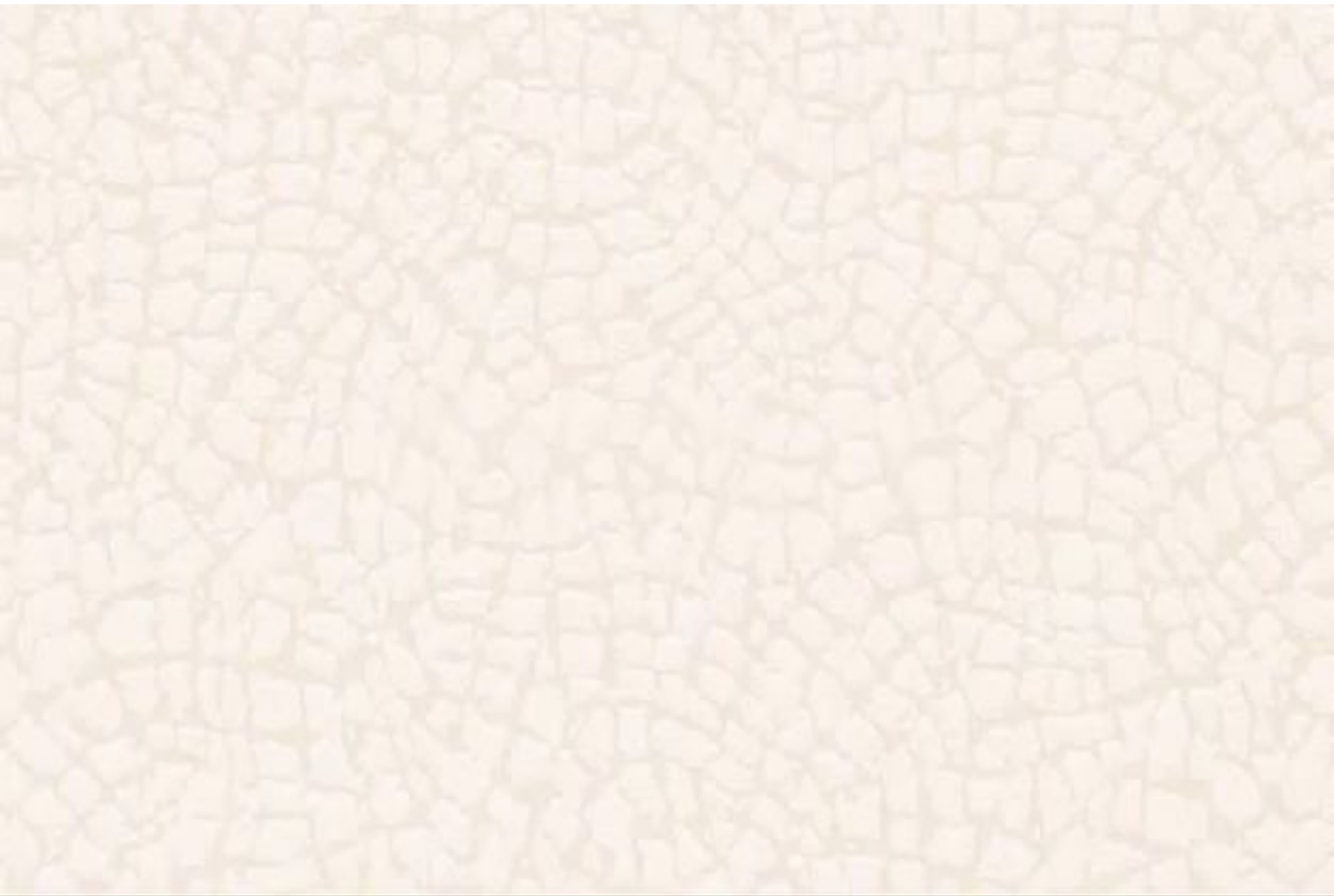


Speaking.

Transportation Vocabulary.





Transportation.

- Transportation is a common everyday topic in many people's lives so it's not surprising that it's a popular subject in the Cambridge exam. It thus makes sense to learn a good variety of transportation vocabulary to help you answer any questions that come up.

