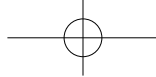


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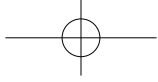
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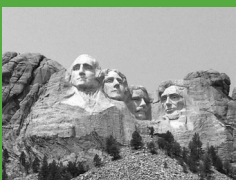
UNIT

1

Getting to Places



Preview



1. Reading Pictures

Match each of the descriptions with the corresponding picture and discuss the questions below.

- A. No one knows exactly why these stones were dragged from South Wales more than 5000 years ago. What we do know is that it would have taken about 600 people to move one more than half an inch, and that the complex was constructed between 3100 BC and 2000 BC. Consisting of a ring of stones topped by lintels, an inner horseshoe, an outer circle and a ditch, Stonehenge likely had dual astrological and religious purposes.
- B. This temple complex, Angkor Wat, built in the 12th century by a succession of Khmer kings, formed part of a larger administrative and religious centre. Built to honour the Hindu god Vishnu and abandoned in the 15th century, many of the stone structures have since been grasped by giant banyan tree roots or covered by the surrounding forest.
- C. The “Lost City of the Incas”, Machu Picchu (literally “old peak”) sits at a lofty elevation of 2350m and is invisible from below. The secret city contains the ruins of palaces, baths and temples, and is believed to have served as a country retreat for the Inca royalty. Rediscovered in 1911, construction of this ancient city is thought to have started in around 1440.
- D. In the Black Hills of South Dakota, this massive monument marks the first 150 years of American history. Carved into a mountain face are the 18m-high faces of four former presidents: Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt. The brainchild of Doane Robinson, the original concept was to immortalise figures of American folklore. Sculptor Gutzon Borglum thought devoting his life’s work to folklore too trivial—hence the resulting busts, built between 1927 and 1941.

Now discuss the questions with your partner.

- 1) If you could visit any of these four tourist attractions, which would you choose? Why?
- 2) What’s most important to you when choosing a tourist destination to visit? Number the items with 1= least important and 5 = most important.
 - Known around the world _____
 - Not too far to travel to _____
 - Hundreds of years old _____
 - Not too crowded _____
 - Inexpensive to visit _____

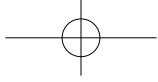


2. Vocabulary Workshop

Fill in the blanks with words or phrases from the text. The explanation in brackets may be helpful.

- 1) Maybe we envision a group of traveling merchants or craftspeople, existing _____ in caravans or other mobile living units. (*traveling around or moving from place to place*)
- 2) These people have no fixed _____ but move from place to place usually seasonally and within a well-defined territory. (*a house or a place where people live*)
- 3) It can be a difficult concept to grasp, what with our _____ for establishing long-term careers, owning property, starting families, and otherwise being part of a centralized, location-specific community. (*an inclination or a tendency to do something*)
- 4) I hate _____, and the nomadic lifestyle is a lifestyle that didn't just revive my sense of adventure but is also inherently non-stagnating. (*a state of inactivity*)
- 5) A common characteristic of most modern nomads is their desire to live a _____ lifestyle, which allows them to move about much more freely than someone with a mountain of possessions. (*simple, not complicated or over-decorated*)
- 6) The modern nomad typically earns money through online _____ work such as writing, web design, graphic design, and software engineering. (*a writer or artist who works for different employers without a long-term contract with any of them*)
- 7) What is clear is that, for the modern nomad, the tradeoff between money and possessions for time and freedom is not a _____ of the lifestyle, but rather a major draw. (*something that prevents people from doing something by making them afraid of what will happen to them if they do it*)
- 8) Sometimes I'll do nothing productive for weeks at a time, and sometimes I'll sit down and _____ an entire book in a matter of days. (*to produce large quantities of something very quickly*)

Key:
 1) itinerantly 2) residence 3) propensity 4) stagnation
 5) minimalistic 6) freelance 7) deterrent 8) churn out



Reading and Studying

A Portrait of the Modern Nomad

Zac Heisey¹

1

Zac Heisey is a freelance writer located in San Diego, California. As an avid surfer and traveler, he spends most of his time scouring the globe for new waves, new experiences, new friends and new beers. He specializes in travel writing, outdoor adventure and surf journalism.

