

Unit 4

1 From Dhaka to London

Masud: Oooh, it's so cold. Is the weather here always this bad?

Rafiq: Bad? It's not raining today! It can rain a lot in London, you know.

Masud: I know. It rains a lot in Dhaka too, but at least it's warm. But let's not hibernate – let's go out!
Can we take the Tube to Covent Garden and have lunch there?

Rafiq: I don't know if we can afford lunch at Covent Garden, and if we go, we'll need more money for our Oyster cards.

Masud: But we topped up our Oyster cards yesterday! You told me it was cheap to travel by Tube.

Rafiq: I said it was cheaper than by taxi – that's even more expensive.

Masud: Everything costs so much here. But I must say, the public transport is fantastic.

Rafiq: It needs to be. London is a huge city and people need to go places.

Masud: But I don't think London's bigger than Dhaka. We have at least twelve million people, maybe many more. And we don't have a Tube or anything like that, not yet, although better public transport has been planned.

Rafiq: Yes, but I had fun in the taxis – they were wonderful. The taxis in London are good too, but they're completely different.

Masud: Everything is different here. I mean, London is fascinating, but sometimes it seems a bit ... grey.

Rafiq: What? London?

Masud: Well, yes ... people often wear dark clothes and the buildings are made of concrete and the taxis are black ...

Rafiq: Yes, in Bangladesh people wear all kinds of beautiful colours, and the taxis are yellow or green, and the markets ... OK, you've got a point. I think the most colourful part of London is Brick Lane.

Masud: You see! The street that is full of Bangladeshis! But don't worry – I love London and I'm having a great time here.