

## TOPIC 8: TRANSPORTATION

### Speaking Part 1

#### Frequently-Asked Questions

- ✓ What form of transport do you prefer to use? Why?
- ✓ How often do you take buses?
- ✓ Can you compare the advantages of planes against those of trains?
- ✓ How much time do you spend travelling on a normal day?
- ✓ Would you ride bikes to work in the future?
- ✓ What will become the most popular means of transport in your country?

#### Vocabulary

Word	IPA	Definition
access	/ˈækses/	the opportunity or right to use something (được sử dụng gì đó)
rely on	/rɪˈlaɪ/	to need or depend on somebody/something (phụ thuộc vào)
commute	/kəˈmju:t/	to make the same journey regularly between work and home (đi chuyển, đi lại)
reasonable	/ˈri:znəbl/	acceptable and appropriate in a particular situation (phải chăng, chấp nhận được)
convenience	/kənˈvi:niəns/	the quality of being useful, easy or suitable for somebody (sự thuận tiện)

vary	/ˈveəri/	to be different from each other in size, shape, etc. (khác biệt)
exhaust fumes	/ɪgˈzɔːst fjuːmz/	waste gasses or air expelled from an engine in the course of its operation (khí thải)
traffic jam	/ˈtræf.ɪk ˌdʒæm/	a large number of vehicles close together and unable to move or moving very slowly (tắc nghẽn giao thông)
peak hours	/piːk aʊəz/	the busiest hours (giờ cao điểm)
pollution	/pəˈluː.ʃən/	damage caused to water, air, etc. by harmful substances or waste (sự ô nhiễm)
cater	/ˈkeɪ.tər/	provide with what is needed or required (cung cấp dịch vụ, chăm sóc)
unpredictable	/ˌʌnpɪrɪˈdɪktəbl/	that cannot be predicted because it changes a lot or depends on too many different things (không thể đoán trước được)
cyclist	/ˈsaɪ.klɪst/	someone who rides a bicycle (người đạp xe)
heavy traffic	/ˈhev.i ˈtræf.ɪk/	used for saying that there is a lot of vehicles in the street (giao thông tắc nghẽn)
ease	/iːz/	to make or become less severe, difficult, unpleasant, painful, etc (giảm bớt)
intensity	/ɪnˈten.sə.ti/	the quality of being extreme in strength or force (cường độ)
emission	/iˈmɪʃ.ən/	the act of sending out gas, heat, light, etc. (sự thải ra)
costly	/ˈkɒst.li/	expensive, especially too expensive (đắt đỏ)

depart	/dɪ'pɑ:t/	to go away or leave, especially on a journey (khởi hành)
traffic light	/'træf.ɪk ,laɪt/	a set of red, yellow, and green lights that control the movement of vehicles at a point (đèn giao thông)

### Useful sentence structure

✓ (time expression), the traffic is/was very (adjective).

Ex: This morning, the traffic was very light.

✓ If there's (event/ accident/ traffic jam/ noun), it can take (duration/ time).

Ex: If there's an accident, it can take more than an hour to get from A to B.

✓ I usually (verb/ verb phrase) if the weather is (adjective).

Ex: I usually ride my bike if the weather is nice.

✓ One/ The advantage/ disadvantage of (noun/ gerund phrase) is (clause/ phrase).

Ex: One advantage of riding a bike is it doesn't pollute the environment.

✓ I heavily rely on (a means of transportation).

Ex: I heavily rely on public transportation, namely buses and trains, to get by.

✓ Travelling by (a means of transportation) is an ideal way to + verb phrase

Ex: Travelling by bus is an ideal way to protect the environment.

### PRACTICE

**Q1: How do you travel to work or school?**

Suggestions

- ✓ not access to a motorbike
- ✓ heavily rely on public transportation

**Q1: How do you travel to work or school? (Sample)**

Well, unfortunately I don't have access to a motorbike at the moment, so I heavily rely on public transportation, usually just buses. Although that's not for everyone, I enjoy it!

