# UNIT 11 Getting around in cities

#### **WAGENDA**

- ▶ 2nd Conditional
- City description file. Topic groups and collocations
- The best cities to live in
- Social responses

#### Language focus

- Work in groups. What different methods of transport do people in your country use to get around in cities? Make a list.
- 2 Read the newspaper extracts about transport in cities. Answer the questions.
  - 1 What did Trondheim and Singapore do in order to reduce traffic congestion?
  - 2 How does use of public transport in Zürich compare with other cities?
  - 3 Which countries have the highest percentage of cyclists in cities?
  - 4 Why did Curitiba choose a bus system, not an underground or light-rail system?
  - 5 What new scheme has been introduced in Edinburgh?

In 1991 Trondheim in
Norway became the first city
in the world to reduce traffic
congestion by charging
motorists to drive in the city
centre. Other cities in
Scandinavia did the same
and used the money to
improve public transport.
Singapore also charges
motorists, and its efficient
public transport system
makes private cars
unnecessary for most city
journeys.



Curitiba in Brazil has a population of 2.5 million. It has more cars per person than any other Brazilian city except Brasilia, but it has few traffic jams. It is not a rich city, so it chose a bus system rather than an underground or light-rail system because it was a lot cheaper. Its fast, efficient bus system transports 75% of city commuters. They can change easily from one route to another, using a single ticket for all journeys.

In Zürich 40% of journeys are by public transport compared with 10 to 15% in most European cities and only 3% in the USA. A lot of people in Zürich own a car, but private car traffic is half the level of other European cities of similar size. This was achieved by introducing a high-quality fast light-rail system integrated with buses and trains.



3681 ANTINO 3 S S







Seven thousand employees who work at the Edinburgh Business Park in Scotland's capital city have been invited to join a car-sharing scheme. It is the first time a computer has been used to match employees' journeys to work, and is part of a plan to reduce traffic congestion in a city where eight out of ten cars carry just one person. The scheme was introduced after 40% of the staff said they would join it.

and Utrecht the figure is 50%.

3 Q 11.1 Listen to part of a TV panel discussion programme called Ask the panel.

Match the speakers with their suggestions for reducing traffic congestion John \_\_\_\_ Susanna \_\_\_ David \_\_\_ Kate \_\_\_ Nick \_

- a Make people park outside the city centre and then take a bus.
- b Charge motorists for driving in city centres.
- c Get companies to organize car-sharing schemes for their staff.
- d Provide a really good inexpensive public transport system.
- e Encourage people to use bikes.

#### 2nd Conditional

Read the examples and complete the grammar rule.

- If I were responsible for transport, I'd ban private cars from city centres.
- If cycling was safer, more people would travel that way.
- We'd have less congestion if more people used bikes for short journeys.
- If they organized car-sharing schemes, people from different companies could join in.
- · Use the 2nd Conditional to talk about an unreal or imaginary present or future possibility, and its result.

Write Past Simple or would.

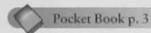
 In a 2nd Conditional sentence, use the after if and \_ or could + infinitive to express the result. We often use 'd for would.

We can use were instead of was with I/he/she/it, but in the expression If I were you, I'd ... we can only use were.

Look at Listening script 11.1 on p. 133-4. Find other 2nd Conditional sentences.

What is the difference in meaning between these two sentences?

If I buy a bike, I'll cycle to work. If I bought a bike, I'd cycle to work.



-			
Pro	nun	cia	tion

- 1 (2) 11.2 Listen to the examples. Notice the contractions.
- a If they don't reply soon, we'll send another letter.
  - b I wouldn't accept the offer if I were you.
- 2 (11.3 Listen to the sentences. Write the missing verbs. Some are contractions.

1 If she \_\_\_\_\_ late, she \_\_\_\_\_ the plane.

2 I \_\_\_\_\_\_ to work if I \_\_\_\_\_\_ a car.

3 If you \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow, I \_\_\_\_\_ you at the airport.
4 We \_\_\_\_ fewer problems if we \_\_\_\_ the system.

