



TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

18

A

BMW, Volvo, General Motors, and Google are all currently working on driverless cars. Some driverless cars use solar energy, which reduces fuel costs and lowers carbon emissions. They are also safer because the computer controls the speed, so they can't go faster than the speed limit.

B

This monorail in New Zealand is a new solution for commuters in a traffic jam during rush hour. The passenger sits in a pod and can cycle over people's heads. Google has already invested over \$1 million in this idea.

C

In the future, the Hyperloop could be a common type of public transportation. It's a long tube with no air inside, and passengers sit inside pods that travel at 1,200 kilometers per hour. It would reduce air and noise pollution. There are already plans for the first Hyperloop between downtown San Francisco and Los Angeles. The distance is around 600 kilometers, and it would only take 30 minutes of travel time.

3a Transportation solutions

Reading

1 Read the article about three solutions to transportation problems. Match the paragraphs with the photos (1–3).

Paragraph A _____

Paragraph B _____

Paragraph C _____

2 Look at the photos and read the article again. Which types of transportation do the sentences (1–4) describe? Match the sentences to a–c below. Some sentences describe more than one type.

1 It moves over people's heads.
2 It's a faster way to commute.
3 It's environmentally friendly.
4 It's good for long distances.

a driverless cars _____
b monorail _____
c Hyperloop _____

9 Complete this report about a transportation survey. Write the correct comparative or superlative form of the adjectives in parentheses.

Report on local transportation

For commuting and daytime travel in our town, the ¹ _____ (popular) form of transportation is the bus because it's ² _____ (cheap) than going by car or taxi. However, some people in the survey prefer to cycle because the bus is ³ _____ (slow) than a bicycle during rush hour. Everyone said that parking downtown is the ⁴ _____ (big) problem, so people don't often use their cars. As a result, taxis are ⁵ _____ (popular) than private cars.

Vocabulary transportation nouns

► WORDBUILDING compound nouns

We can join two words to make a new noun: *bus + stop = bus stop*, *air + port = airport*, *down + town = downtown*. A compound noun can be two words (*bus stop*) or one word (*airport*).

For more practice, see Workbook page 27.

3 Find the compound nouns in **bold** in the article. Match them with their definitions (1–6).

1 the maximum speed you can legally drive speed limit
2 a long line of vehicles moving slowly on the road _____
3 the time of day when lots of people travel to/from work _____
4 the money you spend on gas for transportation _____
5 the amount of CO₂ that a type of transportation produces _____
6 the main or central part of a city _____

4 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.

1 Which of the three transportation solutions in the article do you think are a good idea?
2 Which traffic problems could they solve in your area?