

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

### 2 Complete the sentences.

- ▶ A direct train only stops at your destination.
- You can buy a ticket at a booking office or a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A stopping train usually stops often between the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The bus company provides a very good \_\_\_\_\_ for its customers.
  - It takes five hours from London to Strasbourg, so it's a long \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Flying is generally the fastest way to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - If you don't want to pay for your bus ticket each time, get a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - If you arrive in time for your train, you will \_\_\_\_\_ it, but if you are late, you will \_\_\_\_\_ it.
  - 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.



### TEST YOURSELF



## 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> <i>n</i> <b>SYN</b> <b>delay</b>
<b>due</b>	expected to arrive or happen
<b>get in</b>	(usually of a train or plane) <b>SYN</b> <b>arrive</b> <b>OPP</b> <b>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 <b>is 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