

READ THE TEXTS AND CHOOSE THE RIGHT OPTIONS.

1 Rachel

I couldn't go to the beach before; there were few with disabled facilities or wheelchair access. I could only ride on sidewalks and flat surfaces. But now a family business has come up with a solution, and my life has really been transformed. You can see it here in the photo... Yes, that blue and yellow machine is a wheelchair carrier. It can help me get to places I couldn't dream of going to before—beaches, dunes or footpaths in parks. It's based on a pretty simple principle—caterpillar tracks. Those are tracks that you see on a tank or a bulldozer. They're very strong; they can go anywhere. Now what the company has been able to do is adapt the tracks to power a simple wheelchair carrier. It moves at walking pace and is guided by someone walking alongside on foot. I can go for walks along the beach with my friends and family now, and that's great. Two ramps extend out in front so we can lower the wheelchair to the ground or lift it onto the vehicle by ourselves without any additional assistance needed.

2 Ryan

Traveling with my brother by plane is difficult sometimes. Once the airline lost his wheelchair, and now we insist that he travel with his own wheelchair at all times. But the other day we were traveling to Chicago and the airline authorities told him that because of new security regulations he couldn't take his own chair on the plane. They said he had to use one from the airport. Just imagine, taking away somebody's chair—it's like taking away your legs or something. In the end, we managed to convince the authorities that he could travel with his own wheelchair to the plane, but that meant we couldn't go through the normal security checkpoints. We had to put the chair through a special, extra large security scanner. I couldn't understand it, but they made us cross to the other side of the airport to get to a much larger scanner they use to scan the containers transporting animals. So, in the end, my brother succeeded in boarding the plane with his own chair, but only after being scanned with everybody else's pets. We were relieved, but it was really humiliating.

2 Read the anecdotes in 1 again and answer the questions.

- 1 Why couldn't Rachel go to the beach?
- 2 How does the carrier work?
- 3 How does the wheelchair come off the carrier?
- 4 Whose wheelchair did Ryan's brother use on his Chicago trip?
- 5 Why did they have to use a different scanner?
- 6 How did they feel about the experience?

3 Match 1–5 to a–e to make collocations.

- 1 airline
- 2 security
- 3 family
- 4 disabled
- 5 wheelchair

- a access
- b facilities
- c business
- d regulations
- e authorities