5 We \_\_\_\_\_ a solution if we \_\_\_\_\_ something quickly.

6 If they \_\_\_\_\_ here before six o'clock, I \_\_\_\_\_ them.

the company if there a problem. 7 They \_\_\_

8 She \_\_\_\_\_\_ if she \_\_\_\_\_\_ the money.

- 3 ( 11.3 Listen again and check.
- 4 Which sentences in 2 are 1st Conditional? Which are 2nd Conditional?
- 5 Work in pairs. Practise the sentences in 2, paying particular attention to the pronunciation of the contractions.

Practice	0	Complete the sentences. Use the Past Simple or 2nd Conditional form
	(would/could) of the verbs in brackets	

- 1 If I \_\_\_\_\_ (live) near my office, I \_\_\_\_ (walk) to work.
- 2 She \_\_\_\_\_ (not drive) to work if there \_\_\_\_ (be) a good bus service.
- 3 If public transport \_\_\_\_\_ (not be) overcrowded, more people \_\_\_\_\_ (use) it.
- 4 He \_\_\_\_\_ (cycle) to work if it \_\_\_\_ (be) safer.
- 5 If our roads \_\_\_\_\_ (be) less crowded, journeys \_\_\_\_ (be) quicker.
- 6 Fewer people \_\_\_\_\_ (drive) in city centres if we \_\_\_\_\_ (introduce) charges.
- 2 If you were responsible for transport in your town/city, which of the following would you do? Which wouldn't you do? Explain why/why not.

Begin If I were responsible for transport I would/wouldn't ... because ...

- 1 make public transport free
- 2 provide cycle lanes in the centre
- 3 build more roads
- 4 charge motorists for driving in the centre
- 5 encourage car-sharing schemes

What other things would you do, and why?

- 3 Work in pairs. We often use the 2nd Conditional to give advice, e.g. If I were you, I would/wouldn't.... What advice would you give to someone who wants to
  - 1 work in Germany but speaks only a little German?
  - 2 get fitter but never does any sport?
  - 3 study for a new career but thinks she's too old at 30?
  - 4 pass the exam at the end of the English course but often misses lessons?
  - 5 buy an expensive new car but never saves any money?
- Work in pairs. Your employer has offered you three months off work, with salary and all expenses paid, in order to get to know another country and its culture. Decide
  - · which country you would go to.
  - · what five things you would do to get to know that country's culture.
- Work with a different partner. Tell your partner where you would go and what you would do. Ask questions to find out more.



#### Wordpower

### City description file. Topic groups and collocations

- Read the description of Brussels. Find the answers to the questions.
  - 1 Why is Brussels called 'the capital of the EU'?
  - 2 What are its most important industries?
  - 3 What is Grand Place?
  - 4 What can you find in Butchers' Street?
  - 5 What cultural attractions does Brussels offer?

## **Brussels**

Brussels is Belgium's capital city and its administrative, financial, and cultural centre. It has two official languages, French and Dutch, and a population of almost a million inhabitants. It is also the 'capital of the EU\*', as the European Parliament is there. The headquarters of NATO\* are in Brussels and many multinational companies have their European head offices in the city.

Manufacturing and service industries are important to its economy. The main manufacturing industries are metal, electrical, pharmaceutical, and chemical, and the main service industries banking, financial services, and tourism.

Brussels has a modern and efficient metro, bus, and tram network. It has Eurostar train connections to Paris and London, and an international airport. The historic centre is Grand Place, one of Europe's most beautiful city squares. In December a traditional Christmas Market is held there. North of Grand Place are elegant 19th-century shopping arcades and Butchers' Street, a lively area called

'the stomach of Brussels' because it is full of restaurants. Brussels also has many attractive cafés and bars. It is one of the best places in Europe to eat and drink, and is known as 'the beer capital of the world'.

