

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

交通英语 / 魏宏主编. —2 版. —上海: 上海交通大学出版社, 2021 (2023 重印)
(新核心高职行业英语 / 丁国声主编)
ISBN 978-7-313-22199-5

I. ①交… II. ①魏… III. ①交通运输—英语—高等职业教育—教材 IV. ①U

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2019) 第 256358 号

新核心高职行业英语

交通英语 (第二版)

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主 编: 魏 宏

出版发行: 上海交通大学出版社

邮政编码: 200030

印 制: 天津市蓟县宏图印务有限公司

开 本: 787mm × 1092mm 1/16

字 数: 192 千字

版 次: 2014 年 11 月第 1 版 2021 年 4 月第 2 版

书 号: ISBN 978-7-313-22199-5

定 价: 48.00 元

地 址: 上海市番禺路 951 号

电 话: 021-64071208

经 销: 全国新华书店

印 张: 11

印 次: 2023 年 8 月第 5 次印刷

ISBN 978-7-88941-362-6

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Unit 1

Means of Transportation

Focus on the Topic

Work in pairs. Discuss with your partner about the following questions.

1. How do you come to college?

I come to college ...

- by air
- by train
- by subway
- by bus
- by ship
- on foot
- by taxi
- by bike

My partner comes ...

- by plane
- by train
- by subway
- by bus
- by ship
- on foot
- by taxi
- by bike

2. Why do you choose this means of transport?

3. What means of transportation do you prefer when you travel around?

Vocabulary Study

Choose the best answer to complete the following sentences.

1. Only teamwork will _____ us to make the job finished on time.

- A. enable B. available C. able D. ability
2. Our country has _____ the diplomatic relations with many other countries in the world.
- A. essential B. estimate C. established D. especial
3. He has the ambition to _____ this small and competitive company.
- A. dominant B. dominate C. domestic D. domain
4. Nowadays, a more _____ foreign policy is just needed to our country.
- A. flexible B. flexibility C. flesh D. flee
5. To tighten the _____ policy is necessary for our country in the current stage.
- A. implement B. immigration C. impact D. immediate

Reading One

Transport — Vehicle and Modes

Transport, or transportation, is the movement of people, animals and goods from one location to another. It enables trade between people, which **in turn establishes** civilizations.

Transportation infrastructure **consists of** the fixed **installations** necessary for transport, including roads, railways, airways, waterways, canals and pipelines and terminals such as airports, railway stations, subway stations, bus stations, warehouses, trucking terminals and seaports. Terminals may be used both for interchange of passengers and cargo and for maintenance.

A **vehicle** is any non-living device that is used to move people and goods. It moves **along with** the cargo and riders. Unless being pulled by a cable or muscle-power, the vehicle must provide its own **propulsion**; this is most commonly done through a steam engine, **combustion** engine, electric motor, a **jet engine** or a rocket, though other means of propulsion also exist. Vehicles also need a system of **converting** the energy into movement; this is most commonly done through wheels, **propellers** and pressure. Vehicles are most commonly staffed by a driver. Simple vehicles such as automobiles, bicycles or simple aircraft, may have one of the passengers as a driver. Passenger transport vehicle must have a compartment for the

passengers.

A mode of transportation is a solution that makes use of a particular type of vehicle, infrastructure and operation. Modes of transport include air, rail, road, water, cable, pipeline and space. Vehicles traveling on these networks may include aircraft, trains, automobiles, buses and bicycles. The transport of a person or of cargo may involve one mode or several of the modes. Each mode has its own advantages and disadvantages, and will be chosen for a trip on the basis of cost, capability, route and speed.