2

It refers to people who travel from place to place according to the seasons, rather than living in one place.

3

The Sahara desert is the world's largest desert (approx. 9,065,000 square kilometers) in North Africa; the Gobi desert is a large desert region in Asia, covering parts of northern and northwestern China and of southern Mongolia.

4

It's a long-established American company that publishes reference books and dictionaries; here the word refers to a Merriam-Webster dictionary.

1 The word “**nomad**”² might conjure up images of shrouded herders, leading various livestock through the barren landscape of **the Sahara or Gobi desert**³. Maybe we envision a group of traveling merchants or craftspeople, existing itinerantly in caravans or other mobile living units. Considering **Merriam-Webster’s**⁴ definition of “nomad”: “*A member of a people who have no fixed residence but move from place to place usually seasonally and within a well-defined territory,*” these assumed images make sense. How many of us, however, have ever thought about the possibility of living nomadically in a modern society?

2 It can be a difficult concept to grasp, what with our propensity for establishing long-term careers, owning property, starting families, and otherwise being part of a centralized, location-specific community. While it certainly may seem appealing at times, the thought of abandoning the comfort and security of our daily routines keeps many of us from fully considering a nomadic lifestyle. Yet for some individuals, the romanticized idea of living without a permanent address and exploring the far reaches of the globe is a reality.

3 These “modern nomads” have found ways to exist—earning money, maintaining relationships, paying bills, but doing so from remote locations around the world. In order to get a better understanding of what leads someone to live nomadically, what the benefits and drawbacks are, and what lessons might be learned from this lifestyle, I spoke with several individuals whose input collectively helped create a portrait of the modern nomad.

4 Stuck behind a desk for eight hours a day, it can be easy to daydream about far-flung locales that would be spectacular to visit someday. Something, however, always seems to pull us back to our listless daily tasks, creating an on-going cycle of unfulfillment. For the modern nomad, breaking this cycle is often the first step toward living life on their own terms. Gustav, author of themodernnomad.com, left his London-based software engineering job with global investment bank UBS when life began to feel stale.

5 “I realized that although my life was good, it was no longer teaching me anything new, and I was ready for something new. I hate stagnation, and the



nomadic lifestyle is a lifestyle that didn't just revive my sense of adventure but is also inherently non-stagnating." On New Year's Day, 2011, Gustav made a decision to beat stagnation, and has lived a semi-nomadic life for the past two years.

6 Other modern nomads who cite the decision to change their daily scenery as a major turning point include Samuel Jeffrey of nomadicsamuel.com. After a backpacking trip in Southeast Asia, Samuel explains, "I was instantly hooked. At that particular moment, I realized I was truly doing what I loved; I started making plans towards a lifestyle that would be nomadic versus one that would eventually have me coming back home to live in Canada." For both Gustav and Samuel, the first step toward becoming a modern nomad was simply committing to a change of scenery.

7 A common characteristic of most modern nomads is their desire to live a minimalistic lifestyle, which allows them to move about much more freely than someone with a mountain of possessions. What modern nomads discover is that by shedding costly possessions, the amount of money needed to support your lifestyle decreases significantly.

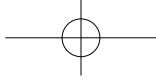
8 This is a good thing, since earning money while traveling can be tough. "It isn't difficult to live cheaply on the road, but it is difficult to earn money," says Gustav. "Few companies want to hire someone they can only talk to over **Skype**[®]. Difficult, but not impossible." The modern nomad typically earns money through online freelance work such as writing, web design, graphic design, and software engineering. Others find jobs on the ground, working or volunteering in the places they choose to visit. What is clear is that, for the modern nomad, the tradeoff between money and possessions for time and freedom is not a deterrent of the lifestyle, but rather a major draw.

6 It's an application that specializes in providing video chat and video calls. Users can also exchange text and video messages, files and images, as well as create conference calls.

9 Even with very few possessions and financial responsibilities, it is still necessary for modern nomads to fund their travels. Outside of a structured "9 to 5" routine, achieving an appropriate work-travel balance can be difficult. Most modern nomads agree, however, that finding an appropriate balance is crucial in order to sustain a nomadic lifestyle.

