

2

The Open Road



Reading

1 You are going to read an article about the history of flight. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

- The myth of Daedalus and Icarus shows
 - how dangerous flying is.
 - how long people have thought about flying.
 - how untrue stories about flight are.
 - how many years people have travelled by air.
- The writer says the Wright brothers
 - probably didn't realise how far planes would develop.
 - were the first people to ever become pilots.
 - didn't know how to make advanced planes.
 - didn't think their invention would be successful.
- According to the writer, the most incredible thing about air travel today is that
 - planes are used in space research.
 - the military have the best planes.
 - so much space has been explored.
 - so many ordinary people can use it.
- At the start of the Jet Age
 - people flew in jumbo jets.
 - lots of people travelled to the USA.
 - it cost a lot to fly.
 - flying was luxurious and comfortable.



- The writer predicts that in the future
 - more people will go on holiday.
 - only the Russians will organise space trips.
 - space travel will become more expensive.
 - space trips will become affordable.
- Advances in the way we travel have
 - prevented global warming.
 - made it safer for the environment.
 - happened too quickly.
 - had serious environmental effects.



The Age of Flight

Long before modern science made it possible, people had dreamt of flight as the ultimate means of transport. Thousands of years ago, Daedalus and Icarus attempted to escape imprisonment on Crete using wings made of feathers and wax, but poor Icarus came to a tragic end when he flew too close to the sun and his wings fell to pieces. The story is only a myth, yet it demonstrates how powerful the idea of flight has always been in our imaginations.

The pioneers of modern aviation history were the Wright brothers of the USA, who made the first successful powered and piloted flight in 1903. Whatever hopes they had for their new invention, it's doubtful that they could have imagined how advanced the science of flying would become. Aircraft are used for all sorts of purposes nowadays. The most advanced are used by the military and for space exploration and research. But what is most remarkable about modern air travel is how important it has become for even the most ordinary of people.

The beginning of the Jet Age was the mid 1950s, when commercial airline companies started to take people to their destinations at a speed no one had thought possible before. Transatlantic flight meant that instead of taking weeks to get from Europe to the USA, the journey only took a few hours. In the early years of the Jet Age, air travel was extremely expensive and nowhere

near as comfortable as it is today. Consequently, the number of people who used this new form of transport was quite small. But within twenty years, with the introduction of jumbo jets, all that changed and cheap air travel became available to the masses.

Now hundreds of millions of people a year fly across the world. Most of them want to get to far-flung destinations for a holiday. Tourists can go almost anywhere in the world relatively cheaply. It is even becoming possible to leave the Earth entirely, as space tourism, though still in its infancy, has already become a reality. At the moment, the Russian space agency is the only organisation offering trips to space and you need deep pockets: it can cost up to \$35 million to take a ride to the International Space Station. But as more companies are showing interest in developing space tourism, one day it won't only be the rich who can make such journeys.

One thing worth remembering, though, is that despite the progress made in air and space travel over the last century, it still has serious consequences for our environment. It uses huge amounts of fuel, causing pollution and contributing to global warming. Hopefully, it won't be long before these forms of travel become as safe for the environment as they are for people.

Vocabulary

1 Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

cart • tracks • hydrofoil • vehicles • pedal • hovercraft

- The army uses _____ because they are the only vehicle that can travel on both land and sea.
- 'Did you hear the terrible news yesterday? A train came off the _____ while travelling at high speed!'
- When Sam was learning to drive he put his foot on the wrong _____ and stopped the car suddenly in the road. Luckily, there was no other vehicle behind him.
- In the old days, before cars were invented, people used to travel by horse and _____.
- These days there are all different kinds of _____ for people to travel in.
- When the Jones family went on holiday to an island, they travelled by _____ so that their journey would be much quicker than with a normal ferry.

Grammar 1



Past tense review

Look again at *Grammar database 2* on page 168 before doing these exercises.

1 Choose the correct option.

- 1 Mick **drove** / **was driving** us all home after the party.
- 2 The lorry **sped** / **was speeding** when it crashed into the bus.
- 3 The boat **stopped** / **was stopping** at three different islands before reaching its final destination.
- 4 Sam Taylor **learnt** / **was learning** to drive when he was 65 years old.
- 5 The hot-air balloon **travelled** / **was travelling** at a height of 50 metres when it caught fire.
- 6 My grandmother **rode** / **was riding** her bicycle to work every day for 40 years.
- 7 The flight to New York **took** / **was taking** off two hours late.
- 8 Paul Smith **tried** / **was trying** to sail across the Atlantic Ocean three times before he succeeded.