Passenger transport, or travel, **is divided into** public and private transport. Public transport is scheduled services on fixed routes, while private is vehicles that provide ad hoc services at the riders' desire. The latter offers better flexibility, but has lower capacity, and a higher environmental impact. Travel may be as part of daily commuting, for business, leisure or **migration**. Short-haul transport **is dominated by** the automobile and mass transit, which consists of buses in **rural** and small cities, supplemented with commuter rail, subway, trams and rapid transit in larger cities. Long-haul transport involves the use of the automobiles, trains, coaches and aircraft, the last of which have become **predominantly** used for the longest, including intercontinental travel. Public transport may also involve the **intermediate** change of vehicle, within or across modes, at a transport hub, such as a bus, subway or railway station. Taxis and buses can be found on both ends of public transport **spectrum**, **whereas** buses remain the cheaper mode of transport but are not necessarily **flexible**, and taxis being very flexible but more expensive. In the middle is demand responsive transport offering flexibility whilst remaining affordable. (476 words)

Note

Demand Responsive Transport, DRT, 又称“定制公交”或“门到门”运输,是一种先进的公共运输模式。DRT的显著特点是公交车辆的运营时间、路径由DRT的出行调度中心(Travel Dispatch Center, TDC)根据乘客预定的需求来优化决定,利用它,乘客可以“拼车”或共同实现“门到门”出行。这种模式没有固定的运营路线或没有固定的运营时间,故也称作非定线、准定线或柔性公共交通。

► Read For Main Ideas

Choose the correct answer to complete the following statements.

- 1) According to the reading, a vehicle is any non-living device that is used to move people and _____.
A. good B. goods C. food D. rider
- 2) Modes of transport include air, rail, _____, water, cable, pipeline and space.
A. street B. lord C. road D. bridge
- 3) Passenger transport, or travel, is divided into _____ and private transport.
A. general B. common C. ordinary D. public
- 4) A mode of transportation is a solution that _____ a particular type of vehicle, infrastructure and operation.
A. makes up B. makes use of C. makes for D. makes in
- 5) _____ offers better flexibility, but has lower capacity, and a higher environmental impact.
A. Private transport B. Public transport C. Train D. Plane

► Read For Details

Complete the sentences with the correct words from the reading.

- 1) Transportation infrastructure consists of the _____ installations necessary for transport.
- 2) Airports, railway stations, subway stations, bus stations, warehouses and seaports are all transport _____.
- 3) Vehicles need a system of converting the energy into _____.
- 4) Passenger transport vehicle must have a _____ for the passengers.
- 5) _____ remain the cheaper mode of transport but are not necessarily flexible.
- 6) Transport, or transportation, is the _____ of people, animals and goods from one location to another.
- 7) _____ may be used both for interchange of passengers and cargo and for maintenance.
- 8) Unless being pulled by a _____ or muscle-power, the vehicle must provide its own propulsion.

► Make Inferences

Work with a partner. Read each statement and decide whether it's T (True) or F (False). Then share your answers with the class.

- 1) The transport of a person or of cargo must involve several of the modes.
- 2) Short-haul transport is dominated by the automobile and mass transit.
- 3) Private transport offers better flexibility, but has lower capacity, and a higher environmental impact.
- 4) Few vehicles are commonly staffed by a driver.
- 5) Modes of transport include air, rail, road, water, cable, pipeline and space.
- 6) Vehicles do not need a system of converting the energy into movement.
- 7) Public transport may also involve the intermediate change of vehicle, within or across modes, at a transport hub, such as a bus, subway or railway station.

► Express Opinions

Do you like to travel by train? Check (✓) your answer. Then choose a reason or add your ideas. Share your answer with a partner.

- Yes, I do.
- It's safe and convenient.
 - The train ticket is affordable.
 - I can move around and meet friends on the train.
 - _____
- No, I don't.
- It's slower than the plane.
 - High-speed train ticket is expensive.
 - Some direct trains are crowded and uncomfortable.
 - _____

Task-driven Practice

Listening Comprehension

Listen to the announcements and complete the paragraphs with suitable words. Then retell them.

