

SMART JUNIORS 1

Choosing Your Ride: Private vs. Public Transport

Lesson 32
Read for Main Idea



Academic Vocabulary

Read the definitions and complete the sentences.

transportation



n. the movement of people or goods from one place to another

convenience



n. anything that is easy to use and makes life comfortable

encouraged



adj. having more confidence or hope about something



Have a try!

01

The _____ of online shopping attracts more and more consumers.

02

The coach was _____ by the team's progress.

03

Heavy traffic can make _____ challenging during rush hour.

Academic Vocabulary

Read the definitions and complete the sentences.

expense



n. an amount of money needed or used to do or buy something; cost

environment-friendly



adj. not harmful to the environment, or trying to help the environment

available



adj. able to be obtained, used or reached



Have a try!

01

My parents decided to go on a family vacation, even though it would be an extra _____ for them.

02

We can solve pollution by using _____ products.

03

The metro in this town is not always _____.

PREPARE TO READ

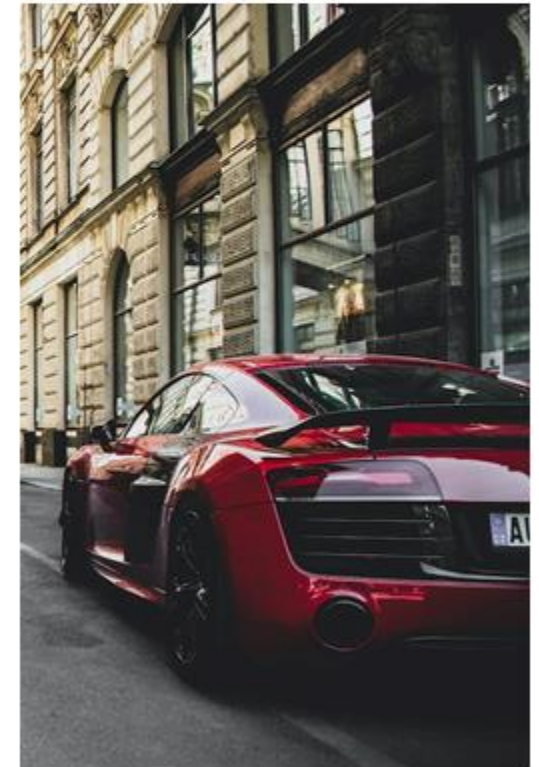
Think Before Reading

Which type of transportation do you prefer? State one reason.

Public Transportation



Private Transportation



Choosing Your Ride: Private vs Public Transport

Host: Transportation choices can affect our lives. Some people use public transportation like buses and trains that many people can share. Others prefer using their own cars or bikes for convenience. Today, we will hear different opinions about transportation. Let's see how our choices can impact our cities and the world. Welcome to Smart Insights: Junior Edition!

Host: Let's start by asking Emma what she thinks about public and private transportation. So, Emma, I hear you're firmly against private transportation; may I know the reasons?

Emma: Others believe that using private transport is more convenient and should be encouraged; however, I don't think that is true. First, having a car can be expensive because you need to pay for fuel, maintenance, insurance, and parking. It can be a problem for people who don't have a lot of money. Second, too many cars on the road cause traffic, which can make us late and delay our plans. Lastly, driving can be stressful, especially in unfamiliar places. It can make us tired and worried.

Host: That's a great perspective, Emma. So Emma thinks we should choose public transportation over private transportation. But it seems that our guest Jack has a different voice towards it. So, Jack, what is your opinion on this topic?

Jack: Public transport is usually considered to be more practical and environment friendly, I'll say that's not the whole story. Firstly, public transportation might not always be available in all areas, especially outside of cities. Moreover, some buses and trains still use fuels that are not good for the environment. Thirdly, building and taking care of public transportation systems also use a lot of resources.

Host: Thank you, Emma and Jack, for sharing your thoughts on public and private transportation. It's important to think about both sides. Public transportation is good because it's cheaper and better for the environment, but it may not be available everywhere. Private transportation is convenient, but it can be expensive and cause traffic. We need to find a balance in a smarter way. Remember, our choices can make a difference in how we travel and take care of our world. Thank you for joining us today and see you next time in Smart Insights!

Predict From the Title

Look at **the title** of the interview and answer.

