

# 05

## FROM A TO B

### IN THIS UNIT

- Grammar: *can/can't*: possibility and ability; Articles: *a/an, the* and no article
- Vocabulary: Transport; Travelling
- Task: Do a transport survey
- World culture: Race across London



### Vocabulary and reading Transport

**1** Look at the photos. Which types of transport in the box can you see?

a car   a bus   a train   a tram   a bicycle   an underground train  
a plane   a taxi   a scooter   a ferry   a motorbike

**2a** Put the types of transport in order, from fast to slow.

1 plane

**b** Work in pairs and compare your answers.

**3** Work in pairs and discuss. How do these people usually travel in your town?

- schoolchildren
- old people
- students
- police officers
- business people

Schoolchildren usually go on foot, but they sometimes go by bus or by car.

# 9 things you didn't know about world travel

## Did you know that ...

- 1 In the USA, 74% of people drive a car. In Japan, it's 59%; and in Germany, it's \_\_\_\_\_%. The average American family owns 1.9 cars.
- 2 More than 100 million people in the world ride a bicycle. About a third of these people are in China. In the Netherlands, about 30% of people choose to ride a bicycle. But in the USA, it's only about \_\_\_\_\_%.
- 3 In Italy, a country of 60 million people, \_\_\_\_\_ people have scooters. In Rome, 500,000 people ride scooters, so they can get about easily in the city traffic.
- 4 In Italy, the average journey to work is about 25 minutes; and in the USA, it's about 32 minutes. In Great Britain, it's about \_\_\_\_\_ minutes – that's nearly 200 hours a year travelling to and from work.
- 5 Every day, more than \_\_\_\_\_ people travel into the centre of London: 77% take a bus or train, about 20% drive and only 3% walk to work.
- 6 There are over \_\_\_\_\_ underground train systems in the world, including those in Paris, Shanghai, Mexico City, Seoul, Moscow, Madrid and Tokyo.
- 7 The London Underground, or the 'Tube', has \_\_\_\_\_ stations. Over 1,000 million passengers use the Tube every year.
- 8 The underground train system in Tokyo is very efficient: people usually wait no more than \_\_\_\_\_ minutes for a train. The only problem is that it's sometimes difficult to get on or off a train because they're often very crowded.
- 9 The two busiest international airports are Hartsfield–Jackson Airport in Atlanta, USA, with 71 million passengers every year, and Beijing Capital International Airport, with \_\_\_\_\_. That means about 160 people fly to Atlanta every minute.

4a Work in pairs. Read the article and discuss. Which numbers go in the gaps?

2      5      53      160      45  
270   1 million   9 million   60 million


b  5.1 Listen and check.

5a Choose the correct answers.

- 1 **drive / ride** a car
- 2 **drive / ride** a bicycle
- 3 **drive / ride** a scooter
- 4 **take / go** a bus or train
- 5 walk **to / for** work
- 6 wait **to / for** a bus or train
- 7 get **on / in** a bus or train
- 8 get **out / off** a bus or train
- 9 fly **in / to** the airport

b Read the article again and check your answers.

### PRONUNCIATION

1  5.2 Listen to the phrases in exercise 5a. Notice the pronunciation of words with /ə/ (e.g. *a, the, to, for*).

2 Practise saying the phrases.

6a Look at the statements below. Which are true for your town or city? Correct the false statements.

- 1 Most people drive small cars.
- 2 People always wait in a queue to get on a bus.
- 3 People often fly from one city to another.
- 4 Not many people walk to the shops.
- 5 A lot of people ride bicycles to work.
- 6 Traffic is a problem all day.
- 7 Buses are very crowded.
- 8 Taxis drive very slowly.
- 9 Trains and buses are very cheap.
- 10 A lot of people ride scooters in the city centre.

b Work in pairs and compare your sentences.