It has an impressive cathedral and offers all the cultural attractions of a European city - museums, theatre, music, dance, opera, and international films. There are sports and leisure facilities in the city centre, and golf courses and woods outside where you can enjoy walking, cycling, and jogging, and boating or ice-skating on the lake, depending on the season.

> EU = European Union NATO = North Atlantic Treaty Organization



Example financial centre

A	
capital	financial 🗸
official	shopping
multinational	cultural
manufacturing	

В	
centre ✓	attractions
arcades	companies
city	industries
languages	

- Work in pairs. Organize words and phrases from the description of Brussels in the following topic groups. Add other useful words to the groups.
  - geography/economy
  - transport
  - eating/drinking

- culture
- sports/leisure
- In the box below find
  - 1 four pairs of opposite adjectives.
  - 2 five adjectives which have an opposite adjective beginning with the prefix un- or in-.

1	attractive	beautiful	efficient	important	lively	best	
	impressive	traditional	modern	official	worst	dull	ugly

- Make notes to talk about your home town or city. Choose two of the topic areas in 3 (e.g. geography/economy and transport). Use suitable vocabulary from the lists you wrote in 3, and from 2 and 4 above.
- Work in groups. In turn, tell your colleagues about your home town or city. Answer any questions from your colleagues.



#### Skills focus

#### The best cities to live in

- Work in groups. Give your opinion of your own city, or one you know well. Rate it E (excellent), G (good), A (average), or P (poor) in each of the categories below. Give reasons for your opinion.
  - 1 public transport \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 health care \_\_\_\_
- 2 traffic congestion \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 choice of restaurants \_\_\_\_

3 pollution

8 cultural facilities (e.g. theatres, cinemas, music, museums)

4 crime \_\_\_\_

- 5 schools and education \_
- 9 sports and leisure facilities \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 If your city had the money to make improvements in two of the categories in 1, which two would you choose?
- 3 11.4 Listen to an extract from another radio programme in the series Working Week, about the best cities to live in. Tick (✓) to show which cities have the
  - · overall best quality of life
  - · best restaurants, cultural, and leisure facilities

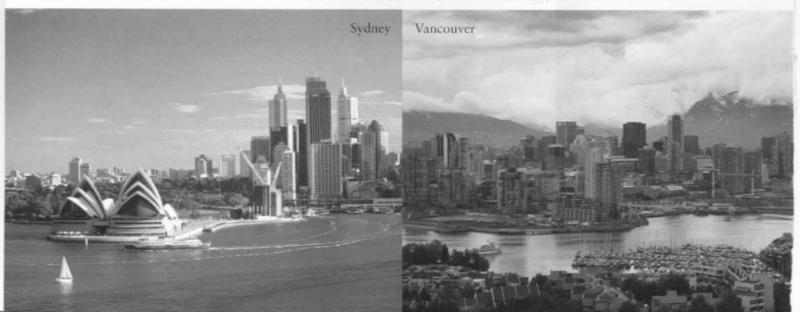
Some answers are given as examples.

#### The best cities to live in

City	Overall best quality of life	Best restaurants, cultural, and leisure facilities	City	Overall best quality of life	Best restaurants, cultural, and leisure facilities
Budapest			Prague		
Buenos Aires			Sydney		
Copenhagen			Tokyo		
Geneva			Vancouver	/	
London			Vienna		
Los Angeles			Warsaw		
Montevideo			Washington DC		
New York		/	Yokohama		
Paris			Zürich		

- 4 (7) 11.4 Listen to the extract again. Answer the questions.
  - 1 How many cities does the survey cover?
  - 2 Why are Paris and London lower in the list this year than a year ago?
  - 3 How many US cities are in the top 50 in the list? Why don't they come higher?
- Work in groups. Discuss your ideas.

Your organization wants you to live and work in one of these cities for a year. Which city would you choose and why?