Here are a few things you could be asked about:

- **Public transport in your town or city**
- **A specific type of transportation**
- **A journey you've made**
- **Common problems related to transportation**
- **Transportation & the environment**
- **The future of transportation**

1. What's the most popular means of transportation in your hometown?

- Well, I guess people in my hometown always ride bike to go work or somewhere else because my hometown is a small town and it's very convenient to go out by bike.

2. How often do you take buses?

- I barely go out by bus because I have my own car now, so I always go somewhere by car.

3. Can you compare the advantages of planes and trains?

- Well, between the two, travelling by planes is relatively very fast, for example, it just takes three hours for me to go between Beijing and Shanghai which covers distance of 1500 kilometres; on the contrary, travelling by trains is an increasingly cost-effective alternative to planes, particularly if I'm going a relatively short distance.

4. Is driving to work popular in your country?

- Yes, people that I know around me tend to go to work by car because it's very convenient to drive, but I believe that maybe for others, they just take buses to office because it's cheap and always on time.

5. Do you think people will drive more in the future?

- Yes, I believe that as people earn more money and lead a better life, they will tend to buy cars for their families, and apparently drive cars to offices.

6. Would you ride bikes to work in the future?

- Oh no, it's impossible to ride bike to work because you know, Beijing is a big city, I always drive about 20 kilometres to office, so I'll be late if I ride bike.

7. What will become the most popular means of transportation in China?

- I believe private transportation will be the most popular means of transportation in my country because as people get richer in the following years, people will tend to buy cars for their families and business for various purposes, and obviously China has already become the biggest vehicles market in the world.

- . Do you prefer public transportation or private transportation?
- Well, if I were to choose between the two, I'll probably go to work by my own car because apparently it's much more comfortable than in the crowded bus or subway.

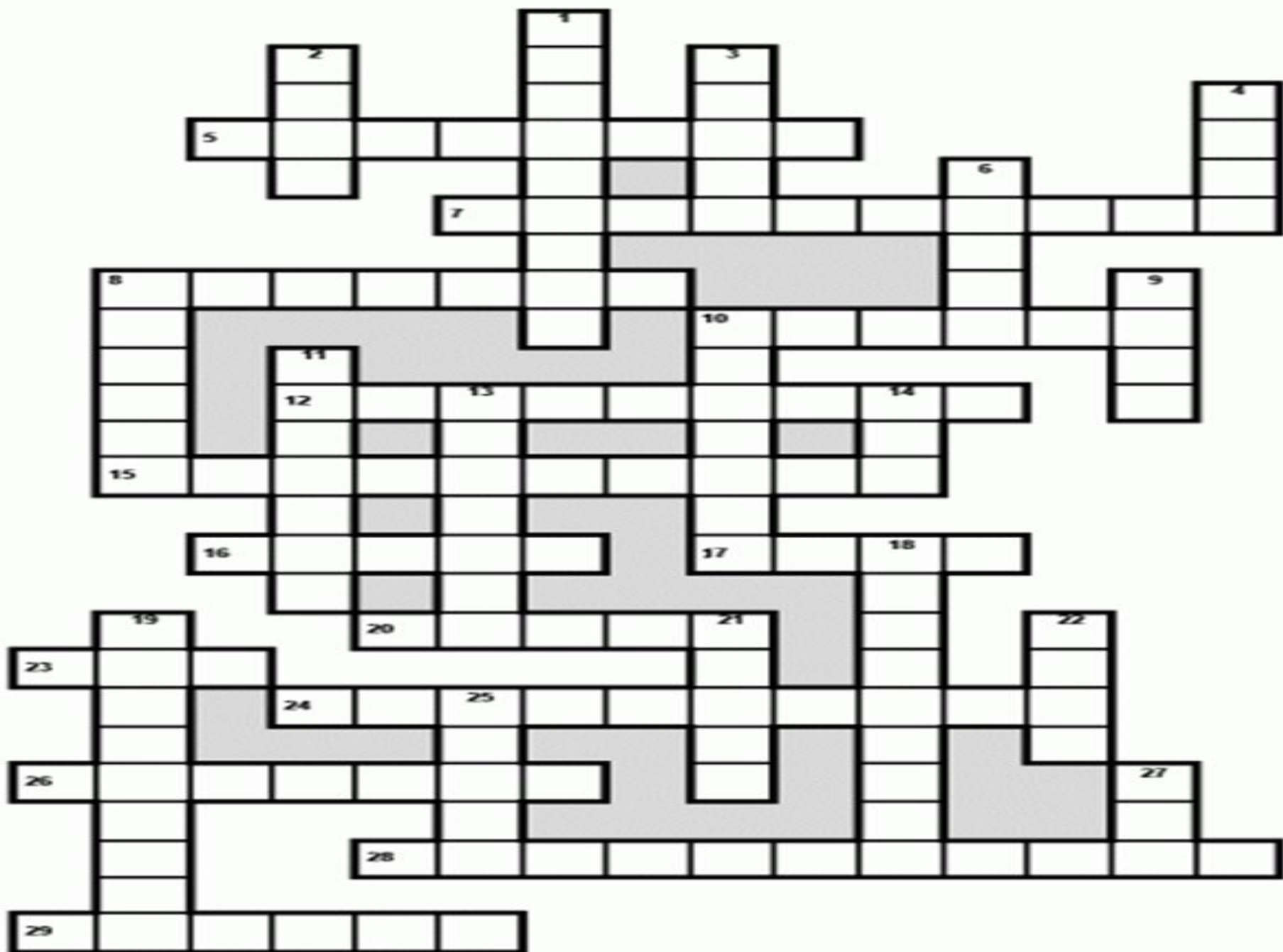
- Down:
- 1. a heavy vehicle with a large open container at the front used for moving earth and stones
- 2. a very large vehicle used for carrying people or goods across seas and oceans
- 3. a long narrow boat that you push through the water using a paddle
- 4. a small vehicle that people use for travelling on water
- 6. a large road vehicle used for carrying goods
- 8. a vehicle that is pulled by animals and used for travelling over snow

