

# The Open Road



## Start thinking!

- How fast do you think a horse can run?  
 Do you know who invented the aeroplane?  
 Do you know when people first landed on the Moon?



## Reading

1



**1.04** Read this extract from an encyclopaedia.

As you read, check your answers to the questions above.

## TRANSPORT (noun):

the activity or process of moving things or people from one place to another

Early humans dreamed of going faster and further than they could on foot. They probably first achieved this in northern countries before 3000 BC (before Christ) using skis. The wheel was invented around 3500 BC but carts were very slow without roads. So for many centuries the fastest and most popular means of transport was the horse, which can run at about fifty-five kilometres an hour. This record for speed was unbroken until the end of the eighteenth century when the hot-air balloon and the railway both began to develop.

The hot-air balloon made its first free flight in 1783. Two Frenchmen, the Montgolfier brothers, were working as papermakers when they had the idea for the balloon. A fire heated the air, making the balloon rise. During the first flight, the two passengers were admiring the view when they suddenly

saw smoke! The balloon was burning but, luckily, they managed to put the fire out and land safely.

The railway developed gradually from carts on tracks. The first vehicle with an engine to run on tracks was developed in 1803 by an Englishman, Richard Trevithick. In 1804, he took the first passengers, although they didn't have to buy a ticket. Unfortunately, they were travelling in the train when it began to fall off the tracks and Trevithick realised that the tracks were not strong enough to take the weight of the train. The passengers escaped unharmed, but it was another example of how dangerous the development of transport can be.

Perhaps unexpectedly, the bicycle didn't appear until around 1840 when a Scotsman, Kirkpatrick McMillan, created the first one to have pedals. People rode bicycles without pedals before then, but they were slow and not very popular. It took around 140 years for McMillan's design to develop into modern mountain bikes.

**2 Complete the sentences by writing a number in each gap. Look at the article again but don't read it in detail.**

- 1 People first skied around \_\_\_\_\_ BC.
- 2 People first travelled by rail in \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Bicycles with pedals didn't exist before \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 Mountain bikes developed around \_\_\_\_\_.

**3 Read the text again. For questions 1–5, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.**

- 1 The wheel didn't lead to fast means of transport because
  - A people could already travel fast.
  - B they invented it after skis.
  - C good roads didn't exist.
  - D people preferred to use horses.
- 2 The passengers discovered the fire
  - A while they were checking the balloon.
  - B while they were in the air.
  - C before they left the ground.
  - D after they landed on the ground.
- 3 The invention of the train
  - A came as a complete surprise.
  - B grew out of things that came before.
  - C took longer than anyone expected.
  - D didn't make Trevithick much money.
- 4 The writer is surprised by the fact that
  - A the inventor of the bicycle was Scottish.
  - B nobody had invented the bicycle earlier.
  - C McMillan's bicycle had pedals.
  - D we waited over a century for the mountain bike.
- 5 What can we say about the aeroplane?
  - A It had a great effect on people's attitudes.
  - B It wasn't as popular as the car was.
  - C It came to the Wright brothers in a dream.
  - D People didn't want to allow it at first.

The twentieth century saw the development of many other means of transport, including the hydrofoil and the hovercraft. The petrol-driven car (invented in 1885 in Germany) completely changed the way people thought about transport, and so did the aeroplane. People have always dreamed of flying. One day, in 1903, that dream became a reality. Two American brothers, Wilbur and Orville Wright, managed to make a short flight in their aircraft, the Flyer. From there, a huge industry grew that allowed, and still allows, people to visit the whole world, easily and cheaply.

The challenge for the twenty-first century is transport in space. Since the first Moon landing in 1969, technology has developed to give us the space shuttle (1981) and even the space tourist (2002). The future of transport will probably be as exciting as its past.

