

# Everyday Dialogues: Travelling on the Tube [B1]

Oyster card o biglietto singolo cartaceo? Ecco cosa conviene acquistare per accedere ai mezzi pubblici di Londra.



Lea: Hi, I need to travel on the **Tube**, but I don't have an **Oyster card**. Is that possible? John: Yes, of course, you can still buy **paper tickets**. But there are Visitor Oyster cards, too, you know. Lea: Oh, really? I didn't know that. Isn't that a lot more expensive, **though**? John: No, **fares** are **actually** cheaper than single paper tickets or paper **Travelcards**. Lea: But don't I need to pay for the card itself? John: Yes, it's a **contactless card** that costs £5. You **load it with credit** which you pay as you go. Lea: I'm only here for the weekend. What happens if I haven't **spent** it all? John: **Whatever** credit you have left never **expires**. Then, if you come back, you just **top it up**. Lea: Oh, well, I'm sure I'll be back, so I guess that'll be useful. OK, one Oyster card please, with £15 credit! John: **Here you go**. Make sure you touch your card to the reader at the start and the end of your journey, so you'll be charged the right fare. Lea: **Will do**. Thank you!

## NOW LET'S REVIEW THE VOCABULARY!

The London metro (or 'underground') system is commonly called the '**Tube**', as it is shaped like a tube. An **Oyster card** is a smart card used for travel on the London Underground, Overground, bus, tram and river bus services. **Paper tickets** are the traditional travel passes, made of paper. The cost of a journey on public transport is called a 'fare'. A one-day travel pass on London's public transport is called a '**Travelcard**'. A **contactless card** is a smart card with an embedded chip, that needs to be held to a reader to be scanned. To '**load**' a card with '**credit**' means to put money on it electronically. When you '**pay as you go**', you pay for services in the moment you use them. '**To expire**' means 'to run out'. '**To top up**' a card means to add money to it when credit runs low. 'Top up' is a phrasal verb meaning 'to add' until you reach a certain level. '**Here you go**' is an idiomatic expression meaning 'Here it is'. '**Will do**' is a phrase that expresses willingness to carry out a suggestion (short for "I will do that").

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# Glossary

- **Whatever** = qualunque
- **shaped** = a forma di
- **spent** = spendere
- **embedded** = incorporare
- **to run out** = scadere
- **runs low** = scarseggiare, esaurirsi
- **to add** = aggiungere
- **willingness** = volontà
- **though** = comunque
- **actually** = in realtà
- **to carry out** = eseguire
- **short for** = abbreviazione di