10 "You don't have to slave at a 9-5 and work paycheck to paycheck for your entire life, but at the same time you don't have to sell the house, shoot the dog, and live in a cave. There is a lot of room in between the two, and I think that's where most 'modern nomads' exist today," notes Kyle Ellison, freelance writer and author of kylethevagabond.com.

11 A speed bump toward achieving this balance is the fact that no two days are alike for those whose lives revolve around travel. Ironically, this is also a part of the appeal for many modern nomads I spoke to. Nora Dunn of



theprofessionalhobo.com mentions, “The beauty of my lifestyle is the fact that no two days are the same!” This sentiment is shared by fellow modern nomad Colin Wright, who runs exilelifestyle.com.

12 “Honestly, I don’t really have typical days. My habits change depending on where I am and what I’m working on. Sometimes I’ll do nothing productive for weeks at a time, and sometimes I’ll sit down and churn out an entire book in a matter of days.” However, Colin does admit that a balance between work and exploration is a good thing: “Usually it’s somewhere in between—a lot of free time, which I use to explore my environment and learn as much as possible, mixed in with periods of intense nose-to-the-grindstone work.”

13 Unequivocally, the modern nomad lists more freedom as one of the best things about living a nomadic lifestyle. Nora Dunn explains, “I have total freedom to rest my hat wherever my whims (or a good volunteer or house-sitting gig) take me.” Similarly, Colin Wright states, “I do what I want, when I want, for any reason or no reason at all. I get out of life what I put into it, and I’m at the same time wiser and more knowledgeable and more aware of just how ignorant I really am than I’ve ever been before.”

14 This heightened sense of personal and global perspective is another benefit of living nomadically.

15 From discussions with the individuals mentioned above (as well as many others) who choose to live a nomadic lifestyle, we are able to create a portrait of the modern nomad—someone who values time over money, freedom over possessions, and perspective over security.

16 For those considering a change to a more mobile lifestyle, the most frequent advice offered by the modern nomad is to just go for it.

17 As Kyle Ellison puts it, “Excuses get you nowhere; saying yes to opportunity can take you anywhere.”



Reading Comprehension

1 Read the text and discuss the following questions with your partner.

- 1) What are some common images in people's mind when the word "nomad" is mentioned in daily life or in a dictionary?
- 2) Why do many people find the nomadic lifestyle unappealing?
- 3) According to the writer, what could the first step be in having a nomadic lifestyle?
- 4) What helps modern nomads to maintain an inexpensive lifestyle?
- 5) How do modern nomads typically earn money?
- 6) What's the best thing about being a modern nomad according to the interviewees?
- 7) Why do you think that many modern nomads try to achieve a good work-travel balance?
- 8) Why does the writer believe that a heightened sense of personal and global perspective is another benefit of living nomadically? Does he provide evidence to support such a statement?
- 9) Does the idea of "living like a nomad" in a modern society appeal to you? Why/Why not?

2 Think about the underlined parts of the following sentences taken from the text and answer the related questions.

- 1) While it certainly may seem appealing at times, the thought of abandoning the comfort and security of our daily routines keeps many of us from fully considering a nomadic lifestyle.
Question: Why does a nomadic lifestyle "seem appealing at times"? And what aspects of "the comfort and security of our daily routines" keep most people from living a nomadic lifestyle?
- 2) What is clear is that, for the modern nomad, the tradeoff between money and possessions for time and freedom is not a deterrent of the lifestyle, but rather a major draw.
Question: Why, according to most modern nomads, is "the tradeoff" regarded as "a major draw" rather than "a deterrent"?
- 3) A speed bump toward achieving this balance is the fact that no two days are alike for those whose lives revolve around travel. Ironically, this is also a part of the appeal for many modern nomads I spoke to.
Question: What are the advantages and disadvantages of "the fact that no two days are alike" according to the interviewees?



4) As Kyle Ellison puts it, “Excuses get you nowhere; saying yes to opportunity can take you anywhere.”

Question: What “excuses” can be given if one is not willing to live nomadically? And what “opportunities” can be grasped if one is ready to change the way he or she lives?