## WORD BOX

**4 Match the words from the text in the box with the correct definitions.**

cart • tracks • hydrofoil • vehicle  
pedal • hovercraft

- 1 This is a kind of fast ship that partly lifts out of the water.
- 2 This is a general word for a car, a bus, etc.
- 3 This floats on a cushion of air on land or on water.
- 4 Trains travel on two of these, made of metal.
- 5 This has four wheels and might be pulled by a horse.
- 6 You put your foot on this on a bicycle.



## Have your say!

- Which form of transport has had the biggest influence on our lives?
- Explain what difference your chosen form of transport has made.

# G Grammar clinic

## Past tense review

👁 Look at *Grammar database pages 168–170* before you do the exercises.

**1** Read the sentences and phrases from the text on pages 14 and 15. Match each one to an explanation.

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1 The hot-air balloon made its first free flight in 1783.</p> <p>2 ... the two passengers were admiring the view when they suddenly saw smoke ...</p> <p>3 People rode bicycles without pedals ...</p> <p>4 ... the fastest means of transport was the horse ...</p> | <p>a This describes a repeated action in the past that doesn't happen now.</p> <p>b This describes a past state.</p> <p>c This describes an action in progress when another action happened.</p> <p>d This describes a single, completed action.</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**2** Look through the text again and find examples of:

- a single completed action.
- a repeated action in the past.
- an action in progress when another action happened.
- a past state (a feeling or situation, not an action).

**3** Complete the sentences using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 We \_\_\_\_\_ (fly) by plane to Paris last year on holiday.
- 2 We \_\_\_\_\_ (fly) over the sea when one engine suddenly stopped.
- 3 The pilot \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) us that there was nothing to worry about.
- 4 While he \_\_\_\_\_ (tell) us this, the second engine stopped.
- 5 I had my eyes closed when somebody \_\_\_\_\_ (shout), 'Look!'
- 6 I looked out of the window and \_\_\_\_\_ (see) that both engines had started again. Phew!

**4** Correct the sentences that have mistakes in them. One sentence has no mistakes. Which one?

- 1 As we were entering the train station, I was noticing the train was late.
- 2 I sat in a taxi when the accident happened so I saw the whole thing.
- 3 Mick was riding his bike almost every day over the summer.
- 4 People were enjoying the journey when suddenly the ship hit an iceberg.
- 5 When you called, I watched a programme about the history of transport.

**5** Complete the text using the verbs in the box. Put the verbs into the past simple or the past continuous. You will use some verbs more than once.

be • do • fall • get • have • learn • push • ride • say  
see • shine • start • take • teach • tell • want

### Learning to ride!



I (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to ride a bike when I (2) \_\_\_\_\_ eight years old. My dad (3) \_\_\_\_\_ me. I remember one day in particular. The sun (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and Dad (5) \_\_\_\_\_ me to the local park with my new bike. My old bike (6) \_\_\_\_\_ stabilisers (little wheels at the side, so you can't fall), but this one (7) \_\_\_\_\_. When we (8) \_\_\_\_\_ there, I (9) \_\_\_\_\_ some children who (10) \_\_\_\_\_ their bikes, and I (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to be just like them. I (12) \_\_\_\_\_ on my bike and Dad (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to push me. After a moment, I (14) \_\_\_\_\_ my dad he (15) \_\_\_\_\_ me too fast, and I couldn't believe his answer! 'I'm not pushing you! You're doing it by yourself!' he (16) \_\_\_\_\_. Of course, I (17) \_\_\_\_\_ off my bike many times after that, but that (18) \_\_\_\_\_ a very special day.

**6** Do you remember learning to ride a bike? How did you learn? Who taught you? Tell the class.

# Vocabulary builder

## Public transport

1 Match the words in the box with the correct definitions. There is one word you do not need to use.

cabin • taxi rank • fare • airline  
underground • platform • terminal  
ferry • coach

- This is where you stand to wait for a train.
- This is a company that flies passengers by plane.
- This is a building for passengers at an airport.
- This is a system of trains in tunnels in a large city.
- This is how much you have to pay for a ticket.
- This is where you sleep on a ship.
- This is where you find taxis waiting for passengers.
- This is a bus that runs between towns and cities.