Task 1

On Bus

Welcome to Bus 106 for Dongzhimen. Please let the departing passengers get off _____ (first, fast) and board in order. Passengers using IC cards please _____ (sweep, swipe) your cards. The next stop is Tianqiao. Please have your tickets ready for inspection. We hope young people _____ (often, offer) your seats to the seniors, children, pregnant women, the sick and the disabled. Thank you.

Task 2

On the Subway

The next station is Sihui, the terminus of the line. Please get ready for your _____ (arrival, arrive) and make sure you have all your belongings with you. The door on the _____ (left, right) side will open. Please keep _____ (clear, near) of the door. Passengers transferring to Line 1 please go through the Transfer Hall. Welcome to take Beijing subway on your next trip. Have a nice day.

Task 3

At the Waiting Hall

Good morning, everyone. Attention, please. Train T209 to Hangzhou will _____ (go out, depart) at 9:15. The train is now _____ (standing, lying) at Platform 2. Passengers who will take train T209 are requested to check in at _____ (entrance, enter) No.3 and board the train.

Oral Communication

Listen to the dialogues. Read them loudly and practice them in pairs with your partner.

Task 1

Taking Buses

- A:** Hey, young man, have you ever taken the bus before?
B: Of course I have. I was waiting in line but everyone pushes now.
A: Anyway you should let old people and ladies on first.
B: Sorry, madam. Have a seat here.
A: It's all right. Well, thanks. Where are you going?
B: I am going to see the Yuyuan Garden.
A: Oh, you are on the wrong bus. It goes to the opposite direction.
B: Really? Oh, no.
A: Don't worry. Just get off at the next stop and cross the street. There is a bus stop over there. Take another Bus 930 towards Shanghai Railway Station and get off at Xinbeimen stop.
B: Well, thank you very much.
A: You're welcome.

Task 2

Taxis

- A:** I am afraid we're going to be late for the train.
B: We'd better get a taxi. It's faster than taking the bus or the subway.
A: If there are no traffic jams. And how much will it cost to get to the railway station?
B: Around eight or nine dollars. It will be more expensive than the bus or the subway, but more convenient.
A: All right. Taxi!
B: To the railway station, please. Do you know the way?
Driver: Which railway station, please? There are five railway stations in Shanghai, now.
A: The nearest one.
B: No! The one on your train ticket.
Driver: Let me have a look. That's Shanghai West.

Task 3

By Bike

- A:** Hi. Susan. Do you come to work by bike every day?

- B:** Yes. It helps keep me fit and helps the environment.
- A:** One less car on the road means less pollution.
- B:** Right. My house is near the lake, it's really a nice ride, too.
- A:** How far is it?
- B:** About 5 kilometers. It takes me about half an hour.
- A:** That sounds good. I wish I could do it, but my home is far in the suburb. So I take the metro.
- B:** You're doing your part for the environment by using public transportation, too.
- A:** True. Well, see you then.
- B:** See you.

Reading Two

History of Transportation

Humans' first means of transport were walking and swimming. The domestication of animals introduces a new way to **lay** the burden of transport **on** more powerful creatures, allowing heavier loads to be **hailed**, or humans to ride the animals for higher speed and **duration**. Inventions such as the wheel and **sled** helped make animal transport more efficient through the introduction of vehicles. Before the Industrial Revolution, water transport, including rowed and sailed vessels, was the only efficient way to transport large quantities or over large distances.

The first forms of road transport were horses, oxen or even humans carrying goods over dirt tracks. The first water craft were **canoes** cut out from tree trunks. Early water transport was accomplished with ships that were either rowed or used the wind for propulsion, or a combination of the two. The importance of water has **led to** most cities that grew up as sites for trading, being located on rivers or at sea, often at the intersection of two bodies of water. Until the Industrial Revolution, transport remained slow and costly.

The Industrial Revolution in the 19th century saw a number of inventions fundamentally change transport. The first highways were constructed during the 19th century with **macadam**. The invention of the steam engine, closely followed by its application in rail transport, made the speed and **capacity** of land transport

increased rapidly. This century also saw the development of the steam ship that **sped up** global transport.