1. What is the interview's title?
2. Based on the title, what will we know from the interview?
 - A different opinions on private and public transportation
 - B the author's main means of transport to go to work

Listen and read the interview.

Choosing Your Ride: Private vs Public Transport

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Smart Insights



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▶ **Emma:** Others believe that using private transport is more convenient and should be encouraged; however, I don't think that is true. First, having a car can be expensive because you need to pay for fuel, maintenance, insurance, and parking. It can be a problem for people who don't have a lot of money. Second, too many cars on the road cause traffic, which can make us late and delay our plans. Lastly, driving can be stressful, especially in unfamiliar places. It can make us tired and worried.



READ FOR MAIN IDEA



▶ **Host:** That's a great perspective, Emma. So Emma thinks we should definitely choose public transportation over private transportation. But it seems that our guest Jack has a different voice towards it. So, Jack, what is your opinion on this topic?

▶ **Jack:** Public transport is usually considered to be more practical and environment-friendly. I'll say that's not the whole story. Firstly, public transportation might not always be available in all areas, especially outside of cities. Moreover, some buses and trains still use fuels that are not good for the environment. Thirdly, building and taking care of public transportation systems also use a lot of resources.



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The Objective

What is the purpose of the interview?

- A** to present different perspectives on public and private transportation
- B** to persuade the readers to walk to help the environment
- C** to inform the readers the benefits of not using private vehicles

Choosing Your Ride: Private and Public Transport

Host

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Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim the paragraph and choose the main idea.
 - A There are different opinions on transportation.
 - B People prefer using private transport.

SKILL

Pay attention to **introductory statements**. They may introduce the purpose/topic of the conversation.



Choosing Your Ride: Private and Public Transport

Emma

Others believe that using private transport is more convenient and should be encouraged; however, I don't think that is true. **First**, having a car can be expensive because you need to pay for fuel, maintenance, insurance, and parking. It can be a problem for people who don't have a lot of money. **Second**, too many cars on the road cause traffic, which can make us late and delay our plans. **Lastly**, driving can be stressful, especially in unfamiliar places. It can make us tired and worried.

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim the paragraph and underline the main idea of the paragraph.

SKILL

Pay attention to a **list of details**. They usually help to develop or explain the main idea.



Choosing Your Ride:
Private and Public Transport

Jack

Public transport is usually considered to be more practical and environment-friendly.

I'll say that's not the whole story. Firstly, public transportation might not always be available in all areas, especially outside of cities.

Moreover, some buses and trains still use fuels that are not good for the environment.

Thirdly, building and taking care of public transportation systems also use a lot of resources.

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim the paragraph and choose the main idea of the paragraph.
- A Although public transport is environmentally friendly, it has some disadvantages.
- B Public transport is superior to private cars because it is more practical.

SKILL

Pay attention to the **transitional sentence** that signals the change in opinion.



Choosing Your Ride: Private and Public Transport

Host

Thank you, Emma and Jack, for sharing your thoughts on public and private transportation. It's important to think about both sides. Public transportation is good because it's cheaper and better for the environment, but it may not be available everywhere. Private transportation is convenient, but it can be expensive and cause traffic. We need to find a balance in a smarter way. Remember, our choices can make a difference in how we travel and take care of our world. Thank you for joining us today and see you next time in Smart Insights!

Main Idea for Paragraphs

- Skim the paragraph and choose the main idea of the paragraph.
 - A It is important to be responsible with our choices of transportation.
 - B Our choices of transportation do not matter. Just use what you like.

SKILL

Look for sentences that recommend further steps. These **forward-looking statements** can indicate the main idea of the conclusion.





Academic Vocabulary



transportation



convenience



encouraged



expense



environment-friendly



available

Read for Main Idea

SKILLS

1. Pay attention to **introductory statements**. They may introduce the purpose/topic of the conversation.
2. Pay attention to a **list of details**. They usually help to develop or explain the main idea.
3. Pay attention to the **transitional sentence** that signals the change in opinion.
4. Look for sentences that recommend further steps. These **forward-looking statements** can indicate the main idea of the conclusion.





WHAT'S NEXT...

In the next lesson, we're going to read an essay
"Choosing Your Ride: Private vs Public Transport" in detail.
See you next time!