

# 33 Trains and buses

## A Train and bus journeys

If there is a **direct train**, it is usually the fastest way to travel from A to B in Britain. A **stopping train** stops at a lot of smaller stations between **main stations**. An **express (train)** provides a faster **service** to your **destination**, and avoids the problem of **traffic jams** on the bus services.

For **rail travel**, you might need a single or a return ticket. Many people buy a **travel card**, which allows them to travel on any bus or train in a specific area for a period of time for less money. A **bus pass** lets you do the same for bus routes. You can buy rail tickets online, from a **ticket machine** or at the **ticket office / booking office** in the station.

If you get a train or bus **in time**, you **catch** it. If you are late, you may **miss** it. You may need to **change trains or buses**.

### GLOSSARY

<b>service</b>	a system or organization that provides the public with sth that it needs: <i>a bus/train service</i>
<b>destination</b>	the place where sb/sth is going
<b>traffic jam</b>	a long line of cars, buses, etc. that cannot move or that moves very slowly
<b>in time</b>	not late, early enough
<b>change trains/buses</b>	get off one train/bus and get on another one

### SPOTLIGHT *journey, trip, travel*

A **journey** is used to talk about going from one place to another.

- *my journey to school*
- *a journey through Asia*

A **trip** is used to describe the whole visit, including your stay in a place.

- *I've been on a trip to Spain for three weeks.*

**Travel** [U] is used to talk about the activity of moving from one place to another. **travel** v

- *Rail travel is slower than flying, but I prefer it.*
- *Do you enjoy travelling by train?*

You **go on a journey/trip** (NOT **go on a travel**).

### 1 Circle the correct word.

► direct <b>fare</b> / <b>train</b>	4 main station / <b>travel</b>	8 <b>stopping</b> / <b>journey</b> train
1 booking <b>machine</b> / <b>office</b>	5 ticket <b>machine</b> / <b>pass</b>	9 <b>travel</b> / <b>bus</b> card
2 <b>traffic</b> / <b>travel</b> jam	6 <b>in</b> / <b>at</b> time	10 bus <b>pass</b> / <b>machine</b>
3 <b>express</b> / <b>rail</b> train	7 go on a <b>trip</b> / <b>travel</b>	11 rail <b>destination</b> / <b>travel</b>

### 2 Complete the sentences.

► A direct train only stops at your **destination**.

1 You can buy a ticket at a booking office or a ..... .

2 A stopping train usually stops often between the ..... .

3 The bus company provides a very good ..... for its customers.

4 It takes five hours from London to Strasbourg, so it's a long ..... .

5 Flying is generally the fastest way to ..... .

6 If you don't want to pay for your bus ticket each time, get a ..... .

7 If you arrive in time for your train, you will ..... it, but if you are late, you will ..... it.

8 Too many cars and buses on the road might mean there will be a ..... .

### 3 Complete the text with words from the box in the correct form.

miss rail travel time destination booking change journey trip ✓

Last year my sister Cally and I went on a ► **trip** ..... to Madrid. My sister loves (1) ..... travel, so we decided to take the train from London to Atocha Station in Madrid. It's a very long (2) ..... – it takes all day, really. You have to (3) ..... trains twice, once in Paris and again in Barcelona. We were surprised to find that train tickets are incredibly expensive, and Cally spent hours at the (4) ..... office trying to find the cheapest tickets. On the day we left, it snowed and we didn't get to the station in (5) ..... to catch the train, and then we (6) ..... another train in Paris, so we had problems for the rest of the day. We finally got to our (7) ..... after midnight. I've told Cally I don't enjoy (8) ..... by train any more.



## B Train problems

The train **broke down**, and we didn't arrive at our destination until after midnight.

Sorry, I was **held up**. My train was due at 9.42, but it didn't **get in** until 10.25.

I **commute** to the city every day, but the train I catch is often **cancelled** without warning.

My train to London got in late, so I missed my **connection** to Brussels.

My sister was **meant to** pick me up at the station, but she forgot.

### GLOSSARY

<b>break down</b>	If a train/car, etc. <b>breaks down</b> , it stops working.
<b>hold sb up</b>	(often passive) make sb slow or late <b>hold-up</b> n <b>SYN delay</b>
<b>due</b>	expected to arrive or happen
<b>get in</b>	(usually of a train or plane) <b>SYN arrive</b> <b>OPP leave, depart</b>
<b>commute</b>	travel a long way from home to work every day
<b>cancel</b>	decide that sth that has been planned will not happen
<b>warning</b>	a piece of information that sth bad may happen
<b>connection</b>	a train, plane, etc. that leaves soon after another arrives, so that people can change from one to the other <b>miss a connection</b>
<b>be meant to (do sth)</b>	If sb is <b>meant to do sth</b> , they have been asked to do it and have a responsibility to do it.
<b>pick sb/sth up</b>	go to a place and collect sb/sth, usually in a car

### 4 Good or bad? Write G or B.

► I caught my connection to Rome. **G**  
1 The train was cancelled. ....  
2 The train's due in a minute. ....  
3 I commute two hours every day. ....  
4 Dad picked me up at the airport. ....  
5 Our car broke down. ....

6 They didn't get held up. ....  
7 We had a delay on the way to the station. ....  
8 We had no warning about the accident. ....  
9 There weren't any hold-ups on the journey. ....  
10 When I got there, the train had departed. ....

### 5 Complete the sentences.

► My husband was meant to meet me, but he missed the train.  
1 They've just said the train is in five minutes, so that's good.  
2 The plane to Paris was late, so I missed my to Bordeaux.  
3 We had problems at the border: we were for two hours.  
4 Our teacher arrived late because the train company two trains this morning.  
5 I used to from Cambridge to London every day for work.  
6 What time does your train in?  
7 My father has gone to the airport to his brother.  
8 I waited an hour for the train, then it was cancelled without .  
9 There was a long at the airport and we didn't leave until midnight.  
10 Our train just outside Milan. We sat there for two hours until it was fixed.

### 6 ABOUT YOU True or false? Write T or F. Write your answers, or tell another student.

► Some of my family have to commute to work. **T** - My father and brother both commute to Warsaw.  
1 Trains are often cancelled where I live because of the weather. ....  
2 I often get held up when I'm travelling by train. ....  
3 I've never missed a connection. ....  
4 I've never been on a train that broke down. ....  
5 You are meant to have a ticket to go on the station platform. ....  
6 I was once delayed for over three hours on a train journey. ....



TEST YOURSELF