## Vocabulary

### Travelling

- 1** Work in pairs. Look at the photos of Hong Kong and discuss.
- What different forms of transport can you see?
  - Do you think it is easy to travel about in Hong Kong?
- 2a** Work in pairs and discuss.
- How often do you travel by plane?
  - Do you like/dislike travelling by plane?
  - Do you like/dislike spending time at airports?
- b** Read sentences a–j and put them in the correct order. Make sure you understand the words in bold.
- You **go through security**.
  - You decide to **fly** somewhere for the weekend.
  - Finally, you **board** the plane.
  - You **book your ticket online**.
  - You go to the **check-in desk** with your **luggage**.
  - Your **flight** is **delayed** so you wait in the **departure lounge**.
  - They take your **luggage** and give you a **boarding pass**.
  - You go to the airport and look for '**Departures**'.
  - You arrive at your **destination** and **go through immigration control**.
  - You look at the **screens** for your **flight** and **gate number**.
- c** **5.3** Listen and check.
- 3** Work in pairs and discuss.
- How can you buy tickets for bus, train or plane travel? How often do you do this?
  - What do you like/dislike about travelling on buses, trains and ferries?
  - Can you travel to foreign destinations by bus or train from where you live? Which do you prefer? Why?

## Grammar focus 1

### can/can't: possibility and ability

- 1a** Work in pairs and discuss. What do you usually do when you have a long wait for a bus, train or plane?
- b** Read the webpage below. Which of your ideas from exercise 1a does it mention?

#### SEARCH TRAVEL FORUM

#### Travel forum – any questions

##### Question

**GiorgioX:** My girlfriend and I want some advice about our trip to Thailand via Hong Kong. Does anyone know about Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA)? We have a stopover of eight hours there.

##### Answers

**JJB99:** HKIA is really amazing! *Traveller* magazine says it's the world's number one airport, and I can see why. I love it! You can fly direct to more than 160 destinations worldwide from there. But also, it's got great facilities – you can go shopping in the many different shops and you can visit the huge number of restaurants. Some restaurants are open 24 hours. My advice is: enjoy your time shopping and eating!

**HarryH:** You have an eight-hour stopover, so you've got time for leisure, and maybe sleep! Take your computer, because you can use the free Wi-Fi 24-7. Also, you can play various sports, including golf at the nine-hole golf course near Terminal 1! With all the possibilities, you can't get bored. But, if you get tired, remember you can't sleep in Terminal 1 – but you can sleep in one of the special lounges for a small fee.

**TimeFlies:** Hi! I'm in HIKA now! This airport is really big and has everything you need. In most airports, you can't smoke ... and there is no smoking in Terminal 1. But you can smoke in the special smoking lounges in Terminal 2.



**IT'S A FACT!**  
 Hong Kong has about 8,000 skyscrapers.  
 New York has about 4,000.

## GRAMMAR

- 1 We use **can** for things it is possible to do or things we are able to do.

*You can fly direct to more than 160 destinations.*

*You can smoke in Terminal 2.*

A: *Can you play golf near the airport?*

B: *Yes, you can.*

- 2 We use **can't** for things it is not possible to do or things we are not able to do.

A: *Can you smoke in most airports?*

B: *No, you can't.*

## PRONUNCIATION

- 1 Listen again. Notice the pronunciation of *can* and *can't*.

- 2 Practise saying the sentences.

- 2 5.5 Listen to Mei Ling talking about things you can and can't do in Hong Kong. Tick the things you can do. Cross the things you can't do.

- travel by tram
- eat and drink on the underground trains
- find a seat easily on the underground trains
- find a taxi quickly
- use a special travel card on all public transport
- buy food and drink with the special travel card

## PRACTICE

- 1a Complete the sentences about Hong Kong International Airport with **can** or **can't**.

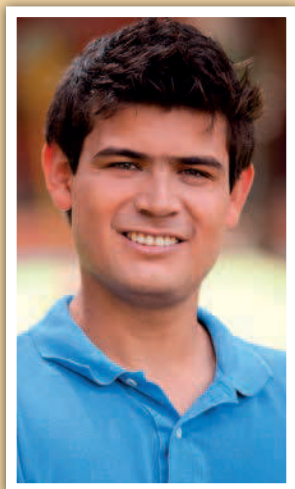
- 1 You \_\_\_\_\_ eat at all times of the day and night.
- 2 You \_\_\_\_\_ sleep in Terminal 1.
- 3 You \_\_\_\_\_ play golf near the airport.
- 4 You \_\_\_\_\_ smoke in Terminal 1.
- 5 A: \_\_\_\_\_ you smoke in Terminal 2?  
 B: Yes, you \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 A: \_\_\_\_\_ you sleep in Terminal 1?  
 B: No, you \_\_\_\_\_.