**Q2: What's the most popular means of transportation in your hometown?**

Suggestions

- ✓ motorbikes → all over the place
- ✓ reasonable price + convenience
- ✓ vary in terms of size, color....

**Q2: What's the most popular means of transportation in your hometown? (Sample)**

Without any doubt, I would say motorbikes. You can see people driving a motorbike all over the place in my country. Almost everyone travels by motorbike. The reason why a motorbike is so popular is due to their reasonable price and convenience. They are also extremely varied in terms of size, color and quality, thus a wide variety of choices is available for everyone.

**Q3: How often do you take buses?**

Suggestions

- ✓ almost everyday
- ✓ save time + cause less pollution

**Q3: How often do you take buses? Sample)**

As I said earlier, I travel by bus a lot. Since my house is so far away from my university, it's impossible for me to travel by motorbike. In addition, the air is heavily polluted from exhaust fumes and traffic jams are frequent, especially during peak hours. So, I prefer taking the bus to save time, save fuel and as a result - cause less pollution.

**Q4: What do you dislike about your job?**

### Suggestions

- ☐ exhausted → spend all day in front of computer screen
- ☐ hectic schedule → many deadlines

### Q4: Would you ride bikes to work in the future?

#### Suggestions

- ✓ No → expose to unpredictable weather
- ✓ dangerous for cyclists in some roads

### Q4: Would you ride bikes to work in the future? (Sample)

Definitely not. Riding a bike means you're exposing yourself to the unpredictable weather and to air pollution. What's worse, the main streets and the highways are too dangerous for cyclists, as cars, motorbikes and buses travel at very high speeds on these roads. So yeah, I'd rather ride a motorbike or take the bus instead.

### Q5: Do you prefer public transport or private transport?

#### Suggestions

- ✓ public transport → more inexpensive
- ✓ ease the intensity of traffic jam
- ✓ reduce gas emissions
- ✓ private vehicles: costly

### Q5: Do you prefer public transport or private transport? (Sample)

I think I prefer public transport. It's much more inexpensive and because buses and trains can contain a large number of people, it helps ease the intensity of traffic jams during peak hours and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions caused by vehicles. Private transportation, on the other hand, is more costly in terms of fees, taxes and fuel.

## Speaking Part 2

### Cue card

Describe a popular mode of public transportation in your country

You should say

what it is

what types of people use it often

how convenient it is

and explain why it is so popular

### Vocabulary

Word	IPA	Definition
means	/mi:nz/	a method or way of doing something (phương tiện)
preferred	/prɪ'fɜ:d/	liked or wanted more than anything else (được yêu thích)
commute	/kə'mju:t/	to make the same journey regularly between work and home (đi chuyển, đi lại)
journey	/'dʒɜ:.ni/	the act of travelling from one place to another, especially in a vehicle (chuyến đi)
cost-effective	/,kɒst.ɪ'fek.tɪv/	providing good value for the amount paid (tiết kiệm chi phí)
accommodate	/ə'kɒm.ə.deɪt/	to provide space or a place for a group (có sức chứa, chứa được)
on a daily basis	/'beɪ.sɪs/	every day (mỗi ngày)
packed	/pækt/	completely full (chật cứng)

diverse	/daɪ'vɜ:s/	including many different types of people or things (khác nhau)
board	/bɔ:d/	to get onto or allow people to get onto a boat, train, or aircraft (lên tàu, lên xe)
reach	/ri:tʃ/	to arrive at a place (tới đâu đó)
destination	/,des.tɪ'nei.ʃən/	the place where someone is going (điểm đến)
passenger	/'pæsɪndʒə(r)/	a person who is travelling in a car, bus, train, plane or ship (hành khách)
fare	/feə/	the money that you pay for a journey in a vehicle such as a bus or train (vé tàu)

## PRACTICE

Describe a popular mode of public transportation in your country

You should say

what it is

what types of people use it often

how convenient it is

and explain why it is so popular

## Sample

There are different means of transportation in my country but bus is the most preferred one. It is typically used by people who are living below the poverty line whereas travelling by train is more common among people belonging to the middle class group.