3 Complete the table with the information provided in the text. Use “x” if the information is not mentioned.

Interviewee	Normal lifestyle		Nomadic lifestyle		His/her current life
	pros	cons	pros	cons	
Gustav					
Samuel					
Kyle					
Nora					
Colin					

4 Think critically and discuss the following questions within a group.

In his world-famous *Walden*, Henry Thoreau said, “A man is rich in proportion to the number of things which he can afford to let alone.” According to Thoreau, the fewer material things a man possesses, the richer and freer he will feel in spirit.

Do you think that there is an element of truth in Thoreau’s words? And in what way do you think this quote is related with the theme of the text?

Language Focus

1 Complete the following sentences with the expressions given in the box. Change the form if necessary.

make sense	daydream about
turning point	commit (oneself) to
achieve the balance (between)	conjure up
on one’s own terms	go for it

- 1) Considering Merriam-Webster’s definition of “Nomad”, these assumed images _____.
- 2) For some young people, the first step toward becoming a modern nomad was simply _____ a change of scenery.



- 3) Outside of a structured “9 to 5” routine, _____ between work and travel can be difficult.
- 4) Other modern nomads who cite the decision to change their daily scenery as a major _____ include Samuel Jeffrey.
- 5) The word “nomad” might _____ images of shrouded herders, leading various livestock through the barren landscape.
- 6) For those considering a change to a more mobile lifestyle, the most frequent advice offered by the modern nomad is to just _____.
- 7) Stuck behind a desk for eight hours a day, it can be easy to _____ far-flung locales that would be spectacular to visit someday.
- 8) For the modern nomad, breaking this cycle is often the first step toward living life _____.

2) *Complete the following sentences with the words given in the box. Change the form if necessary.*

assume	cycle	ironical	type
vision	produce	appeal	finance

- 1) No one can fully _____ the future applications that will emerge atop new mobile platforms.
- 2) The expert uses a very optimistic _____ about how much employment growth can exceed population growth.
- 3) High ceilings and beautiful woodwork make this home a(n) _____ vacation retreat.
- 4) Some Japanese use liquid from boiling noodles on pot plants and _____ bath water for mopping the floor.
- 5) Some of the noise is _____ of any developed area—jackhammers, drills and car alarms.
- 6) The fund will provide short- and long-term _____ help for the victims’ families.
- 7) This is a story about _____—the soldiers fight heroically but the missions seem completely pointless.
- 8) Most of us are more _____ in a quiet place where we are not going to be interrupted.



3 Study the underlined word used in each of the following sentences. Write down its specific meaning according to the context. Consult a dictionary if necessary.

- 1) He has maintained that the money was donated for international purposes.

The Lamborghini sports car he inherited from his uncle will cost him a fortune to maintain.

- 2) I draw strength from the millions of women who have faced this challenge successfully.

The final draw for all prize winners will take place on March 17.

- 3) Shakespeare's plays continue to be revived both in the UK and worldwide.

She finally revived after she was sent to hospital and given an injection.

- 4) The international community needs to do more to support countries through this often difficult process.

Just 20 miles from the Mexico border, San Diego has a large Latino community and culture.

- 5) Britain outlawed slave trading in 1807, and ownership of slaves was banned in 1833.

When you're busy all day the last thing you want to do is to spend hours slaving over a hot stove.

4 Translate the following sentences taken from the text into Chinese.

- 1) Stuck behind a desk for eight hours a day, it can be easy to daydream about far-flung locales that would be spectacular to visit someday. Something, however, always seems to pull us back to our listless daily tasks, creating an on-going cycle of unfulfillment.



2) A common characteristic of most modern nomads is their desire to live a minimalistic lifestyle, which allows them to move about much more freely than someone with a mountain of possessions.

3) Even with very few possessions and financial responsibilities, it is still necessary for modern nomads to fund their travels. Outside of a structured “9 to 5” routine, achieving an appropriate work-travel balance can be difficult.

4) I do what I want, when I want, for any reason or no reason at all. I get out of life what I put into it, and I’m at the same time wiser and more knowledgeable and more aware of just how ignorant I really am than I’ve ever been before.