- b 5.4 Listen and check.

- 3 Work in pairs and take turns. Ask and answer questions about a town or city you know, using the ideas in exercise 2. Add two more questions of your own.

Can you travel by tram in your town?

No, you can't.



My name is **Ignacio** and I'm 27 years old. I live with my family in **a house in Mexico City, the capital city of Mexico**. It's a fantastic city, but we have a real problem with traffic. Most people come to work **by car**, so it's very busy **in the morning** when they come into the city centre and in the evening when they go home. I'm **an engineer** and I work for an international company, from **nine to five**, Monday to Friday. I have a company car and my journey **to work** takes about 40 minutes. I also use my car **at the weekend** when I play football with my friends.



## Grammar focus 2

### Articles: *a/an, the* and *no article*

**1** Read about Ignacio and answer the questions.

- 1 Where does Ignacio live?
- 2 What's his job?
- 3 What does he do at the weekend?

## GRAMMAR

**1** Complete the rules about articles with *the, a/an* or *– (no article)*. Look at the words in bold in exercise 1a to help you.

- 1 We use \_\_\_\_\_ :
  - with jobs.
  - with a singular noun to mean 'one'.
- 2 We use \_\_\_\_\_ :
  - when there is one of something (e.g. the capital city of Mexico).
  - with parts of the day (e.g. in the morning).
  - with names of some countries (e.g. the USA).
  - with some phrases (e.g. at the weekend, on the left).
- 3 We use \_\_\_\_\_ :
  - with names of people.
  - with most names of cities/countries.
  - with *by* and a type of transport (e.g. by car).
  - with some phrases (e.g. at home, to work, nine to five).

## PRACTICE

1a Choose the correct answer: *a*, *an*, *the* or – (no article).

- I live in **the** / – Dublin. It's **a** / **the** capital city of – / **the** Ireland.
- This is my cousin. Her name is **the** / – Lucia and she's **a** / **an** actor.
- I'd like to study English in – / **the** USA or in – / **the** UK.
- He goes to **the** / – work by **a** / – bus, from – / **the** Monday to – / **the** Friday.
- I work in **a** / – shop from **the** / – ten to **the** / – four at **the** / – weekend.
- She likes staying at **the** / – home in **the** / – evening and watching TV.

b  5.6 Listen and check.

2a Write full answers to the questions.

- Where do you live?
- Where does your family come from?
- What is your job?
- How do you travel to school or work?
- What other ways can you travel to school or work?
- What is your favourite day of the week? Why?
- What is your favourite time of day? Why?
- During the week, what do you usually do in the morning, in the afternoon and in the evening?
- At the weekend, what do you usually do in the morning, in the afternoon and in the evening?

b Check your answers. Are the articles correct?

c Work in pairs and take turns. Ask and answer questions 1–9.

3a Look at the quiz and complete the gaps with *a*, *an*, *the* or – (no article).

b Work in pairs. Look at the words in bold in the quiz. Are statements 1–7 true (T) or false (F)?

c Check your answers on page 133. Which information is the most surprising?