#### Focus on functions

### Social responses

- 1 How would you respond politely to the following?
  - 1 Sorry I'm late.
- 3 Have a good weekend.
- 2 Thanks for all your help.
- 4 Do you mind if I smoke?
- - 1 a Didn't you?
- 5 a Yes, you can.
- b It's Simon, Simon Grant,
- b Thank you. That would be very nice.
- 2 a Not at the moment, thanks.
- 6 a Oh, I'm sorry to hear that.
  - b I've had one.
- b Don't mention it.
- 3 a Yes, that's right.
- 7 a It doesn't matter.
- b Yes, I'm from Spain.
- b Not at all.
- 4 a Yes, you are.
- 8 a Thanks, the same to you.
- b Don't worry.
- b Yes, I hope so.
- 3 11.6 Listen to the complete conversations. This time you will hear the most appropriate response. Check your answers to 2.
- Work in pairs. Look at this picture of guests at a cocktail party. Think of suitable responses to their comments and questions.



- Match the replies with the comments and questions in the picture in 4.
  - a Really!

f Don't mention it.

b Please do.

- g Well, I'd rather you didn't.
- c Yes, that's right.
- h Yes, here you are.
- d It doesn't matter.
- i Never mind. Better luck next time.
- e Thanks. I'll have a whisky.
- i No, I've been here before.
- 6 You are at Duncan Ross's party at Glencross Castle. Walk around and make small talk with your class colleagues. Practise offering drinks, thanking, apologizing, asking permission, and making appropriate responses.
- 7 11.7 Listen to the social comments. Tick (✓) the response if it is appropriate.
  - 1 Yes, of course.
- 5 It doesn't matter.
- 2 Thanks. You, too.
- 6 I'm sorry to hear that.
- 3 Yes, here you are.
- 7 Yes.
- 4 Don't worry.
- 8 Congratulations.
- 8 11.8 Listen to the social comments in 2 again. This time you will hear an appropriate response. Check your answers.

# UNIT 12 The story of cork

#### **WAGENDA**

- Passives: Present Simple, Past Simple, Present Perfect, Future
- Descriptions file. Word building
- Strange but true
- Thanking for hospitality. Saying goodbye

#### Language focus

1 Do the quiz. Guess the answers if you don't know. What do you know about cork?

- 1 Where does cork come from?
- 2 What is the most important product made from cork?
- 3 Which country is the world's biggest producer of cork?
- 4 Why does NASA use cork in rocket engines?
- Read the article Cork from past to present. Check your answers to the questions in 1.

## Cork - from past to present

Cork comes from only one tree in the world, the cork oak tree, *Quercus suber*. Cork oak forests are found in Mediterranean and Asian countries but only cork from Mediterranean trees has the quality which is needed to make commercial products, including the most important product – wine stoppers. Over 50% of the world's cork is produced in Portugal and 80% of all cork products are made there. This makes cork Portugal's second most important export after port wine. In fact cork is so important to the Portuguese economy that cork trees, forests, and farmers are all protected by the law.

Cork has been used since ancient times. Cork stoppers have been found in Egyptian, Greek, and Roman amphorae where wine and olive oil were stored. The ancient Romans wore sandals made of cork and used it to make roofs for houses, and it is still used in this way in north Africa today. Since the 18th century, when champagne was invented by the French monk, Dom Pérignon, cork stoppers have been used for all champagne and sparkling wine. Today it also has a hi-tech use – it is put in the engines of NASA's rockets because it is an excellent insulation material against heat.

The cork is not removed from the oak until it is 25 years old. After that it will be removed every 9 years for the next 150 to 200 years, depending on the tree. Only the best quality cork is used to make wine stoppers, and this is not produced until the tree is over 40 years old. When the cork has been removed, a number is painted on the

tree to show the year this was done. Under ideal conditions, cork oaks can live for 300 to 400 years.



In the article Cork – from past to present, underline one example of a verb in the passive form in each of these tenses: Present Simple, Past Simple, Present Perfect, Future.