5) From discussions with the individuals mentioned above (as well as many others) who choose to live a nomadic lifestyle, we are able to create a portrait of the modern nomad—someone who values time over money, freedom over possessions, and perspective over security.

5 Word study: antonyms and roots

A. *Study the sentences given in the box. Focus on the underlined words and their antonyms. Complete the exercises below.*

Example 1

* Maybe we envision a group of traveling merchants or craftspeople, existing itinerantly in caravans or other mobile living units.

The antonym found:

* A member of a people who have no fixed residence but move from place to place usually seasonally and within a well-defined territory.

The pair used in a new context:

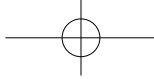
* Those people have no fixed address; instead, they live their life in a rather mobile way.

Example 2

* In order to get a better understanding of what leads someone to live nomadically, what the benefits and drawbacks are, and what lessons might be learned from this lifestyle...

Tips

One excellent way of building vocabulary is to study synonyms and antonyms. It is most helpful to begin building vocabulary by learning categories of English synonyms and antonyms in a specific context.



The pair used in a new context:

* Yet it is unclear whether the benefits of having a loaded and readily available gun in one's home outweigh the drawbacks.

- 1) I hate stagnation, and the nomadic lifestyle is a lifestyle that didn't just revive my sense of adventure but is also inherently non-stagnating.

The antonym found:

For both Gustav and Samuel, the first step toward becoming a modern nomad was simply committing to a _____ of scenery.

Make a new sentence by using the pair:

- 2) The nomadic lifestyle is a lifestyle that didn't just revive my sense of adventure but is also inherently non-stagnating.

The antonym found:

The thought of abandoning the comfort and _____ of our daily routines keeps many of us from fully considering a nomadic lifestyle.

Make a new sentence by using the pair:

- 3) It can be a difficult concept to grasp, what with our propensity for establishing long-term careers, owning property and starting families.

The antonym found:

The thought of _____ the comfort and security of our daily routines keeps many of us from fully considering a nomadic lifestyle.

Make a new sentence by using the pair:

- 4) What is clear is that, for the modern nomad, the tradeoff between money and possessions for time and freedom is not a deterrent of the lifestyle, but rather a major _____.

Make a new sentence by using the pair:

- 5) I get out of life what I put into it, and I'm at the same time wiser and more knowledgeable and more aware of just how _____ I really am than I've ever been before.

Make a new sentence by using the pair:



- 6) We are able to create a portrait of the modern nomad—someone who values time over money, _____ over possessions, and perspective over security.

Make a new sentence by using the pair:

- B. Study the roots listed below and complete the sentences according to the meaning given in brackets.

Roots	Meanings	Words
vid, vis	see	envision, evident
sum, sumpt	take	assume, presumption, consume
mot, mote	move	remote, motivate
lect, lig	choose	collective, eligible, neglect
spect	see	spectacular, despise, respect

- Susan _____ (see) her wedding day and saw herself walking down the aisle on her father's arm.
- You don't have to sacrifice environmental protection to _____ (move) economic growth.
- Some of the most efficient refrigerators _____ (take) 70 percent less electricity than traditional models.
- The children in our family are always _____ (see) to their elders.
- The fact that she is not coming today makes her grandmother feel lonely and _____ (choose).

Tips

Root formation is the creation of new words. Roots come from one of three sources: they are inherited from Old English, they are adopted from other languages, or they are coined by an individual to express a particular idea.

Reading Skills and Strategies

How to Identify the Writer's Purpose



Instruction

Identifying a writer's purpose can help you better understand why the writer includes certain information in the writing and presents it in a certain way. Writers can have different purposes: to inform their readers, to persuade them to change their minds or take certain actions, or to produce a certain emotional response. The genre of writing is usually connected with the writer's purpose. Usually the language for informing



should be objective (containing no opinion) while the language for persuading or producing an emotional response should be subjective (containing opinion or reflecting feelings).

