



[Will skiing survive? Resorts struggle through a winter of climate and housing woes](#)

Übungen zum Hörverstehen von Friedrich Frenzel • August 2022 Seite 1 von 10



Beitrag + Transkript

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Sprache: Amerikanisches Englisch



| For information on this piece of art sitting on top of Aspen Mountain please see answer key. Photo: Picture Alliance

Inhalt: Dieser Radiobeitrag von Reporter Kirk Siegler behandelt die Entwicklung des Luxus-Skiorts Aspen in Colorado in Zeiten des Klimawandels. Die globale Erderwärmung bedroht dort und anderswo nicht nur die Umwelt, sondern auch den Skitourismus als Wirtschaftszweig. Die Menschen in Aspen sind besorgt und fordern Veränderungen ein, doch ein Umdenken scheint in weiter Ferne zu liegen.

Population Estimates, July 1 2021, (V2021)	6,949
PEOPLE	
Population	
Population Estimates, July 1 2021, (V2021)	6,949
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2021)	6,999
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2021, (V2021)	-0.7%
Population, Census, April 1, 2020	7,004
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	6,658
Age and Sex	
Persons under 5 years, percent	3.2%
Persons under 18 years, percent	14.2%
Persons 65 years and over, percent	15.2%
Female persons, percent	47.9%
Race and Hispanic Origin	
White alone, percent	88.9%
Black or African American alone, percent (a)	1.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)	0.2%
Asian alone, percent (a)	4.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)	0.0%
Two or More Races, percent	3.4%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)	7.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent	85.5%
Population Characteristics	
Veterans, 2016-2020	476
Foreign born persons, percent, 2016-2020	11.7%
Housing	
Housing units, July 1, 2021, (V2021)	X
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2016-2020	56.5%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2016-2020	\$558,000
Median selected monthly owner costs -with a mortgage, 2016-2020	\$1,901
Median selected monthly owner costs -without a mortgage, 2016-2020	\$1,174
Median gross rent, 2016-2020	\$1,671
Building permits, 2021	X

14. How about going to Aspen this summer?

a) Go to these websites and find out what you can do and see in Aspen during the summer.

- City of Aspen website: <https://cityofaspen.com/>
- Aspen Chamber Resort Association (ACRA): <https://aspenchamber.org/>

You can also watch this summer vacation video:

- Video: "Summer in Aspen: Day to Night Time-Lapse," published by Visit Aspen on May 10, 2013 (3:29 mins)
- www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Sei5WUbx3A&t=7s



b) Write down your conversation with your American friend that you met during your exchange year about a spontaneous trip to Aspen. You've just found cheap airline tickets on the internet. Will he or she be thrilled about your plan? Write a dialogue of about 250 words.



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ANSWER KEY

Background information on the cover picture

The picture shows an art piece titled “The Melted Gondola” by artist Chris Erikson. The gondola sits atop Aspen Mountain ski area in Colorado to remind visitors of the urgent need to address climate change.

1. Some possible arguments are:

pros:

- The mountains belong to everyone.
- Being outdoors creates a feeling of belonging to nature, which encourages greater awareness of the dangers of climate change.
- Winter sports are good for people’s fitness and health.
- Skiing offers fun holidays in cold winter times.

cons:

- Many people who go skiing don’t live close to the mountain regions, which increases carbon dioxide emissions due to air travel.
- The numbers of skiers requires an environmentally harmful infrastructure (ski slopes, ski lifts, hotels, etc.).
- Skiing is an expensive sport (equipment, costs for lift, skiing courses).
- More people might have serious accidents because they are more skiers with little experience on the slopes.

2. Sample answer

According to the statistics, the typical resident of Aspen, Colorado, is between 18 and 65 years old or older, white, either male or female (ratio 52% vs 48%), and was born in the USA. His/her mother tongue is English. The typical Aspen resident lives in his/her own house or apartment in a two-person household. He/she is high school educated or has a college degree (Bachelor’s degree or higher) and owns a computer with a fast internet connection. He/she is not a war veteran, not disabled, and has health insurance. He/she has a job and earns an income of approximately \$72,000 a year. He/shes needs 13 minutes to get to work.

3. b)

4. too much traffic / carbon emissions / burning of fossil fuels

5. very busy, packed with (big) private jets

6. c)

7. one of the following: national carbon tax / no fossil fuel electricity / clean energy / lawsuit defending the Biden administration’s freeze on new oil and gas leasing on public land

8. dystopian, lies tilted on the snow, melted like a scoop of ice cream (on a hot street)

9. raise alarm about climate change (among moneyed guests) / make people take action against climate change

10. 11,000 feet (elevation) of the ski resort

3F temperature rise since 1980

30 frozen days lost / additional-frost free days