2 Complete the sentences using the correct form (past simple or past continuous) of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 While my mother _____ (**drive**), my father _____ (**read**) the map. That's why we got lost!
- 2 The rocket _____ (**travel**) to Mars when it _____ (**explode**).
- 3 When Jonathan _____ (**fly**) to India, he _____ (**lose**) his suitcases.
- 4 The car _____ (**stop**) suddenly, the driver _____ (**get**) out and _____ (**start**) shouting at the lady who _____ (**cross**) the road.
- 5 While we _____ (**wait**) for the boat to leave, we _____ (**play**) cards and _____ (**listen**) to music.
- 6 The children at the back of the bus _____ (**shout**) so the driver _____ (**tell**) them to get off.
- 7 Fire engines and ambulances _____ (**wait**) while the aeroplane _____ (**make**) an emergency landing.
- 8 The policeman _____ (**ride**) his bicycle when the boys _____ (**kick**) their football at him and knocked him off!



Vocabulary builder

1 Complete the missing words. The first letter has been given to you.

Never-ending Journey

When we got off the (1) **j**_____ **p**_____, after a three-hour delay, we went straight to the (2) **t**_____ **r**_____ so that we could get to our hotel as quickly as possible. We had been waiting for about half an hour when a man walked up to us and said, 'The taxis are on strike today. If you want to get to the centre of town, you can either take the (3) **b**_____ or the train.' We were told that there were two kinds of train. The first stopped at five stations before reaching the centre and the second one was an (4) **e**_____. Of course, we chose the second kind. So, we paid our (5) **f**_____ and the man at the ticket office told us to run or else we would (6) **m**_____ the train and there wouldn't be another one for a whole hour! Running with suitcases isn't very easy so we didn't make it and we had to wait on the (7) **p**_____ for the next one. Our (8) **j**_____ had already lasted 12 hours and we wanted to get to our hotel and get some sleep. What made it even worse was the thought that the next day we had to catch a (9) **f**_____ and (10) **t**_____ for another eight hours to an island!

2 Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

radio • terminal • underground • coach • airline • sports • double-decker • cabin • trip

- 1 John sent his friend a postcard from London. On the front it had a picture of a(n) _____ bus.
- 2 We had only been travelling for one hour when our car _____ stopped working so we had to make the rest of the journey in silence; how boring!
- 3 Our school trip was so much fun! The best part was sitting at the back of the _____ and singing songs.
- 4 The journey on the ferry was 20 hours long so we booked a(n) _____ to sleep in, but we ended up dancing all night!
- 5 The London _____ system is the oldest and deepest in the world.
- 6 My mother says that when she retires, she is going to buy a bright red _____ car.
- 7 Because of the long delay, the passengers said that they were never going to fly with that _____ again.
- 8 Jennifer is going on a(n) _____ to Russia with her school.
- 9 A new _____ is being built to make the airport even bigger.

Grammar 2



used to, would, be used to

Look again at *Grammar database 2* on page 170 before doing these exercises.

1 Choose the correct option.

- 1 My grandmother **used to** / **would** live next to a railway station when she was young.
- 2 Peter **was used to** / **would** walk three miles a day when he was training for the Olympics.
- 3 I **used to** / **got used to** driving without music after the first week.
- 4 Simon Smith **used to** / **would** be a train driver before he retired.
- 5 Many people are frightened of flying in an aeroplane but after the first time they **used to** / **get used to** it.
- 6 Paul **used to** / **would** hate driving, but now he really likes it.
- 7 I found working at the airport really hard at the beginning but after a few months, I **got used to** / **used to** it.
- 8 Travelling to other countries **used to** / **is used to** be something only the very rich could do but now everybody can do it.

2 Complete the sentences using the correct form of *be used to*, *get used to*, *used to* or *would*. Sometimes, more than one answer may be correct.

- 1 'I can't _____ driving on the other side of the road,' complained Pierre when he was in England.
- 2 I am not _____ getting the bus to work because I usually drive there.
- 3 Every Sunday morning, he _____ ride his bicycle to the shop and buy his newspaper.
- 4 Tim _____ get carsick when his father was driving.
- 5 Sarah _____ riding a bicycle now and she doesn't fall off anymore.
- 6 Billy's grandma _____ ride her motorbike even when she was 85 years old.
- 7 I _____ feel safe when my younger brother was driving. It was really frightening!
- 8 My grandma just refuses to _____ writing on the computer instead of her typewriter.



Use of English

- 1** For questions 1–10, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

WHERE IT ALL STARTED

Although the Romans built the first roads stretching (0) ACROSS Europe, they were soon in a terrible condition and people stopped using vehicles (1) _____ wheels and went back to carrying things (2) _____ foot or by animal. This continued (3) _____ almost 1,000 years until large wagons being pulled by as many as six horses and carrying up to six tons began to appear towards the end of the sixteenth century. This was all because trade (4) _____ cities was growing and transport by ship was (5) _____ slow.

