

Live Lesson Notes

Transport

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What you will learn in this lesson:

Essential Vocabulary: Transport
GUEST Interview - Natural English about Transport
Idioms Tavel and Transport

Some useful Links

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Essential Vocabulary: Topic Transport

When it comes to transport, in IELTS Speaking you may be asked about both public and private transport and the differences, giving examples. Here is some essential vocabulary for that.

Public transport (*open to the general public - usually with schedules, regular routes and you pay a fee*)

We can also refer to **public transport** as -

Public transportation

Public transit

Examples:

Buses

Trains

Monorails and tramways

Light rail

Subways / The Underground / The Tube (London) / The Metro

Taxi - tuku - rickshaw - cab - über

Cable cars

Rented Bikes

Ferries, ships, boats

Private transport

Examples:

Car

Bicycle

Scooter / moped / motorbike

Boat (own)

Horse

Rollerskates / skateboard

*In the lesson we listened and identified the different **means of transport / travel**. Notice the grammar and prepositions we can use to talk about different kinds of transport.*

I **took / got** a boat / ship / ferry / train

She **caught the** Subway / Underground / train

When actually boarding a vehicle we can say:

She **got into** her car / taxi

I **got on** the bus / train / plane

*Generally speaking we can use **travel by***

She was lucky enough to **travel by** helicopter

I like to **travel by** train, taxi, car, plane....

When a means or transport is leaving we can say:

The plane **took off** (and later **landed**) / **departed**

The train / coach **left / departed** at 6 p.m.

Collocations

Get stuck in the traffic = *cannot move because there is a **traffic jam***

I hate being stuck in traffic

A **travel itinerary** = *the route of the trip*

*I want to **travel abroad** (v.)*

Domestic travel (n.)

I travel back and forth to somewhere (= *go between 2 places many times*)

I live in Spain, but I travel back and forth to England twice a year.

*I like to **travel light** = I don't take many suitcases with me*

Phrasal Verbs

To get around = *to move around (a city)*

I get around my city by car most of the time.

Today's Guest



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Getting around your hometown

I tend to **move around by bus**, it's really cheap and convenient.

I typically walk everywhere. I live in a small city so **it's easy to get around on foot**.

I don't like driving because there are too many cars.

It's **congested** = too many cars = a lot of traffic jams

There many cars in **the rush hour** (= *peak time people go to work*)

Cars are **bumper to bumper** (= *close together and so cannot move*)

Infrastructure (n. / uncountable) = *roads, buildings, bridges*

It's a **nightmare** = a terrible thing

Pedestrian area (*a pedestrian is a person who walks*)

Walking is so easy and a pleasure because we have so many **pedestrian areas**.

Delays when travelling

I **get (on)** the train to Wales = *take / travel by train*

The hassle of driving = *the stress and trouble*

I was **held up** in traffic and **missed** the flight

I **missed** the plane = *I was late and didn't catch it*

It was **a disaster** = *a terrible thing*

I got my money back **in the end**

*The following both mean **arrive well before the necessary time***

Arrive **in plenty of time**

Arrive **with time to spare**

Transport in the future

I suppose electric cars will be more popular

I suspect cars running on gas will be **a thing of the past**

Electric vehicles = *without gas or petrol*

With climate change getting worse, more and more transportation will **run on electricity**

Everything is **going in that direction**

Driverless cars = *cars without a driver*

Hire a car = *rent a car*

Licences will **become redundant** - *we don't need them anymore*

Manual cars = *cars driven with a gearstick* (opposite is **automatic car**)

A **pain in the ass** = *a big problem*

When it **becomes mainstream** - *popular in everyday usage*

I might start using a driverless car, when they become mainstream

It would make all the difference = *it would have a big impact*

Idioms about Transport

My wife is a **backseat driver** = *someone who doesn't drive, but tells the driver how to drive!*

At last, I am **in the driver's seat** = *to be in control*

I got to the train station **in the nick of time** = *just in time*

We made it to the airport on time **by the skin of our teeth** = *just managed to do it (often meeting a deadline)*

It's already 6 o'clock and time we **hit the road** = *to leave / start a journey*

I have itchy feet = *I love travelling / I want to travel*

I have to get up **at the crack of dawn** = *very early*

Students' Questions about Transport

Keith what type of transport is very popular in your country?

It's a good question. I think, in my country, I mean talking about England; probably the trains are **one of the most popular kinds of transport**.

Lots of people like to take the train, the **inter-city rail system**.

It's **relatively cheap** although, unfortunately the trains are **notorious for** (*= famous for something bad*) **being late** and I think that **lack of punctuality** is a real **downside** for catching the train. Despite that, it's still a very popular way of getting around the country.