

NOTES:

PREPOSITIONS OF TRANSPORT (By - In - On)

- By is used after a Verb
- In is used for private transport
- On is used for public transport



By

BY - ways and modes to travel

"I go to work **by** tram, every morning."

"To see more of the surroundings, we prefer to travel **by** sea."

"We got there **by** boat, but returned **by** plane."



We use 'by' to describe the mode (or way) of travel. By is used either after a verb or a noun.

E.g. journey, voyage, car, bus, plane, road, sea, air etc.

In

IN - private transport

"I can seat only 3 people **in** my car."

"The driver doesn't allow dogs **in** his taxi."

"We hardly had any space to move **in** the helicopter."



We use *in* when we are **inside** the vehicle and do not have much room to move. Most commonly *in* is used for **private transport** – when you don't share the vehicle with (unknown or) other passengers.

On

ON - transportation on which you can move

"I can't call right now, I'm **on** the bus."

"We were served a delicious meal **on** the ferry."

"Let me give you a ride – hop **on** the back of my bike."



We use *on* when you can **stand**, **walk** or **sit** on top of the vehicle. Most commonly we use *on* for **public transport**; transportation on which you can move even though the vehicle itself is in motion. In this case you can approach 'on' as a synonym of 'inside'

E.g. planes, trams, ferries, subways, trains, ships, bikes, skateboards, skis, motorcycles, etc.

EXERCISE:

Transportation: Prepositions in/on/by

Read the incomplete sentences below and then fill in the gaps with **in**, **on** or **by**

1. We got _____ the plane and sat in our seats.

2. She came out of the station and got _____ a taxi.

3. He got _____ the car and drove all the way to Leeds.

4. She usually comes to college _____ the train.

5. You can travel from Middlesbrough to London _____ a train,
_____ a coach or _____ a car.

6. Did you come _____ car or _____ bus?

7. You can travel from London to Paris _____ a train, _____ a
plane or _____ a car.

8. My daughter travels _____ coach to Newcastle.
Sometimes, she goes _____ a car with her father.

9. If you go to Paris _____ a car, you also have to go _____ a
ferry.

10. In some countries you can travel _____ a camel.

11. We drove our car to Dover, got _____ the ferry, travelled
across the sea and arrived in France

12. I walk to college, but if it's raining, I go _____ bus.

13. I have been _____ a plane, but I haven't been _____ a
helicopter.