## Confusable words

2 Circle the correct word in each sentence.

- I think that *travel/journey* really teaches you about other people.
- Mr Carter has gone to Moscow on a business *trip/journey*.
- Hurry up, or we're going to *miss/lose* the bus!



- Don't get *on/in* the train unless you know where it's going!

## Collocations: transport

3 Complete the table with the means of transport.

bicycle • bus • car • helicopter  
horse • hot-air balloon • train  
plane • motorbike • ferry • ship  
rowing boat • taxi • trolleybus



get on / get off

get in (or into) / get out of

4 Match words in list A with words in list B to make compound nouns.

A  
express  
radio  
double-decker  
jet  
sports

B  
bus  
car  
plane  
taxi  
train

5 Decide which of the means of transport from exercise 4 each person is talking about.

- 'Wow! This is so cool! It's the latest model, too! Let's see if we can do 200!'
- 'Come on! Let's go and sit upstairs so we can see everybody getting off.'
- 'Call one now – and don't forget to tell them we're going to the airport.'
- 'I'm afraid the Inter-city doesn't stop at Porton. You'll have to get a local one.'
- 'It's noisy during take-off, but you can't even hear the engines after that.'



## Listening

- 1** Work in pairs. Make a note of words and phrases you know connected to these means of transport. Try to list as many as you can.

bus: driver, ticket, \_\_\_\_\_

plane: airport, pilot, \_\_\_\_\_

ship: voyage, captain, \_\_\_\_\_

train: driver, ticket, \_\_\_\_\_

- 2** **1.05** You are going to listen to extracts from three conversations. For each extract, choose the location where the conversation is taking place.

### Conversation 1

a at a train station    b on a bus    c in a taxi

### Conversation 2

a at a bus station    b on a ship    c at an airport

### Conversation 3

a on a plane    b on a train    c in a taxi

- 3** Listen again and write a word or short phrase in each gap.

### Conversation 1

The man wants a(n) (1) \_\_\_\_\_ return ticket to York.  
The woman tells him that he needs to catch the  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ from Manchester.

### Conversation 2

The man says it takes (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to get to France.  
The woman leaves the man to go to her (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

### Conversation 3

The man explains that it's quicker to go (5) \_\_\_\_\_.  
The woman agrees, even though the fare will be  
(6) \_\_\_\_\_.



## Soundbite /æ/ and /e/

- 1.06** Circle two words in each line which have the same vowel sound in them. Listen and check.

- |   |       |     |        |      |
|---|-------|-----|--------|------|
| 1 | thank | bed | thirty | cat  |
| 2 | head  | had | said   | paid |
| 3 | apple | ant | ape    | arm  |
| 4 | pet   | hut | pat    | send |



## Speaking

- 1** Make notes of things that trains and buses have in common.

*You have to buy a ticket to travel on them.*

- 2** Make notes of things that are different between trains and buses.

*A train travels on tracks but/while/whereas a bus travels on the road.*

- 3** Answer the questions.

Which means of transport do you prefer, the train or the bus? Why?

- 4** Work in pairs. One of you should read the instructions and the other should talk for one minute. Then swap.

Compare and contrast these photographs and say which means of transport you prefer.



Look at Speaking database - Comparing and Expressing preferences on page 165.



## Would, used to, be used to

Look at Grammar database page 170 before you do the exercises.

- Circle the correct word or phrase in each sentence.
  - Our old car **would/was used to** break down all the time.
  - I **used to/am used to** going to school by bus every day.
  - There **would/used to** be an aircraft factory in this area.
  - I never **used to/wouldn't** like travelling by train.
  - Driving is complicated, but you soon **are/get** used to it.
  - I found flying frightening because I **didn't use to/wasn't used to** it.

