Lesson
40

WORDS TO LEARN

busy
coincide
confusion
contact
disappoint
intend
license
nervously
optional
tempt
thrill
tier

Car Rentals

Study the following definitions and examples.

1. **busy** adj., engaged in activity
   a. Alfred was busy getting ready for his vacation.
   b. The airport was busy, with people catching planes and heading for car rental companies.
2. **coincide** v., to happen at the same time
   a. My cousin's wedding coincided with a holiday weekend, so it was a perfect time to rent a car and go for a drive.
   b. Sean was hoping that the days for the special discount on car rentals would coincide with his vacation, but they did not.
3. **confusion** n., a lack of clarity, order, or understanding
   a. There was some confusion about which rental discount coupons applied to which car rental agency.
   b. To avoid any confusion about renting the car, Yolanda asked her travel agent to make the arrangements on her behalf.
4. **contact** v., to get in touch with
   a. Manuel contacted at least a dozen car rental agencies to get the best deal.
   b. Last night I was contacted by my travel agent who said he had found a better price on a car rental.
5. **disappoint** v., to fail to satisfy the hope, desire, or expectation of
   a. Leila was disappointed to discover that no rental cars were available the weekend she wished to travel.
   b. I hate to disappoint you, but I can't allow you to rent a car unless you have a major credit card.
6. **intend** v., to have in mind
   a. I never intended to drive to Los Angeles until my brother suggested we do it together.
   b. Do you intend to return the car to this location or to another location?
7. **license** n., the legal permission to do or own a specified thing
   a. First, I'll need to see your driver's license and a major credit card.
   b. You will need a license in order to run this business.
8. **nervously** adv., in a distressed or uneasy manner
   a. As we approached the city Lonnie started driving nervously, so I volunteered to drive that part of the trip.
   b. I looked around nervously the entire time I was in the dark parking garage.
9. **optional** adj., not compulsory or automatic
   a. Check this box if you wish to have this optional insurance.
   b. Having a driver's license is not optional.
10. **tempt** v., to be inviting or attractive to
    a. I am tempted by the idea of driving across the country instead of flying.
    b. Gina is tempted to rent the smaller car to save a few dollars.
11. **thrill** n., the source or cause of excitement or emotion
    a. The thought of renting a sports car gave John a thrill.
    b. Just taking a vacation is thrill enough, even if we are driving instead of flying.
12. **tier** n., a rank or class
    a. The car rental company had a few tiers of cars, each one costing more than the previous tier.
    b. If you are on a budget, I suggest you think about renting a car from our lowest tier.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WORDS IN CONTEXT

Read the following passage and write the words in the blanks below.

busy	contacted	license	tempted
coincided	disappointment	nervous	thrill
confusing	intended	optional	tier

Many travelers taking a driving vacation simply rent a car. Yoko called ahead to rent a car at her vacation destination. Although she was (1) _____ to book a car once she arrived at her destination, Yoko was (2) _____ about not having a reservation. Her vacation (3) _____ with a holiday, so she knew many other people would also be renting cars. Yoko wanted to avoid the (4) _____ of finding that a car was not available at this (5) _____ travel time.

There are a lot of car rental firms, so Yoko (6) _____ several of them to compare rates and requirements. At each company she called, she learned she would need a valid driver's (7) _____ and a major credit card to rent a car.

Yoko found the many different rates for renting cars (8) _____. Some companies offered substantial discounts provided that the car was reserved for a certain number of days. One company offered her a great daily rate, but it was based on a three-day rental. Since she only (9) _____ to rent the car for two days, the discount did not apply to her. Also, the base price did not cover (10) _____ costs, like collision insurance or gas refills.

Another factor influencing the rate was the type of car. Rentals are based on a (11) _____ price system. The more luxurious or sporty, or the larger the car, the higher the daily rate. Since Yoko needed only a small reliable car, she found a reasonable rate—although she would have liked the (12) _____ of driving a convertible!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WORD FAMILIES

verb	confuse	These long car rental contracts always confuse me.
noun	confusion	The crowds at the car rental office resulted in a lot of confusion.
adjective	confusing	Driving in an unfamiliar city can be quite confusing.

verb	coincide	This year, my vacation coincides with a national holiday, which will make renting a car more expensive.
noun	coincidence	By coincidence, I ran into an old friend in line waiting to rent a car.
adverb	coincidentally	Coincidentally, we are offering a special discount if you are over age 65.

verb	disappoint	The service at that car rental agency always disappoints me, so next time I plan to use a different agency.
noun	disappointment	The poor condition of the car we rented was an unexpected disappointment.
adjective	disappointing	The weather during our trip was so disappointing that we came home early.

noun	intention	I have every intention of paying by cash even though I reserved the car with my credit card.
adjective	intent	Intent on avoiding an accident, Zola drove cautiously through the rush hour traffic.
adverb	intently	The tourist intently studied the road map.

noun	nervousness	I hope my nervousness did not show when I was filling out the forms.
adjective	nervous	This was Jane's first time renting a car, so she was somewhat nervous.
adverb	nervously	Mr. Lane nervously parallel parked the rental car between two others in the parking garage.

verb	tempt	Can I tempt you to rent a larger car with a special discount?
noun	temptation	The temptation to drive the sports car fast was too great for Karl to resist.
adjective	tempting	As tempting as it sounds to drive to Florida, I think I'd rather fly.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

WORD PRACTICE

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

CD2
Track 15

Part 1 Photo

Look at the picture and listen to the sentences. Choose the sentence that best describes the picture.



1. Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ

Part 2 Question–Response

Listen to the question and the three responses. Choose the response that best answers the question.

2. Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ

3. Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ

Part 3 Conversation

Listen to the dialogue. Then read each question and choose the best answer.

4. Who is the man speaking with?
   (A) An insurance agent.
   (B) A police officer.
   (C) Another customer.
   (D) A car rental agent.

5. How much does insurance cost?
   (A) $4.
   (B) $9.
   (C) $13.
   (D) $30.

6. How will the man pay?
   (A) Cash.
   (B) Check.
   (C) Credit card.
   (D) Money order.

Part 4 Talk

Listen to the talk. Then read each question and choose the best answer.

7. Who is the audience for this talk?
   (A) People who work in travel agencies.
   (B) People who rent cars locally.
   (C) People who work in car rental agencies.
   (D) People who travel to other countries.

8. When should a traveler get an international driver's license?
   (A) After arriving in another country.
   (B) After contacting a local rental agency.
   (C) Before leaving on a trip.
   (D) When signing a car rental contract.

9. What should a traveler do when picking up a rental car?
   (A) Look for damage.
   (B) Sign a check.
   (C) Drive it right away.
   (D) Make an appointment.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

READING

Part 5 Incomplete Sentences

Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

10. The constant road repair work made driving through the city _____.
    (A) confuse (C) confusion
    (B) confuses (D) confusing

11. I don't think it is a _____that the special discount rate for renting a car expires right before the holiday weekend.
    (A) coincidental (C) coincidence
    (B) coincidentally (D) coincide

12. It was _____ to discover that the car rental company had only compact cars available.
    (A) disappointing (C) disappointment
    (B) disappointed (D) disappoints

13. Our _____ is to rent a comfortable car and spend several weeks driving through the mountains.
    (A) intent (C) intention
    (B) intently (D) intend

14. Tito _____ drove the rental car through the crowded garage following the signs to the car rental return location.
    (A) nerve (C) nervous
    (B) nervousness (D) nervously

15. The new car rental company _____ me to try them by offering a discount coupon toward my next rental.
    (A) tempted (C) temptation
    (B) tempting (D) temptress

Part 6 Text Completion

Are you looking for a reliable rental car? Look no more.

Riverton Rent-a-Car offers the most reliable and economical rental cars in town.

You are sure to find the car you want at **Riverton Rent-a-Car.** We have several tiers of cars, from budget to luxury.

Our rates start at $19.99 daily for a compact car, with several __16__ available including two-door and four-door sedans and hatchbacks.

Have you always wanted to experience the __17__ of driving a luxury sports car? Live your dream by renting a sports car from **Riverton Rent-a-Car.** Daily and weekly rates are available. Contact us to find out more.

Rent a car from **Riverton Rent-a-Car.** You won't __18__.

16. (A) optics
    (B) options
    (C) optimists
    (D) opticians

17. (A) thrill
    (B) thriller
    (C) thrilled
    (D) thrilling

18. (A) disappoint
    (B) disappointed
    (C) be disappointed
    (D) are disappointed

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part 7 Reading Comprehension

Questions 19–23 refer to the following article.

Will your next trip involve a rental car? With a little careful planning, you can prevent some common headaches. If your travel plans coincide with a holiday, you need to plan well ahead of time. Car rental agencies are very busy at such times, and you won't be guaranteed a car unless you make your reservation well in advance. Contact the car rental agency and specify the kind of car you want and the dates you will need it. It's a good idea to call the agency again shortly before you begin your trip to confirm your reservation. This is the best way to avoid disappointment.

Another common problem that car renters face is extra charges. Some agencies add charges for options without letting the renter know about them. Sometimes renters aren't aware of this until they receive their credit card bill. Read the contract carefully before you sign it to make sure that you are paying only for what you requested. And don't be tempted to pay for things you don't need. It might be fun to drive a large, luxury car, but if you are traveling alone and are on a budget, it probably isn't worth paying for such a car.

19. Who is the audience for this article?
    (A) Car rental agents.
    (B) Travel agents.
    (C) Car renters.
    (D) Car owners.

20. What is a problem for holiday travelers?
    (A) Businesses are closed.
    (B) Rental agencies are very busy.
    (C) Rental rates go up.
    (D) People get headaches.

21. How can a car renter avoid paying extra charges?
    (A) Read the contract.
    (B) Confirm reservations.
    (C) Pay with a credit card.
    (D) Make a budget.

22. The word *disappointment* in the first paragraph, line 12 is closest in meaning to
    (A) expense
    (B) disagreement
    (C) cancellation
    (D) unhappiness

23. The word *options* in the second paragraph, line 3 is closest in meaning to
    (A) features
    (B) choices
    (C) purchases
    (D) customers

LIVEWORKSHEETS