- 9. a long narrow vehicle that travels along metal tracks in the middle of a street and is used as public transport
- 10. a vehicle used on farms, for example, to pull machines
- 11. a large strong bag filled with gas or hot air that can float in the air and carry people in a basket
- 13. a vehicle with two wheels that you ride by pushing pedals with your feet
- 14. a road vehicle for one driver and a few passengers
- 18. a railway with carriages that are pulled up a steep slope by a cable

- 19. a ship that can travel both on the surface of the water and under water
- 21. a large expensive boat that is used for racing or sailing
- 22. a car that can drive over all types of land, often used as a military vehicle
- 25. a group of railway vehicles that are connected and pulled by an engine
- 27. a vehicle used for carrying goods, smaller than a truck, with the back part enclosed, with no windows at the sides

- **Across:**
- **5. an aircraft with wings and at least one engine**
- **7. a vehicle that can move on both land and water, raising itself above the surface by blowing air downwards**
- **8. a vehicle with an engine and two small wheels**
- **10. a large truck that carries petrol or oil**
- **12. a vehicle for taking people to hospital**
- **15. an aircraft with large metal blades on top that spin and lift it into the air**
- **16. a long comfortable vehicle for carrying a large number of passengers, especially on long journeys**
- **17. a simple flat boat made by tying long pieces of wood together**

- 20. a vessel for carrying people and cars that makes short regular journeys between two or more places
- 23. a large road vehicle used as public transport, that takes you fairly short distances and stops frequently
- 24. a road vehicle that has two wheels and an engine
- 26. a vehicle that people can live and travel in on holiday, usually towed by a car
- 28. a system of public transport consisting of trains that can travel in tunnels below a city
- 29. a large car used for carrying a dead person in a coffin



- Part 1
- 1) What kinds of public transport are there where you live?
- We do have a bus service in my area. It's fine for people who live in the towns but not so regular for those living in the many small villages. There is also a train that goes to the nearest city a few times a day.

- 2) Do you prefer public transport or private transport?
- I definitely like private transport best. With my car, I can go where I want to whenever I choose to. To make a journey on public transport, you are not so independent.

- 3) How do you travel to work?
- In the winter, when it's cold and wet, I drive my car to work but I always get stuck in a traffic jam. As the weather improves, I go by bike to avoid the congestion.