During the eighteenth century, road transport grew very quickly and, in England, all (6) _____ major cities were a one-day journey (7) _____ London with coaches travelling at 18 kilometres per hour and carrying (8) _____ to 12 passengers. Of course, this was very expensive and a journey from London to Leeds (300km) in those days (9) _____ the same as a return flight from London to New York does (10) _____

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- 2** Complete the sentences using the correct form of the words in the box and the correct preposition.

take • insist • remind • complain • work

- ‘When I grow up, I want to _____ a lorry driver,’ said little Billy.
- Paul _____ taking something to make him sleep through the boat journey so that he wouldn’t feel sick.
- The flight was wonderful but I am still going to _____ the food; it was disgusting!
- Paul got out the old photos which _____ us _____ the time we travelled to Nepal when we were students.
- We didn’t _____ account that there could be such a long delay and so we missed our ferry.

Writing

1 Complete this model essay with the appropriate linking words from the box.

what is more • to conclude • I would argue that • on the other hand • as a result
because of this • despite

Many people believe that they would not be able to survive without their car. (1) _____ being stuck in traffic for many hours sometimes and, (2) _____, arriving late at their destination, they would still prefer to drive rather than stand at a bus stop in the cold and the rain. (3) _____, it is even more difficult to use public transport if you have children with you or if you have shopping or heavy goods to carry. (4) _____, it cannot be ignored that cars cause pollution and poison the air that we breathe. (5) _____, the environment is being destroyed and people are suffering from more and more illnesses, not to mention the stress that people suffer from the noise that cars make and from being stuck in traffic. (6) _____, when both sides of the argument are looked at, (7) _____ the best solution would be to make quieter cars that don't cause pollution and also to improve public transport systems.

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2 Look at these writing questions and tick (✓) those which are asking you to write an essay.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 'We should stop using cars and travel by horse again.' Do you agree? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Describe the nicest journey you have ever made. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Write a story with the title: 'My dad's new car.' | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 The wheel is man's greatest invention. Do you agree? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Do you think that cars are necessary in today's world? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Write to your friend asking him/her to come and stay with you during the summer holidays. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Listening

CD Track 2

1 You will hear part of a talk about a bridge. For questions 1–5, complete the sentences.

The Clifton Suspension Bridge is one of the most well-known 1 in Bristol. Isambard Kingdom Brunel was a successful 2. Brunel's design for the bridge was chosen in a 3. In 4, William Vick had the idea to build a bridge there. The bridge has a width of 5.

**Check your progress! | Units 1–2**

- 1** For questions 1–10, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

GROWING FAMILY

My mother and father (1) _____ divorced about ten years ago. Six years later, my mother met a kind and (2) _____ man called Tom and she (3) _____. He had two sons from his previous marriage, Michael and Harry, who are now my (4) _____ brothers. They (5) _____ to live with their mother, but now we live together in an enormous house that Tom bought and we are quite a(n) (6) _____ family. It's nice having brothers to play with because otherwise I would have been a(n) (7) _____ child. My father lives with a woman called Sarah. She is a very (8) _____ and friendly person and I really like her. She and my father are thinking of (9) _____ a child. The problem is that Sarah works for an airline so she is always flying around the world and sometimes she is away from home for a whole week. She says that she is not very (10) _____ and that she might stop working to look after a baby.

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- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1 A made | B had | C got | D went |
| 2 A arrogant | B pessimistic | C considerate | D impolite |
| 3 A united | B remarried | C related | D married |
| 4 A step | B half | C only | D second |
| 5 A would | B use | C used | D should |
| 6 A generous | B arrogant | C loving | D sensitive |
| 7 A only | B single | C one | D step |
| 8 A cold | B hot | C icy | D warm |
| 9 A taking | B adopting | C assuming | D accepting |
| 10 A generous | B optimistic | C ambitious | D selfish |

10 marks

- 2** For questions 1–15, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

Plane travel and the environment

Are you used (1) _____ flying? Most people are these days. They turn (2) _____ at the airport, get on a plane and don't think about it at all. But what many people don't (3) _____ into account when they fly is the damage that the plane (4) _____ doing to the environment. Planes pollute the Earth's atmosphere and many scientists blame air travel (5) _____ helping to create global warming.

So, how should we deal (6) _____ this problem? Some people now insist (7) _____ using other means of transport, rather than planes. They refuse to fly, and instead go by train or bus. This is all right for short distances, but unfortunately it's only planes that are capable (8) _____ getting you from London to New York in only a few hours! A hundred years ago, politicians, for example, (9) _____ spend two weeks travelling on a ship to get from the UK to the USA. If you work (10) _____ a politician today, there's no way you can do that. You have to fly.

Some people accuse the airline companies (11) _____ not doing enough to look (12) _____ the environment. They complain (13) _____ planes flying that are almost empty, and planes that burn a lot of fuel. Perhaps in the future we'll have cleaner planes. Until then, perhaps this is the best solution: If you know someone who's thinking of flying, bring (14) _____ the subject of global warming, remind them (15) _____ the damage that planes cause, and ask them if they really have to take that flight.

15 marks

Total: _____ / 25 marks

