

## A

## Vehicles

**Vehicle** is the general word for all types of road transport.



bus

lorry (also called **truck**)

bicycle



coach



van



motorbike

## B

## Travelling around

| bus/coach                     | train                           | plane          | taxi                     | bicycle                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| bus/coach driver              | train driver                    | <b>pilot</b>   | taxi driver              | <b>cyclist</b>                          |
| (£) <b>bus fare</b>           | <b>train fare</b>               | <b>airfare</b> | fare                     |                                         |
| <b>get / catch / go by</b>    | get / catch / go by             | <b>fly</b>     | get/take                 | <b>go by bike / cycle / ride a bike</b> |
| <b>get on/off</b>             | get on/off                      | get on/off     | <b>get in / out (of)</b> | get on/off                              |
| <b>bus stop</b> / bus station | <b>platform</b> / train station | airport        | <b>taxi rank</b>         |                                         |
| <b>journey</b>                | journey                         | <b>flight</b>  |                          |                                         |

I **go** to work **by bus**. It's only three **stops**.

We **got the train** to Cardiff, but the **journey** was terrible.

When the **bus fares** went up last month, my dad started **cycling** to work.

I **got out of** the taxi and almost walked away without paying the **fare**.

If there are more **flights**, **airfares** should be cheaper.

We were going to **get the train** to Paris, but in the end we decided to **fly**.

## Common mistakes

It was a good **journey**.  
(NOT It was a good ~~travel~~.)

## C

## Are you happy with public transport?\*



Where I live buses are not very **convenient**<sup>1</sup>; the nearest bus stop is half a mile **away**<sup>2</sup>. And when I do get the bus, I often have to **wait in a queue**<sup>3</sup> for about twenty minutes, and then three come along at the same time!

\* buses and trains for people to use

<sup>1</sup> near or easy to use

<sup>2</sup> the distance from a place

<sup>3</sup> stand in a line



People are always **complaining about**<sup>4</sup> the bus service, but where I live it's good. I've got a bus stop **round the corner**<sup>5</sup> and buses **run** every ten minutes for most of the day, and they're usually **reliable**<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> saying they are unhappy / not satisfied with

<sup>5</sup> very near

<sup>6</sup> you can trust them



I get the train to work. Trains are expensive – a **return**<sup>7</sup> to London is forty pounds – but I've got a **season ticket**<sup>8</sup>, and that makes it cheaper. My only real **complaint** is that if I **miss**<sup>9</sup> my train, I have to wait half an hour for the next one.

<sup>7</sup> a ticket for a journey to a place and back

<sup>8</sup> a ticket you can use many times within a period of time without paying each time

<sup>9</sup> don't catch (a train or bus)

## Exercises

### 28.1 Choose the correct word(s) to complete the sentences.

- 1 We were late, so we had to get / catch a taxi.
- 2 You mustn't *ride* / drive a motorbike without a helmet in the UK.
- 3 She told him to *get in* / get on the car and fasten his seat belt.
- 4 The *journey* / travel to the airport takes half an hour.
- 5 Trains to the airport *travel* / run every half hour.
- 6 The pilot didn't want to *drive* / fly the plane in such bad weather.
- 7 They left a bit late and *lost* / missed the bus.
- 8 I see that train *fares* / tickets are going up again.
- 9 You mustn't speak to the bus *pilot* / driver when he is driving.
- 10 We must *get off* / out the bus at the next *station* / stop.

### 28.2 Test your knowledge. Can you label the vehicles without looking at the opposite page?



- 1 bus 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_



- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_

### 28.3 Complete the sentences.

- 1 I wasn't happy with the service, so I made a complaint.
- 2 The flight was fine but we had a terrible \_\_\_\_\_ from the airport to our hotel.
- 3 Where I live, the public transport is not very \_\_\_\_\_ because the nearest bus stop is two kilometres \_\_\_\_\_, and there are no trains at all.
- 4 The train station is just round the \_\_\_\_\_ from where I live.
- 5 Buses are not very \_\_\_\_\_. Sometimes they come every five minutes, but other times you have to wait for forty minutes.
- 6 When I got to the bus stop there was a long \_\_\_\_\_ of people.
- 7 Train fares are crazy: a \_\_\_\_\_ to Glasgow costs more than two singles.
- 8 People are always \_\_\_\_\_ about the buses, but I don't think they're that bad.
- 9 I use the trains every day for work, so I've got a \_\_\_\_\_ ticket.
- 10 Your train is going to depart from \_\_\_\_\_ six at 10:25.

### 28.4 Over to you

Answer the questions about transport in your country. If possible, compare your answers with someone else.

- 1 Are trains more reliable than buses?
- 2 Are return tickets usually twice the price of a single?
- 3 Is where you live convenient for public transport? Why? / Why not?
- 4 How often do you take a taxi? Why, and where do you go to?
- 5 How often do you ride a bike?