

On the move

This month our activities will focus on the topic of transport. Our B2 First and C1 Advanced students will practise Listening with a video about the inventors of the aeroplane. Our B1 Preliminary students will practise speaking about transport and will write a story about an interesting journey. Finally, our young learners will practise their reading and speaking skills with transport vocabulary. Happy teaching!

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1. The first flight



Level: B2 First / C1 Advanced

Skills: Listening, Speaking and Writing

Interaction: Individual and whole class activity

Time: 75 mins

Warm up (10') – whole class activity

- How do you usually travel around your city or town?
- What is your favourite means of transport? Why?
- Which factors might you need to consider when choosing the best way to travel somewhere?
- What are some of the most important inventions in transport? Why?
- Do you know when they were invented and who invented them?

Listening (20') – individual activity

You are going to watch a [video](#) about two brothers who invented the aeroplane. Watch only the first minute of the video. Why do you think the Wright brothers were interested in solving the problem of flying? What do you think they observed to help them with their design?

Now read the questions below and write an answer. You will watch the video twice.



1. How are the Wright brothers' parents described in the video?

2. What did the brothers do after they broke their toy flying machine?

3. How did the Wright brothers get the money to fund their test flights?

4. What examples of flight did they observe in nature?

5. Why did they want to solve the problem of flight?

Follow-up (10') – whole class

Discuss these questions with your classmates and teacher.

- Were the predictions you made before watching the video correct?
- Did any of the details in the video surprise you?
- Can you think of any other revolutionary inventions? Why were they so important?

Writing (30') – individual activity

Research an invention that you feel was revolutionary and the person who invented it. Prepare a 10-minute presentation for your class. You can use the following ideas to help you:

- Describe the invention. Why was it invented?
- Who invented it? How did they do this?
- What impact has this invention had on society?

Suggested answers**Listening**

Why do you think the Wright brothers were interested in solving the problem of flying?

What do you think they observed to help them with their design?

Students' own answers.

1. How are the Wright brothers' parents described in the video?

Their father read a lot and was a bishop. Their mother loved building toys for them and fixing things.

2. What did the brothers do after they broke their toy flying machine?

They repaired it and then tried to reproduce it themselves.

3. How did the Wright brothers get the money to fund their test flights?

They made profits from their bicycle shop.

4. What examples of flight did they observe in nature?

They observed butterflies, dragonflies, buzzards and vultures. They saw two different methods of flying (soaring birds and fast wing beaters).

5. Why did they want to solve the problem of flight?

They wanted to do it for fun and they were frustrated that people thought we should be able to fly but we couldn't.

Follow-up

- **Were the predictions you made before watching the video correct?**
- **Did any of the details in the video surprise you?**
- **Can you think of any other revolutionary inventions? Why were they so important?**

Students' own answers.

2. How we travel



Level: B1 Preliminary

Skills: Speaking and Writing

Interaction: Individual, in pairs and whole class activity

Time: 45 minutes

Warm up (10') – whole class activity

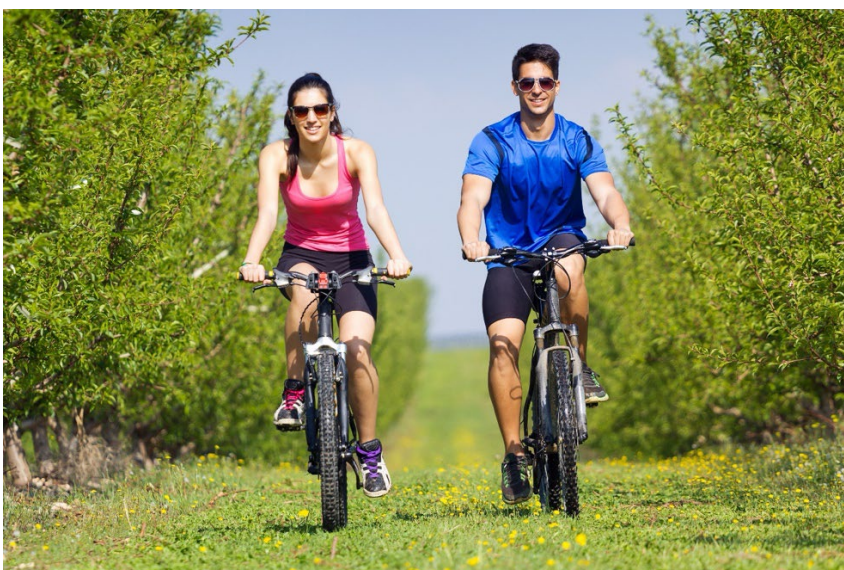
- How do you usually travel around your town / city?
- How often do you travel to other cities or countries?
- How do you prefer to travel for long distances? Why?
- Which forms of transport are usually expensive?
- What is the fastest way to travel?