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- 4) Is a bicycle a good means of transport?
- Most certainly, because you don't get held up in heavy traffic. Cycling also keeps you fit and is environmentally-friendly.

- 5) Do you think that there should be a separate lane for bicycles?
- I think that cycle lanes are a very good idea as they help to keep cyclists safe from vehicles. Since we introduced them in my country, more people have started cycling to work.

Part 2

- Describe a method of transport that you enjoy using.
- You should say:
 - what kind of transport it is
 - how often you use it
 - where you travel using it
- and explain why you enjoy using it.



- One form of transport that I look forward to going on is a train. This is because I only use it when I'm going away somewhere exciting, like on holiday or a weekend break.

- We have quite a good rail network in my country so it's easy to get where you want to go. However, I live in a rural area and there is just one railway station for the whole region and it only goes to the nearest city. You then have to catch another train to go everywhere else. This isn't very convenient. Many people drive 30 miles to the nearest town on the main line and get on the train there. I sometimes do that too.

- My last few trips have been up to London for a few days away with a friend. It takes about three hours so we can be there by late morning. While we're in the city, we occasionally use the underground but mostly get around on foot.

- I do quite enjoy train journeys. They are more relaxing than driving and you can look at the scenery out of the window. Having said that, the last time I took the train, it was very overcrowded and I couldn't get a seat so I had to stand up the whole way.

- I also use the train to get to the airport if I'm going abroad. You get off at a Reading and then catch the shuttle to the airport. It's so much easier to plan a trip now that you can see train timetables online.

- I sometimes travel by train when I'm visiting other countries. It can be the best way to get around and it's great if you enjoy meeting the local people. I once went on a train in India. It was packed with people but everyone was so friendly and we all shared our snacks.

- The only other time I go on a train is when I take a trip on a steam railway. There are two in my part of the country where the old trains, railway line and stations have been restored. There is something very special about them and they are a huge tourist attraction. Everyone enjoys a ride on a steam train.

1) How do most people travel long distances in your country?

- I'd say that the car is the most popular form of transport for long journeys. My country is quite small so you can reach anywhere in a day and most places within a few hours. You are independent when you drive and you just put your luggage in the car without having to carry it anywhere.

- A lot of people use the train, both for long distance pleasure trips and to commute to the cities for work. Our cities have a big problem with congestion and it costs a lot to park your car so it's more sensible to use the rail network.

- There are also shuttle flights between the major cities so a lot of businessmen use these. The only time I travel by plane within my own country is when I'm visiting relatives up in Scotland as it's a long way away from where I live. A plane is the quickest and easiest way to get there.

- 2) Do you think that transport problems are worse in urban or rural areas?

- That's difficult to say because transport issues in cities are very different to those in the countryside.
- The biggest problem in our cities is congestion. There are just too many vehicles and the traffic jams are terrible. There always seem to be roadworks going on which cause bottlenecks and make things even worse. What's more, all the cars, lorries and buses sitting in the long traffic queues emit exhaust fumes which leads to air pollution, another major concern in urban areas.

- In the countryside, on the other hand, the main issue is the lack of an adequate public transport system. If you live in a small village, you might not even have a bus service so it's impossible to get around unless you have your own private transport.
- There used to be an extensive rail network serving small communities but in the 1960s, hundreds of lines were closed. Now you can only get to the main towns by train.
- To weigh it up, I'd say that transport problems are equally serious in both urban and rural areas. There are just different issues.

- 3) Are too many people dependent on cars as a means of transport in your country?

- In my opinion, most people rely on their car far too much. Many are too lazy to walk places or to commute by bike and they can't be bothered to take the bus.
- Most areas have a real problem with rush hour traffic. Although this is always blamed on people driving to work, it is far less busy on the roads during the school holidays, which suggests that the real issue is parents taking their kids to school in the car. I think that many more should make the journey on foot. This would be better for the children's fitness as well as cutting down on congestion.

- Not all the parents are being lazy. Lots just don't have time to walk as they are rushing off to work but they could at least set up carpools as this would help to reduce the heavy traffic in the mornings.
- If we had better weather in my country then I think that more people would commute by bike and you certainly see more people cycling to work in the summer.