Travelling by bus is an inexpensive way of commuting from one place to another and at the same time, people are able to enjoy a comfortable as well as safe journey. It is such a cost-effective travel mode because it accommodates mass numbers of people and reduces the fuel

consumption and the cost associated with travel, certainly in comparison to cars where only a few persons can travel at once. Furthermore, people travel by bus on a daily basis for various reasons such as work, business, studying, holiday, etc and because of these reasons, buses are usually very packed with passengers boarding the buses to reach their destinations.

Travelling by bus is also considered a great way to protect the environment since it helps to reduce gas emissions. All in all, people belonging to different sections of the society are now choosing bus as their favorite mode of transportation.

### Speaking Part 3

#### Frequently-asked questions

- ✓ How to encourage more people to take public transportation?
- ✓ Can you list some causes of traffic congestion?
- ✓ What measures should the government take to solve transportation problems?
- ✓ What types public transport can be found in your country?
- ✓ Are there any public transport problems in your country?

#### Vocabulary

Word	IPA	Definition
facilities	/fə'sɪl.ə.tɪz/	equipment, rooms, etc. that are provided for people to use (trang thiết bị)
infrastructure	/'ɪn.frə'strʌk.tʃər/	the basic systems and services, such as transport and power supplies, that a country or organization uses in order to work effectively (cơ sở hạ tầng)
campaign	/kæm'peɪn/	a plan consisting of a number of activities directed toward the achievement of an aim (chiến dịch)



conserve	/kən'sɜ:v/	to keep and protect something from damage, change, or waste (bảo vệ, bảo tồn)
attribute sth to sb/ sth	/ə'trɪb.ju:t/	to say or think that something is the result or work of something or someone else (quy cho là)
inadequate	/ɪ'næd.i.kwət/	not good enough or too low in quality (chưa đủ)
capacity	/kə'pæs.ə.ti/	the total amount that can be contained or produced (sức chứa)
unplanned	/ʌn'plænd/	not planned or expected (không có kế hoạch)
upgrade	/ʌp'greɪd/	to improve the quality or usefulness of something (nâng cấp)
comply with	/kəm'plaɪ/	to act according to an order, set of rules, or request (tuân theo)
provision	/prə'vɪʒ.ən/	the act of providing something (cung cấp, đưa ra)
broaden	/'brɔ:..dən/	to become wider, or to cause something to become wider (mở rộng)
alleviation	/ə,lɪ:.vi'eɪ.ʃən/	the act of making something bad (sự giảm bớt)

## PRACTICE

### Q1: How to encourage more people to take public transportation? (Sample)

Encouraging the public to make use of the public transit is quite a tough task as both the facilities and infrastructures are not properly developed. To achieve that, there should be an

increase in means of transport like buses, trains, and subways but with better service quality. In addition, governments should run more awareness raising campaigns to educate people about the importance of conserving the environment via small actions such as taking public transport.

**Q2. Can you list some causes of traffic congestion? (Sample)**

Traffic congestion can be attributed to different factors. Bad weather and car accidents are one of the most commonly seen ones. In addition, with the increased numbers of personal vehicles, traffic congestion has become an increasingly pressing issue. Last but not least, unplanned urban growth contributes to the problem of traffic congestion in big cities.

**Q3. What measures should the government take to solve transportation problems in traveling? (Sample)**

There are a few things that governments should consider to tackle transportation problem. For example, citizens should be better educated to comply with traffic rules. Also, more provision of public transportation facilities, such as buses and underground railways is needed. Finally, broadening and upgrading the roads or building skyways can all contribute to the alleviation of traffic problems.

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**HOMEWORK**

Describe a trip that you went on by public transportation

You should say

when and where you went

why you took the trip

what you did and saw on the trip

and explain how you felt about the trip