SERENDIPITY
ENGLISH, THE MOST FORTUNATE DISCOVERY

OPPORTUNITIES English!

Hello!

Welcome to Opportunities for Serendipity English Course!



1 VOCABULARY
Public transport & vehicles.

a Match the words and pictures.







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On the road.

Compound nouns

Compound nouns are two nouns together where the first noun describes the second, e.g. a child seat= a seat for a child, a bus stop = a place for buses to stop, etc.

In compound nouns the first noun is stressed more strongly than the second.

There are some compound nouns related to road travel.





car …….. cycle …….. parking ……..

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pedestrian .....



petrol .....



road .....



rush .....



seat .....



speed .....



speed .....



taxi .....



traffic .....



traffic .....



zebra .....

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How long does it take?

It takes about an hour to get from London to Oxford by train.
It took (me) more than an hour to get to work yesterday.
How long does it take (you) to get to school?
Use take(+ person)+ time {+ to get to) to talk about the duration of a journey, etc.

Phrasal verbs
Learn these phrasal verbs connected with transport and travel.

We set off at 7.00 in the morning to try to avoid the traffic. (= leave on a journey)
I arrive at 8.15. Do you think you could pick me up at the station?(= collect sb, in a car, etc.)
I got on the wrong bus, and I ended up on the opposite side of town. (- find yourself in a place I situation that you did not expect)
We're running out of petrol. Let's stop at the next petrol station. (= finish your supply of sth)
Watch out! Look out! You're going to crash! (= be careful or pay attention to sth dangerous)

3 READING & LISTENING

a You are going to read about a race which the BBC car programme Top Gear organized across London. Read the introduction and answer the questions.



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1 Where do they have to go from? Where to?

2 What are the four methods of transport?

3 Which one do you think will be the fastest? Why?

4 In what order do you think the other three will arrive? Why?

b Read the three journeys again and answer the questions with **Je** (Jeremy), **R** (Richard), or **Ja** (James).
Who ... ?

- [ ] was asked to show a piece of paper
- [ ] went much faster in the later part of his journey
- [ ] nearly did something illegal
- [ ] went more slowly in the later part of his journey
- [ ] was happy to see that there was a lot of traffic
- [ ] got slightly lost
- [ ] had the most exciting journey

c Now listen to what happened to The Stig.
2.9



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4 Grammar: comparatives and superlatives.

a Tick the correct sentence.

- ☐ What's the quicker way to get across London?
- ☐ Driving is more boring than going by train.
- ☐ The boat was nearly as fast than the bike.
- ☐ Oxford is the same distance from London as Brighton.
- ☐ There aren't as much trains as there were before on this line.
- ☐ It was the more exciting journey I've ever had.
- ☐ The worst time of day to travel in London is between 7.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m.
- ☐ Women drive more careful than men.

Grammar; comparatives and superlatives

comparing two people, places, things, etc.

1 My sister is a bit taller than me.
London is more expensive than Edinburgh.
This test is less difficult than the last one.
Olive oil is better for you than butter.

We use comparative adjectives to compare two people, places, things, etc.

• Regular comparative adjectives: spelling rules
old> older big > bigger easy> easier modern >more modern difficult > more difficult

• Irregular comparative adjectives:
good > better bad > worse far > further

• One-syllable adjectives ending in -ed: bored> more bored stressed> more stressed tired > more tired

2 The new sofa isn't as comfortable as the old one.
I don't have as many books as I used to.

We can also use (not) as + adjective + as to make . comparisons.

Object pronouns (me, him, etc.) after than and as

After **than** or **as** we can use an object pronoun (me, him, her, etc.) or a subject pronoun (/, he, she, etc.) + auxiliary verb.
She's taller than me. OR She's taller than I am.
NOT She's taller than I.
They're not as busy as us. OR They're not as busy as we are.
NOT They're not as busy as we.

the same as

We use **the same as** to say that two people, places, things, etc. are identical.
Her dress is the same as mine.

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comparing two actions

1 My father drives faster than me.
You walk more quickly than I do.
Liverpool played worse today than last week.

We use comparative adverbs to compare two actions.
• Regular comparative adverbs:
spelling rules fast→faster slowly→more slowly carefully→more carefully

• Irregular comparatives: well→ better badly→worse

2 Max doesn't speak English as well as his wife does.
I don't earn as much as my boss.

We can also use (not) as + adverb + as to make comparisons.

superlatives

Kevin is the tallest player in the team.
Oslo is the most expensive capital city in Europe.
The small bag is the least expensive.
Lucy is the best student in the class.
Who dresses the most stylishly in your family?
That's the worst we've ever played.

• We use superlative adjectives and adverbs to compare people, things, or actions with all of their group.
• Form superlatives like comparatives, but use -est instead of -er and most / least instead of more / less.
• We normally use the before superlatives, but you can also use possessive adjectives, e.g. my best friend, their most famous song.
• We often use a superlative with present perfect + ever, e.g. It's the best book I've ever read.

in after superlatives

Use in (NOT of) before places after a superlative.
It's the longest bridge in the world. NOT of the world
It's the best beach in England. NOT of England

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a Complete with the comparative or superlative of the bold word (and *than* if necessary).

What's the fastest way to get across London? **fast**

I think skiing is ..... horse-riding. **easy**

A motorbike is ..... a scooter. **powerful**

I think that travelling by train is ..... form of transport. **relaxing**

You walk ..... I do. **slowly**

..... time to travel is on holiday weekends. **bad**

..... I've ever driven is from London to Edinburgh. **far**

The London Underground is ..... the subway in New York. **old**

This is ..... coach I've ever been on. **hot**

Of all my family, my mum is ..... driver. **good**

b Complete with one word.

Going by motorboat is more exciting than travelling by ferry.
A coach isn't as comfortable ..... a train.
It's ..... most expensive car we've ever bought.
The traffic was worse ..... we expected.
This is the longest journey I've ..... been on.
He gets home late, but his wife arrives later than .....
The ..... interesting place I've ever visited is Venice.
I leave home at the same time ..... my brother.
He drives ..... carefully than his girlfriend - he's never had an accident.
We don't go abroad ..... often as we used to.
What's the longest motorway ..... the UK?

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5 Speaking





Which of these things are the most (and least) dangerous when you're driving a car?

A British car magazine tested drivers in a driving simulator. The drivers had to drive in the simulator and do the things in the list below.

- ⚠ Eating or drinking ☐
- ⚠ Talking on a mobile (not 'hands free') ☐
- ⚠ Setting or adjusting a satnav ☐
- ⚠ Listening to your favourite music ☐
- ⚠ Listening to music you don't know ☐
- ⚠ Sending or receiving text messages ☐
- ⚠ Doing your hair or putting on make-up ☐



- Slow drivers cause more accidents than fast drivers.
- People who drink and drive should lose their driving licence for life.
- Speed cameras do not stop accidents.
- Drivers who are over 70 are as dangerous as young drivers.
- Cyclists should have to wear helmets.
- The minimum age for riding a motorbike should be 25.
- The speed limit on motorways should be lower.

Agreeing and disagreeing

I agree / don't agree	with this. / with Juan.	
I think / don't think	you're right. / that's	
I completely / totally	agree. / disagree.	

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