# *TRAVELLING*

***Introduction***

***Travelling is the method how to get from one place to another place. People have used travelling for a long time. One hundred years ago they travelled on horses, by carriages and of course on foot. Then they used trains, steam cars and steam boats. It was something strange and something new for them. Now is travelling very popular, common and necessary. There are two main ways of travelling. You can use your own means of transport and the other is to rely on the public transport.***

## Means of transport

***by bus - quite fast, cheap, crowded, dirty, careless drivers, dangerous in some places, uncomfortable – lack of place, usually no toilet in a bus, no privacy, can get everywhere***

***by train - fast, cheap, more comfortable - more space, more privacy, sleeping and dining cars, toilettes, can’t get everywhere, for long distances, less dangerous than a bus***

***by plane - for a long way, comfortable, expensive, food including, less dangerous, very fast, if you go with a travel agency you have to be at the airport two hours before***

***by bike - cheap, healthy, good for environment, you can get everywhere, stop where you want, slow, very dangerous, problems with luggage***

***on foot - the cheapest kinds of travelling, healthy, keeps you fit, improves your condition, slow, for short distances, dangerous when you are alone***

***on boat - slow, only at the places where is the water, could be cheap of expensive, noisy, not so dangerous***

***hitchhiking – very cheap, could be fast or slow, dangerous***

***double decker – in London***

***romantic: going on yacht, canoeing, gliding, hot-air ballooning, windsurfing***

***for young: roller-skating, skateboarding***

***commuting: tram, underground, taxi***

***On boat***

***People and goods can by transported by land, by air or by water. Water transport is relatively cheap but quite slow. That is why it is used especially for transporting goods. There are cargo and passengers vessels, ferries and steamboats on the rivers, seas and oceans. But in general not many people have the courage to board a ship although the trip is not expensive, but may be they are afraid of seasick.***

***By plane***

***On the contrary the fastest way of travelling is to travel by air and it is also the most expensive. Normally people in our country take plane when they go abroad because our republic is very small and it is not worth to take plane for such a small distance. At the airport we go through the passport control and security check. Our luggage is checked in and then we wait until the plane is ready for take-off. Some rich people can also hire a helicopter, but now is helicopter uses especially for badly injured people.***

***By cars and motorcycles***

***Land offers the greatest variety of means of transport. There are motor road vehicles and bicycles on the one hand and rail on the other. Cars and motorcycles are very popular however they are quite expensive to purchase and also the petrol is not cheap. For short distance is car fast enough but when you travel by car in a town, you can get to a traffic jam that is not pleasant, sometimes you can wait in a jam for a few hours. Modern cars have soft seats and a lot of space for legs and sometimes even more comfortable than the interior of a plane. If you want to drive a car you must have a driving licence. You can get it after passing a special exam from driving and traffic rules in a driving school. When you travel you have to be very careful, because there are many accidents. A lot of people die in a car crash (Lady Diana), in air crash or shipwreck. In our country and in the most countries of Europe people drive on the right but in Britain and some other countries people drive on the left. Another disadvantage of using cars is that cars are very bad for nature. By using petrol they lets out poisonous gasses and we breathe it. They also contain some other danger substances as lead and sulphide dioxide.***

***By public means of transport***

***Buses, trolleybuses, trams (streetcars), underground (tube) are designed for public use. They are cheaper than cars but less comfortable and have some other disadvantages. For example, when you go by car, you can go any time you want but when you travel by public means of transport you have to follow the schedule. You can get on the bus on a bus stop or on a bus station, that is a name for a main stop in a town. They can go either between villages or towns or in the town. London is famous for its red busses called double-deckers.***

***By train***

***In our country going by train is cheaper but also slower than going by bus (in Britain it is reverse). If you want to travel faster you have to pay a supplement, which is reacquired in EC, IC or express train, passenger train is without any supplement and it is sometimes called slow train. Railway stations are almost the same. They consist of a big hall with a ticket office where one can buy a single or a return ticket and a seat reservation, the departures and arrivals board, a left luggage office or lockers, telephones, waiting hall, a restaurant, a drink machine, a book-stall, a lavatory and toilettes, sometime it is decorated by some flowers and a little fountain. I think that buses in our country are unreliable. In big railway stations there are underpasses leading directly onto the platform, so you can get on a train safely. Train has a first class, which is more expensive and a more comfortable and a second class, which is less comfortable but cheaper. If you are a non-smoker it is better to look for a free seat in a non-smoker compartment. During the travelling you can chat with friends, observe the landscape out of the window, eat some food, play cards or sleep. When a conductor come, you hand him a ticket and he checks it. This is a big difference between Czech railways and a British railway, because there is no conductor in a Britain, but you give your ticket to a ticket collector after the journey before leaving the platform. Usually a train consists of passenger carriages, sleeping-car, restaurant-car, mail-van and a goods wagon.***

***By underground***

***In big cities there is a very favourite kind of public transport – underground. In our country it is only in Prague, and it is quite small, it has only three lines A, B and C. It is very fast, because it couldn´t get to a traffic jam and quite comfortable. In America it is called subway or tube.***

***By taxi***

***In towns there are also taxis, which are very comfortable, take you exactly where you want to go, but they are very expensive. Young people usually have not much money and they use hitchhiking. It is the cheapest way of transport but also the slowest and quite dangerous. Many people can be robbed and girls can be abused.***

***By unusual transport***

***Some people love more romantic means of transport, e. g. going on a yacht, canoeing, gliding, hot-air, ballooning, windsurfing, skateboarding or roller-skating. In Europe it is very popular now to travel by residential cars in which you can have everything for your personal use.***

***Reasons to travel***

***People all around the world travel for various reasons: They want to get to school, to work, for a holiday, for culture. And many of them like travelling because it is exciting. Travelling fever increase during holidays, when people go abroad. For going abroad you need necessary documents – valid passport and a visa, money, you change them in a bank or at an exchange office. It is also very useful to know some foreign languages, such as English or German. And I think that this is the primary purpose, why we learn them. The most beautiful places are Rome, Venice, London, Prague, Paris or Amsterdam. We can see there very nice buildings, temples, churches or castles. For a recreation and for having a rest we travel to beautiful scenery of Whales, Alps, and places around the Mediterranean Sea. In our country foreign tourists admire Prague. There are many monuments, which were built hundred years ago. There are lots of temples, monuments, churches, castles and old buildings. Etc. In Czech republic there are also some recreation places: Šumava, Krkonoše, Bílé Karpaty or Beskydy.***

***Kinds of travelling***

***Travelling does not only mean going abroad but also seeing interesting places in our country or commuting to work or to school. In our state there are many state and private travel agencies. Here people can buy trips, tickets for foreign busses or trains or reserve accommodation, which is very important. In thirst place there are hotels and motels, which differ in price and comfort. Before arrival you should make a reservation, book a room in it. You can get bed and breakfast or full board. In a hotel there is usually some of the hotel’s services – a restaurant, a bar, a coffee shop, a travel desk, a theatre ticket office, a hairdresser’s shop and beauty salon or sports facilities like a swimming pool or a fitness centre. The motels are situated mostly by the roads. The guests can park their cars at the door of their own room. A special kind of accommodation for young people are youth hostels, where it is possible to stay overnight at a low rate but only for a limited number of times and also it is not very comfortable. Usually you got there only a bed and a toilette. Some tourists also prefer to stay at a farm or they rent a room on their own or in a camp. Of course when we travel we need luggage for our cloths. We can use rucksack, tent and sleeping bag. We use suitcase when we go by a coach and we don’t need to carry it so often.***