At the turn into the 20th century, with the development of the combustion engine and the automobile, road transport became more **viable**, allowing the introduction of mechanical private transport. In 1903, the first controllable airplane was invented, and after World War I, it became a fast way to transport people and express goods over long distances. After World War II, the automobile and airlines **took** higher **shares** of transport, reducing rail and water to freight and short-haul passenger. Spaceflight was launched in the 1950s, with rapid growth until the 1970s, when interest **dwindled**. In the 1950s, the introduction of **containerization** gave massive efficiency gains in freight transport, permitting globalization. International air travel became much more **accessible** in the 1960s, with the commercialization of the jet engine. Along with the growth in automobiles and motorways, this introduced a **decline** for rail and water transport. After the introduction of the Shinkansen in 1964, high-speed rail in Asia and Europe started taking passengers on long-haul routes from airlines. (410 words)

Writing

Sentences

Complete the sentences with the words given below and change the word forms where necessary.

haul	containerization	accessible	vehicle	viable
capacity	dwindle	domesticate	decline	propulsion

1. The _____ would not have the capacity to make the journey on one tank of fuel.
这辆车单靠一箱燃料无法跑完整趟旅程。
2. She was late for the interview after being _____ up for speeding.
由于超速驾车被拦下，她面试迟到了。
3. We _____ the dog to help us with hunting.

我们驯狗来帮助打猎。

4. The _____ system consists of five F-1 engines.
推进系统包括五个F-1发动机。
5. Her mental _____ and temperament are as remarkable as his.
她的才智和气质和他一样出众。
6. The scheme is economically _____.
这个计划从经济效益来看是可行的。
7. The factory's workforce has _____ from over 4,000 to a few hundred.
工厂雇员总数已经从4,000多人减少到了几百人。
8. I think _____ is one of the best loading methods at present.
我认为集装箱运输是目前最佳的运输方法之一。
9. The remote desert area is _____ only by helicopter.
只有乘直升机才能进入那遥远的荒漠地区。
10. Thankfully the smoking of cigarettes is on the _____.
令人欣慰的是，吸烟量在逐渐下降。

Paragraph

Go through Reading Two. Then fill in the blanks with proper words.

At the turn 1) _____ the 20th century, with the development of the combustion engine and the automobile, road transport became more viable, allowing the introduction 2) _____ mechanical private transport. In 1903, the first controllable airplane was invented, and 3) _____ World War I, it became a fast way to transport people and express goods 4) _____ long distances. After World War II, the automobile and airlines took higher shares of transport, reducing rail 5) _____ water to freight and short-haul passenger. Spaceflight was launched in the 1950s, with rapid growth 6) _____ the 1970s, when interest dwindled.

Composition

Sample 1

I like many means of transport, such as trains, planes, cars and so on, but my favorite means of transport is unusual, horse. Two weeks ago, I saw a great movie named "War Horse", then I was interested in horse very much.

Last week, I went to the Forest Park and rode the horse, When I rode the horse, I felt very happy. And horses don't emit any PM2.5. I really like horses.

Sample 2

Among all means of transportation, I like bicycle most. It's cheap as well as popular.

There are many advantages to ride the bicycle. In the first place, riding bicycle makes me feel independent. I can go anywhere by bicycle. Especially during rush hours, I can still move freely. Secondly, using a bicycle is good for environment protection, because it won't emit any waste gas. Moreover, bicycle riding is also a good sport. While riding a bicycle, I can exercise myself, which is healthful to me.

In my free time, I often ride my bicycle to get around in the downtown area or in the countryside, so as to relax myself. It's really a nice outdoor activity for me, I think.

Your Task

My Favorite Means of Transport

Achievement Test

After learning this unit, you are required to finish Test 1 in supplementary material.