### 2 Rewrite the sentences using the word in bold.

- When he was a boy, my dad would watch the steam trains go past. **used**
- Flying a helicopter is difficult at first, but you'll soon find it much easier. **get**

- When she was four, my sister used to ride her bike around the house. **would**
- My grandfather took me for rides in his old car when I was small. **used**

## Word patterns

### 3 Complete the sentences using the correct form of the verbs in the box.

work • insist • remind • complain • take

- John \_\_\_\_\_ on going by bus as he's afraid of flying.
- We decided to \_\_\_\_\_ about the delay to the ticket inspector.
- We have to \_\_\_\_\_ into account the traffic at that time of day.
- To \_\_\_\_\_ as a bus driver, you need a special licence.
- This old bus \_\_\_\_\_ me of the time we travelled around India.

### 4 For questions 1–10, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). Use only one word in each gap. Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

## THE SKY'S THE LIMIT!

Not so long (0) AGO, almost all pilots were men. Women working for airlines (1) \_\_\_\_\_ usually be part of the cabin crew, serving drinks and meals to passengers. And while it's still true that the majority of people who work (2) \_\_\_\_\_ pilots are men, more women are entering the field. Sara Milton is one of them.

'I (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to be afraid of flying when I was a child,' she says, 'but my parents insisted (4) \_\_\_\_\_ taking us on holiday abroad. I (5) \_\_\_\_\_ argue and cry, but it never made any difference, so I eventually (6) \_\_\_\_\_ used to it. Then, on one trip, we had a female pilot, which I wasn't used (7) \_\_\_\_\_ seeing, and I suddenly thought that I'd love to do that job! My mum reminded (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of my fear of flying and how I always complained (9) \_\_\_\_\_ going on planes, but from that moment on, I was determined to become a pilot. When you (10) \_\_\_\_\_ into account the long hours and all the training you have to do, it might seem like hard work, but it's worth it!'



# Writing

## An essay

👁 Look at *Writing database - essays on page 153* before you do the exercises.

**1** Make notes to answer these questions. Then discuss your ideas as a class.

1 'Public transport' includes which forms of transport?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 What are two advantages of public transport?

\_\_\_\_\_

3 What are two things people don't like about public transport?

\_\_\_\_\_



**2** Read this writing task.

- Should your answer be formal or informal?
- Do you agree with the statement?

Your class has been studying transport. Your teacher has asked you to write an essay explaining whether you agree or disagree with the following statement:

*People should be encouraged to use public transport more.*

Write an **essay** of between **120** and **180** words in an appropriate style.

**3** Complete the useful phrases with words from the box.

addition • argue • begin • convinced  
first • more • of • one • other • to

### to introduce your first point

To \_\_\_\_\_ with, ... In the \_\_\_\_\_ place, ... The first thing to take into account is ...

### to introduce a further point

Secondly, ... What is \_\_\_\_\_, ... In \_\_\_\_\_ to this, ... Another point to be made is that ...

### to express causes and results

Because \_\_\_\_\_ this, ... This is due \_\_\_\_\_ ...,  
As a result, ...

### to express contrast

On the \_\_\_\_\_ hand, ... On the \_\_\_\_\_ hand, ... However, ... Despite ...

### to introduce a conclusion and express opinion

To conclude, ... In conclusion, ... I am \_\_\_\_\_ that ... I would \_\_\_\_\_ that ...

## Working model

**4** Read the answer to the writing task. Does the writer agree or disagree with the statement?

*There is no doubt that traffic adds to pollution. Public transport offers a possible solution to the problem, since many people can be transported in one vehicle. The government has a responsibility to encourage the public to use buses and the underground more. However, there are a number of changes which need to be considered.*

*In the first place, public transport should be made free. The government should raise taxes to pay for the service. If it was free, most people would decide to leave their cars at home and travel by bus or train. What is more, the service must be clean and reliable. People need to know that they can get to work on time. They also need to know that their journey will be comfortable.*

*To sum up, I would argue that a clean, reliable service which was free would encourage many people to use public transport. The government should take action on this to prevent environmental damage.*

**5** Find words and phrases in the essay which mean:

because • but • firstly  
in addition • in conclusion