Passage 1

Travel—love it or hate it, love it and hate it. It’s undeniably a vital part of modern life. How, where and when we travel is a constant preoccupation for most of us, whether it is the daily journey to work, regular visits to shops and entertainments, weekends away, or longer trips to distant destinations. Mobility is central to how we think of ourselves and how we organize our lives. Fundamentally, we are mobile beings. It feels as though the more we travel, the more we are involved with life. Stay-at-home types are out of the picture. Twist an ankle and you’re temporarily trapped in a different lifestyle.

- 1) What is the writer’s purpose in writing this paragraph?
- 2) What information is included and how is it presented?
- 3) Is the writer trying to persuade readers to take action?
- 4) How is the language genre related with the writer’s purpose?

Passage 2

I knew I had to go. When people asked, I simply responded that I was traveling alone to Auschwitz because I felt I needed to—I had no other reason. This enigmatic answer sparked an existential crisis and I left Florence for Auschwitz feeling uncertain about my character. Traveling alone induces neurosis, phobias and an altered rapport between mind and body. Confined for several hours on a train, you become both audience and raconteur of your subconscious and mine would not cease an attempt to explain the motive behind my journey. Visiting to pay my respects to the deceased seemed false because I knew of no one who had perished in concentration camps; my relatives did not fight in World War II and have no Jewish heritage. Since adolescence, however, I have been saturated with brutal images of the Holocaust, accounts of torturous experiments by Dr. Josef Mengele and chilling interviews with survivors.

- 1) Is the purpose of this passage the same as the one of Passage 1?
- 2) What takes up a great proportion in this passage: specific information or personal feelings?
- 3) How do you feel when you read this passage?
- 4) How is the language genre related with the writer’s purpose?



How to Make Predictions

Instruction

Effective readers use pictures, titles, headings and text—as well as personal experiences—to make predictions before they begin to read. Predicting involves thinking ahead while reading and anticipating information and events in the text. After making predictions, you can read through the text and refine, revise and verify your predictions.

The strategy of making predictions actively engages you and connects you to the text by asking what might occur. It activates your prior knowledge about the text and helps you make connections between new information and what you already know. By making predictions about the text before, during and even after reading, you use what you already know—as well as what you suppose might happen—to make connections to the text.

Passage 1

How to Have a Personal Renaissance

There are times in most people’s lives when they feel motivated, ambitious, eager and anticipatory. During these time periods, great strides are made in many different aspects of one’s life as a mental renaissance takes place...The cold, hard dark age of the mind is over and a new light—the light of innovation—shines down upon your mental landscape, warming your neurological serfs and deeply tilling the rippling soil of your brain’s intellectual wheat fields. You become your own Michelangelo, your own inspiration, your own generous benefactor. When you are feeling up, you’re really feeling up, and as long as you can stay that way you will fly far beyond the rank-and-file.

- 1) With the words “Personal Renaissance” in the title, what do you think is the content going to be?
- 2) Was your prediction correct? Provide evidence from the passage.
- 3) What helped you make your prediction?

Passage 2

Does Flying Remain the Safest Form of Traveling Despite Crashes?

The Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 disappeared on 8 March, 2014 with 227 passengers and 12 crew members, around 40 minutes after taking off. Whenever there is an air crash, questions are raised on how safe it is to fly. Given this, it is not surprising that the same seems to be happening at this point of time, with



the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which was on its way from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing.

“It increases the fear for people who are already afraid of flying. It temporarily makes people who may not be phobic about flying uneasy about flying. And people who already really have difficulty flying—it stops them from flying for a while.” Martin Seif, a clinical psychologist said.

- 1) What information does the title tell you about the passage?
- 2) The title is written in the form of a question. Do you think that the form of a title (a statement, an imperative sentence, a question, a rhetorical question...) can help you predict its content?
- 3) What do you think the next paragraph in this passage might be about?



