

UNDERSEA TUNNEL



1 Warm up

Match the words and pictures:

bridge

ferry

roundabout

undersea tunnel



1. _____

2. _____



3. _____

4. _____

1. Do you use any of these when you go to work or college?
2. In these pictures, in what way are the bridge, ferry and tunnel the same?

2

Watch for main idea

You are going to watch a news report about a new undersea tunnel with a roundabout. Before you watch, choose the best answers to these questions. Then watch the news report to check your ideas.

1. The new undersea tunnel is opening in the Faroe Islands **in the South Atlantic / in the North Atlantic / at the North Pole**.
2. The tunnel helps people from the north islands get to **the capital / the south islands / Iceland**.
3. At the centre of the roundabout is **a traffic light / an art work / a coffee shop**.
4. It cost **360 / 36 / 300** million euros to build the tunnel and roundabout.
5. The government **plans / doesn't plan** to build more tunnels.

3

Vocabulary

Match these words from the news report with their meanings.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. beauty | a. a drawing or other art that shows the shape of a person |
| 2. celebrate | b. a set of things which work together |
| 3. coast | c. a tall vertical stone post that gives support to the roof of a building |
| 4. column | d. join or be joined with another thing |
| 5. connect | e. relating to actions or ideas which have existed in a particular place for a long time |
| 6. cooperation | f. take part in fun activities because it is a special day |
| 7. figure | g. the place where the land meets the sea |
| 8. system | h. the quality of being pleasing or attractive to look at |
| 9. traditional | i. working together to achieve more than you can if you work alone |

4**Checking understanding**

Answer the questions below. Then watch the news report again to check your answers.

1. How long is the tunnel system?
2. Why is using a tunnel better than driving along the coast?
3. What will the artwork on the central column at the centre of the roundabout show?
4. Why will people who live in small villages need to use the tunnel (and bridges)?
5. What is the problem with using ferries to travel between the islands?
6. Who else will want to use the tunnel?
7. Why are the Faroe Islands famous?

5**Language point**

We use prepositions to explain where things are or where they are going. Choose the best preposition to complete these phrases from the report.

at	around	between	in	on	over	through
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1. _____ bridges
2. _____ the centre
3. _____ the coast
4. _____ the north islands and the capital
5. _____ the islands / ferries
6. _____ the tunnel
7. _____ the world / the North Atlantic / small villages

Now complete this text with the missing words.

Travel has always been difficult on the Faroe Islands. The Faroese have worked hard to find solutions to their transport problems. Travellers have been able to drive over a _____¹ which connects two northern islands since 1973. There are also shorter tunnels connecting the northern islands. The roundabout in the new tunnel system is at the geographical _____² of the country. The lowest point in the tunnel is 187 metres below sea level. This new project is important because it will improve the country's economy. There aren't many job opportunities in small _____³ on the _____⁴, so people are moving away. Driving around the _____⁵ to the capital every day takes over an hour each way. With the new tunnel, the driving time is much quicker. It will cost around 10 euros to travel through the _____⁶, but regular users will pay less. Two more tunnels _____⁷ the capital and the south islands are planned. Attracting more tourists will also help the country's economy. The Faroes are one of the most beautiful countries in the _____⁸. You can travel to the Faroes by air or on a _____⁹ from Denmark.



Final activity

Choose one of these options: a "who said it?" activity or a discussion about bridges and tunnels.

Who said each thing: a villager, a tourist, the roundabout artist or a government official?

1) *I can't wait to drive through the tunnel system - I wonder if you can stop and take photos?*

2) *This is an expensive project, but it will really help our country.*

3) *This is the best of both worlds – I can stay in my home and still find a job.*

4) *Creating an artwork at the centre of the islands really made me think.*

Think of more things these people might say and write them in the boxes.

Discussion

Answer these questions in pairs or small groups.

1. Are there similar bridge or tunnel projects in your country? What effect do they have on your country's economy?
2. Do you know of any similar projects in other places in the world? Do tourists want to visit these places? Why/not?
3. Describe an interesting journey using bridges, tunnels or ferries that you have made or would like to make.