# MEXICO QUIZ

## TRUE OR FALSE?

- Mexico has got borders with three other countries: \_\_\_\_\_ Guatemala, \_\_\_\_\_ **Costa Rica** and \_\_\_\_\_ USA.
- The national language is \_\_\_\_\_ **Portuguese**, but many people understand \_\_\_\_\_ English, especially in tourist areas and near the borders.
- The population of \_\_\_\_\_ Mexico City, including the surrounding area, is about **18 million**.
- There are \_\_\_\_\_ lot of traffic problems, so from \_\_\_\_\_ Monday to \_\_\_\_\_ Friday you can only drive your car into the city centre **four** times.
- Many Mexicans travel around by \_\_\_\_\_ taxi. The traditional colours for taxis in \_\_\_\_\_ city centre are **green** and **gold**.
- Offices are usually open in Mexico City from **7.00** in \_\_\_\_\_ morning to 7.00 in \_\_\_\_\_ evening.
- There are many famous Mexicans. For example:
  - Thalía: she's \_\_\_\_\_ **businesswoman**.
  - Carlos Slim Helú: he's \_\_\_\_\_ **singer**.
  - Salma Hayek: she's \_\_\_\_\_ **actor**.



# Task

## Do a transport survey

### Preparation Reading and listening

#### 1a Work in pairs and discuss.

- Which photo shows a cycle-sharing scheme?
- Which city does it show?

#### b Read the text below and answer the questions.

- 1 How many bicycles does London's cycle-sharing scheme have?
- 2 What is the popular name for the scheme?
- 3 Why do people call it that?
- 4 How much does it cost to use a bicycle for 30 minutes?
- 5 What is the record number of journeys in one day using the scheme?

London's cycle-sharing scheme started in 2010. The scheme covers a large area of London, with over 8,000 bicycles and 570 stations to keep them in. For a small amount of money, you can take a bicycle from one station and cycle to your destination. You then leave the bicycle in another station. The popular name for the bicycles is 'Boris Bikes', after Boris Johnson, who was the Mayor of London at that time.

One of the main aims of the scheme is to reduce the number of cars and buses on the roads. Every day, thousands of people use Boris Bikes to make short journeys around the city, especially as it is free for less than 30 minutes and £1 for one hour. The record number of journeys in one day is over 47,000 – during the London 2012 Olympics.

#### 2 Work in pairs and discuss.

- Would you like to use Boris Bikes as a tourist in London? Why / Why not?
- Do you know any other cities that have cycle-sharing schemes?
- Can you think of any disadvantages of schemes like this?

#### 3a Look at the transport survey. Write full questions using the prompts in brackets.

- b Write your own question 8, with possible answers a–e.

#### 4a 5.7 Listen to a student answering the questions in the transport survey. Choose the correct answers in the survey.

- b Listen again and tick the phrases you hear in the Useful language box (parts a and b).



## Task Speaking

- 1 Look again at the questions in the survey. Make a note of your answer to each question. Ask your teacher for any words/phrases you need.

> Useful language a and b

# How do you travel ... ?

**1** \_\_\_\_\_  
(How / travel / to school or work every day?)  
**a** by bus                      **b** by car  
**c** by train                      **d** on foot      **e** other

**2** \_\_\_\_\_  
(How long / your journey / take?)  
**a** 1-10 minutes              **b** 10-20 minutes  
**c** 20-45 minutes              **d** 45 minutes +

**3** \_\_\_\_\_  
(How far / walk / every week?)  
**a** 0-5 km                      **b** 6-10 km  
**c** 10-15 km                      **d** more than 15 km

**4** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Which of these things / can / do?)  
**a** drive a car                      **b** ride a bike  
**c** ride a scooter                      **d** drive a van

**5** \_\_\_\_\_  
(How often / travel by car?)  
**a** every day                      **b** once a week or less  
**c** several times a week      **d** never

**6** \_\_\_\_\_  
(How often / use public transport?)  
**a** every day                      **b** often, but not every day  
**c** once a week or less      **d** never

**7** \_\_\_\_\_  
(What / think of / public transport in your town?)  
**a** excellent                      **b** good  
**c** OK                              **d** not good      **e** don't know

**8** \_\_\_\_\_  
**a** \_\_\_\_\_                      **b** \_\_\_\_\_  
**c** \_\_\_\_\_                      **d** \_\_\_\_\_      **e** \_\_\_\_\_

## USEFUL LANGUAGE

### a Asking questions

How do you travel to school/work/university (every day)?

Do you live near a bus stop / train station?

How long does your journey take?

How far do you walk ... ?

Can you drive a (car)?

Can you ride a bike?

How often do you ride a bike in the evenings?