Further Reading

Urban Travel

David Metz¹

1 Attractive high-quality public transport in developed cities requires a **“carrot and stick” approach**², to discourage car use and to foster public transport. London, Barcelona and Singapore are among the few major cities in the world to have been successful in this objective. Those cities that focus only on public transport investment have not been able to secure significant change to travel behaviour. The hoped-for benefits from such investment—fewer journeys by car and less congestion—have not been sustained, as the vacated road space has simply filled up with new traffic. Since 2000 London has achieved a 5 per cent shift in **modal share**³ from cars to buses, a change in travel behaviour that started before the introduction of **congestion charging**⁴ and which has been facilitated by policy interventions to reduce road space such as more bus lanes, more pedestrian crossings and pedestrian phases at traffic signals. The only other city which even comes close to this figure is Barcelona, which has seen public transport use up by 1.7 per cent and car use reduce by 3 per cent between 1999 and 2002 (by restricting car use and improving public transport and ticketing). On the other hand, while bus use in Dublin increased by 40 per cent between 1996 and 2003, the lack of car restraint measures has meant that car use rose during the same period by 28 per cent. Even a city such as Zurich, which has long had an excellent public transport system with one of the highest levels of use in the world, is now battling rising car use.

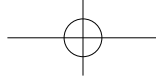
2 In many European cities trams provide smooth access from suburbs and neighbouring towns straight into a partly pedestrianized city centre where the bus network is timetabled to link with the tram network. But trams can be expensive, which is why bus rapid transit (BRT) is viewed by some experts as perhaps the most important transportation initiative today. The main features of BRT systems include some combination of segregated bus lanes, techniques to hasten boarding and alighting using elevated platforms as for trains (“stations” rather than bus stops), fares collected prior to boarding, priority given to buses at intersections, and effective coordination at stations and terminals. The aim is to emulate rail transit without the high cost. Indeed, a few BRT operations have been able to move almost as many passengers in one bus lane as on one rail line and at a fraction of the cost. Rail lines in urban areas typically cost over \$100 million per mile in developing countries, whereas BRT costs less than one-tenth

¹ David Metz is a visiting professor at the Center for Transport Studies, University College London, and the former chief scientist at the Department of Transport. This article is taken from his book *The Limits to Travel: How Far Will You Go?* (published in 2008). In this intriguing book, he examines the inadequacies inherent in the current thinking, along with the resulting problem, such as pollution, congestion and noise.

² It refers to a policy of offering a combination of _____ to induce behavior. It is named in reference to a cart driver dangling _____ in front of a mule and holding _____ behind it.

³ Also called mode-share, mode split, or modal split, referring to the _____ of travelers using a particular type of _____ or the number of trips using the said type.

⁴ The practice of charging motorists for the right to _____ on busy roads, especially at _____ times.



as much.

3 For almost two decades, the only successful example of BRT was in Curitiba, Brazil. In the 1990s BRT systems were put in place in a number of major cities including Quito, São Paulo, Nagoya, Ottawa, Pittsburgh, Mexico City, Bogotá, Jakarta and Beijing. I have ridden the system in Quito, capital of Ecuador, where at one end of the route the buses snake through the narrow roads of the historic city centre. The speed of progress and quality of the journey is more like a train than a conventional bus. At present 33 US cities and 50 elsewhere have adopted BRT systems. There are five such schemes in Britain, where light rail schemes (trams and metros) are difficult to finance, and more should be possible on the basis that BRT can achieve 90 per cent of the **patronage**⁵ of light rail at 50 per cent of the cost.

5 In public transportation, patronage or ridership refers to the _____ of people using a transit service. It is often summed over _____ for a given service and used as a benchmark of _____.

6 车流量, 交通流量

4 Where the road space is not available for long lengths of dedicated bus lanes, a variety of measures can be employed to promote bus use. London is a good example where improved bus services have been introduced in parallel with and funded by revenues from congestion charging. Bus patronage in London has increased by up to 7 per cent per annum over the last few years while **traffic volumes**⁶ have remained static, delivering a 4 per cent reduction in car-based modal share and up to 30 per cent reduction in congestion in central London. In contrast, in the same period, the other English metropolitan areas have collectively averaged a 4 per cent per annum decline in bus use, and seen a 7 per cent increase in traffic volumes, together with consequential increases in car-based modal share and traffic congestion. Nevertheless, in some larger urban areas like Nottingham, Brighton and Reading, as well as smaller to medium-sized towns like York, Cambridge and Telford, similar results to London have been achieved, often with modest investment.

7 The act of making all groups of people within a society feel _____.

8 A major _____ located in Tower Hamlets, London. It is one of London's two main _____—along with the traditional City of London—and contains many of the UK's tallest buildings.

