it be?</p>	<p>When you meet a person for the first time in a social setting, what is the first thing you want them to know about you?</p>