How often do you use public transport?

### b Answering

I go by (bike).

My journey to work takes (an hour).

I can/can't drive a (car).

I haven't got a car.

I don't use public transport (much / very much).

### c Summarising

He/She comes to school/work by ...

His/Her journey takes ...

He/She walks about ... a week.

He/She can/can't (drive a car, ride a bicycle).

He/She uses public transport / drives a car ...

He/She thinks the public transport in ... is ...

**2a** Work in pairs and take turns. Ask and answer the questions in the survey. Make a note of your partner's answers.

**b** Work in groups. Tell other students about your partner's answers to the survey.

> Useful language c

## SHARE YOUR TASK

Practise talking about your partner's answers to the survey.

Film/Record yourself talking.

Share your film/recording with other students.



# WORLD CULTURE



## RACE ACROSS LONDON

### Find out first

- 1a** Work in pairs. Look at the photos and discuss. Which famous places in the box can you see? Do you know any other famous places in London?

Canary Wharf      London City Airport  
 Tower Bridge      the River Thames  
 Kew Bridge

- b** Read about the famous places below. Try to guess the correct answers.

### London landmarks

- The River Thames goes from the west of England, through London and to the sea – a distance of **246 km / 346 km**.
- Kew Bridge is in West London. It's about **110 / 180** years old.
- Tower Bridge is a famous tourist attraction in London. It is next to the **Houses of Parliament / Tower of London**.
- Canary Wharf is an important **business centre / shopping centre** in East London.
- London City Airport is a **large / small** airport in East London.

- c** Go online to check your answers or ask your teacher.

**Search:** Thames length / Kew Bridge opened / London City Airport / Tower Bridge / Canary Wharf

### View

- 2a** You are going to watch a video about a race across London. Before you watch, check you understand the meaning of the words/phrases in the glossary.

#### GLOSSARY

**rush hour** the time when people travel to/from work  
**speed limit** the maximum kilometres per hour you can travel  
**Top Gear** a popular UK TV programme about cars

- b** Watch the video. Complete the table with the type of transport each presenter uses in the box below. Then number the presenters (1–4) in the order they finish the race.

bicycle      speedboat      car      public transport

				
Type of transport				
Order in the race (1–4)				

- 3** Watch again and complete the gaps with the numbers in the box.

14      20 ... 25 ... 18      28      80

- The distance from Kew Bridge to London City Airport: \_\_\_\_\_ km
- The speed limit on the River Thames in Central London: \_\_\_\_\_ kph
- Jeremy's speed at Tower Bridge: \_\_\_\_\_ kph
- James's speed in Central London: \_\_\_\_\_ kph



## World view

**4a** Look at the statements below. Tick the ones that are true for you.

- Cycling is a popular sport in my country.
- I like Formula One racing.
- Camel racing is a popular sport in my country.
- There is a marathon in my city every year.
- You can watch horse racing on TV in my country.
- Public transport is very cheap in my country.
- A lot of people use bicycles to get to work in my country.

**b** Work in pairs and compare your answers.



## FIND OUT MORE

**5a** Look at the famous races in the box below. What do you know about them?

Tour de France	University Boat Race
New York City Marathon	Dubai World Cup
Monaco Grand Prix	

**b** Go online to find out more about each race and answer the questions.

- 1 What kind of race is it?
- 2 Where does it happen?
- 3 When does it happen?
- 4 Who was the last winner?

**Search:** [name of race] + date/winner

## Write up your research

**6** Write about one of the races you researched. Use the prompts below to help you.

The \_\_\_\_\_ (name of race) is a \_\_\_\_\_ (type of race) race.

The race happens in \_\_\_\_\_ (month/months) in \_\_\_\_\_ (name of town/city).

I am (not) interested in this race because \_\_\_\_\_.

**7** Write about another famous race, either in your country or in another country. Use the prompts in exercise 6 to help you.



## AFTER UNIT 5 YOU CAN ...

Talk about things you can and can't do.

Give your opinion about transport where you live.

Ask and answer questions about your transport and travel arrangements.

Research famous races online.