5 The other feature of public transport in London is of course a substantial underground rail system together with an extensive surface rail network. The public transport system as a whole is responsible for most travel within the city during the daytime when congestion charging operates. Of the million people commuting to central London each day, only 9 per cent use car or van, whereas nationally the proportion of trips by car for commuting or business purposes is 70 per cent. One consequence is considerable **social inclusion**⁷. Almost 80,000 people work at **Canary Wharf**⁸, the 100-acre site of high-rise offices in London's Docklands. Three-quarters commute by public transport, which is remarkable given that these people are probably on average the highest paid in Britain and could certainly afford car-based commuting, were that feasible.



Reading Comprehension

Read the text carefully and answer the following questions.

- 1) What new approach is recommended to improve high-quality public transport in developed cities? Why the hoped-for benefits from traditional public transport investment cannot be sustained in some cities?
- 2) Besides congestion charging, what other measures have been taken in London to achieve a shift in modal share from cars to buses?
- 3) Why is BRT viewed as the most important transportation initiative nowadays? What are the main features of BRT?
- 4) How was the writer's experience of taking BRT in Quito? What was the reason that BRT failed to be efficient in Quito?
- 5) What is the most remarkable feature of public transport in London? What is responsible for most travel within the city during the daytime when congestion charging operates?
- 6) Why is the number of people working at Canary Wharf used as an example when social inclusion is discussed?

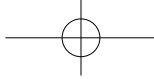
Translation

Translate the following sentences into English, using the words in brackets.

- 1) 如果行程安排紧凑的话，一天之内游览完这座城市的所有知名景点是没问题的。(feasible)

- 2) 申请工作职位时，一定要确认一下职位描述中是否要求经常出差。(extensive)

- 3) 对于收入不高的人们来说，在豪华度假村度个长假仍是遥不可及的梦想。(modest)



- 4) 提到骑自行车旅行, 荷兰的道路上有自行车专用道, 所有城市均可以骑行到达。
(dedicate)

- 5) 航空公司已经尝试了很多方法来加快乘客的登机速度, 但是大部分都没有预想中的那样有效。(hasten)



Follow-up Project

A survey about graduation trip

A questionnaire is a research instrument consisting of a series of questions for the purpose of gathering information from respondents for a report or a survey.

The following is a questionnaire about a possible graduation trip. Work within groups of 5-6 students to conduct the survey. Each member should give his/her answers to the questions in the questionnaire and analyze the reasons behind them. Then each group should write a survey report.

Questionnaire About Graduation Trip

1. What year are you in college?
 Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior
2. Are you interested in the idea of a graduation trip?
 Not at all A little To some extent Very much
3. Which factor is the most important to you when planning a trip?
 Destination Price Time Others
4. Which way of traveling do you prefer?
 DIY tour Half-DIY tour Group travel Tailored tour
5. Which kind of places would you like to visit?
 Historical sites Natural scenery Beach resorts Others
6. Who do you want to travel with?
 Family Friends
 Boyfriend/Girlfriend Alone
7. How many days do you think are appropriate for a graduation trip?
 A week 10-15 days A month The whole summer
8. Which range of price do you think is reasonable for a graduation trip?
 ¥1000-2000 ¥2000-4000 ¥4000-6000 More than ¥6000



Unit Reflection

1. In “A Portrait of the Modern Nomad”, five websites about the lifestyle of modern nomads are mentioned. Visit these websites and write a summary of what each of the websites is about.

1) www.themodernnomad.com

2) www.nomadicsamuel.com

3) www.kylethevagabond.com

4) www.theprofessionalhobo.com

5) www.exilelifestyle.com

2. “A Portrait of the Modern Nomad” reveals both sides of the story—the excitement and the uncertainty. Can you list some words to describe the benefits and the drawbacks of living a nomadic lifestyle?

benefits: _____

drawbacks: _____

3. In “Urban Travel”, different systems of transportation, such as bus, tram, BRT, LRT and underground are compared. What are the distinctive feature(s) of these various types of public transports? Which one do you think is the most suitable for your city and why?