Speaking (15') – in pairs

Read and complete the Speaking task below with your partner. Then look at the success criteria and answer the questions.

I'd like each of you to talk on your own about something. I'm going to give each of you a photograph and I'd like you to talk about it.

Student A, here is your photograph. It shows people cycling. Please tell us what you can see in the photograph. You've got about one minute.



Student B, here is your photograph. It shows people using public transport. Please tell us what you can see in the photograph. You've got about one minute.



B1 Preliminary Speaking Success Criteria

B1 Preliminary Speaking Success Criteria			
Grammar and Vocabulary	Yes	No	Comments / Examples
Did your partner use simple grammar e.g. present simple, past simple, can?			
Did your partner use some complex grammar e.g. modal verbs, future tenses, conditionals?			
Did your partner use synonyms?			
Did your partner repeat the same words several times?			
Discourse Management	Yes	No	Comments / Examples
Did your partner use longer sentences?			
Were there long pauses when your partner spoke?			
Did your partner talk about the task?			
Did your partner repeat their ideas?			
Did your partner use connectors such as and, but, so, because?			
Pronunciation	Yes	No	Comments / Examples
Could you understand your partner?			
Were there any problems with pronunciation that made communication difficult?			

Writing (20') – individual activity

Your English teacher has asked you to write a story about an interesting or unusual journey. Your story must begin with this sentence.

Last Wednesday started like any other day. I got on the bus in the morning at the usual time, but then suddenly I noticed...

Write your story in 140-190 words.

3. Transport in my city



Level: Pre A1 Starters & A1 Movers

Skills: Speaking, Reading and Writing

Interaction: individual and whole class activity

Time: 30 minutes

Warm up (10') – whole class activity

- How can people travel in your city?
- How do you like to travel?
- How do you usually get to school?
- Look at the picture below. What transport can you see in the sky?
- What transport can you see on the lake?
- How are people travelling on the road?



Reading and Writing (10') – individual activity

Read this. Now choose a word from the box. Write the correct word next to numbers 1-5.
There is one example.

Transport in my city

I'm Jack, I'm the boy in the red t-shirt and green trousers. I'm riding my blue 0. bike in the park. I'm with my friend Jane. She is wearing a white t-shirt and she's 1. _____. We like going to the park because we always see lots of interesting things.

Yesterday I saw lots of cars on the road and a bus like the one I take to school. I even saw someone driving a yellow and red 2. _____!

There was a 3. _____ in the sky. It was orange and white and was making a lot of noise!

It's much quieter next to the lake. People go there to sail their 4. _____. I saw a red and white 5. _____ in the fields behind the lake. We usually take the bus to visit my grandparents, but sometimes we take the train. It's so much fun!

**running****train****motorbike****helicopter****bike****plane****car****boats**

Speaking (10') – whole class activity (Pre A1 Starters)

Look at the picture of the city. Say one thing you can see. Your classmate will say your word and add another word. Another classmate will say those two words and add another. How many words can you remember?

Speaking (10') – whole class activity (A1 Movers)

Look at the picture of the city. Say one sentence about the picture. Your classmate will say your sentence and add another one. Another classmate will say those two sentences and add another. How many sentences can you remember?

Suggested answers**Warm up****What transport can you see in the sky?**

A plane and a helicopter.

What transport can you see on the lake?

Boats.

How are people travelling on the road?

By bus, car, lorry and motorbike.

Reading and Writing

I'm Jack, I'm the boy in the red t-shirt and green trousers. I'm riding my blue

0. bike in the park. I'm with my friend Jane. She is wearing a white t-shirt and she's 1. running.

We like going to the park because we always see lots of interesting things.

Yesterday I saw lots of cars on the road and a bus like the one I take to school. I even saw someone driving a yellow and red 2. motorbike.

There was a 3. helicopter in the sky. It was orange and white and was making a lot of noise!

It's much quieter next to the lake. People go there to sail their 4. boats. I saw a red and white 5. train in the fields behind the lake. We usually take the bus to visit my grandparents, but sometimes we take the train. It's so much fun!

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