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Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Modes of Transportation in The Bahamas**

The Bahamas is an archipelago made up of over 700 islands, each with its own unique charm. Due to its geography, transportation plays a vital role in connecting the islands and facilitating communication and commerce. Various modes of transportation are used in the Bahamas, including mailboats, air travel, ferries, taxis, and jitneys.

Mailboats are a traditional and essential mode of transportation in the Bahamas. They have been in operation for many years and serve as the primary means of delivering mail, goods, and supplies to the family islands. The importance of mailboats cannot be overstated, as they ensure that remote islands receive necessary items like food, medicine, and other supplies. Each week, mailboats travel between the larger islands, such as Nassau and the Out Islands, providing a lifeline to communities that rely on these deliveries. Presently there are 18 mail boats based at Potter's Cay in Nassau serving over 45 communities on 14 of the family islands, from Bimini to Inagua.

For those looking to travel between the islands, air travel is another common option. Airlines like Bahamasair offer flights that connect major islands quickly and efficiently. This mode of transport is particularly popular for tourists and residents who need to travel long distances in a short amount of time. Air travel has made it easier for people to explore the various islands and has significantly boosted tourism in the region.

In addition to mailboats and airplanes, the Bahamas has a robust system of ferries that transport passengers and vehicles between islands. Ferries provide a scenic and enjoyable way to travel, allowing passengers to experience the beautiful waters of the Bahamas. They are often used by both locals and tourists who want to visit nearby islands for day trips or vacations.

When it comes to getting around on the islands themselves, taxis and jitneys are widely used. Taxis are readily available at airports and hotels, making them a convenient option for visitors. Jitneys, on the other hand, are a form of shared transportation that operates on fixed routes, providing an affordable way for locals to travel. They are often colorful and lively, reflecting the vibrant culture of the Bahamas.

In conclusion, the various modes of transportation in the Bahamas, including mailboats, air travel, ferries, taxis, and jitneys, play a crucial role in connecting the islands and supporting the local economy. Each mode has its unique importance, ensuring that both residents and visitors can move around the beautiful archipelago with ease.

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1. What is the main idea of the story?

- A. The Bahamas is a group of islands.
- B. There are many ways to travel in The Bahamas.
- C. Jitneys are colorful buses.
- D. Mailboats deliver important things.

2. Which type of transportation is used to deliver mail and supplies to the islands?

- A. Ferries
- B. Mailboats
- C. Air travel
- D. Jitneys

3. What is the name of the place in Nassau where mailboats are based?

- A. Nassau Port
- B. Potter's Cay
- C. Inagua
- D. Bimini

4. Why do tourists and residents use air travel?

- A. To travel long distances quickly
- B. To deliver food and supplies
- C. To save money
- D. To see the beautiful waters of The Bahamas

5. What makes ferries a fun way to travel?

- A. They are shared transportation.
- B. You can see the beautiful waters.
- C. They are very fast.
- D. They carry mail and goods.

6. What is a 'jitney'?

- A. A plane that flies to the islands
- B. A shared bus on a set path
- C. A special type of taxi
- D. A boat that carries cars

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7. According to the passage, why are taxis a good option for visitors?

- A. They are affordable for locals.
- B. They are a form of shared transportation.
- C. They are always available at airports and hotels.
- D. They provide a scenic way to travel.

8. What is the conclusion of the passage?

- A. That mailboats are the most important transportation.
- B. That all the different types of transportation are important for the islands.
- C. That air travel is the best way to get around.
- D. That the Bahamas has over 700 islands.

9. Which of these is NOT a type of transportation mentioned in the passage?

- A. Trains
- B. Taxis
- C. Mailboats
- D. Ferries

10. Why is transportation so important in The Bahamas?

- A. Because it helps people and goods move between the islands.
- B. Because many people visit there.
- C. Because it is a country.
- D. Because the jitneys are colorful.