

Unit 10: Now and then

1 Listening

Transport

Listen to the recording from exercise 31, page 131 again. You are going to listen to a street interview about increasing traffic in an English town. Then answer the questions in full sentences.

- 1 What is the aim of the interview survey?
- 2 What changes did the interviewee notice in the level of traffic?
- 3 What does the interviewee expect in the future regarding pollution?
- 4 Which options did the interviewer mention in order to reduce traffic?
- 5 What does the interviewee think about these traffic calming and management measures?
- 6 According to the interviewee, what should the town spend money on?

2 Writing

Transport

Since you have been concerned with the topic of traffic recently, you decided to write a formal e-mail to the local council. Write an e-mail in which you:

- describe the traffic situation in your town
- suggest ways of improving the situation (e.g. parking facilities, public transport, car sharing, cycling, etc.)
- list advantages this would bring for the inhabitants of the area and for the environment

Write around 200 words.

3 Language

Gadgets

a Match 1–6 with a–f to make sentences.

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 I use it | <input type="checkbox"/> | a easier. |
| 2 I don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | b have one at home. |
| 3 It makes life | <input type="checkbox"/> | c without it. |
| 4 I have one but I | <input type="checkbox"/> | d all the time. |
| 5 I don't even | <input type="checkbox"/> | e hardly ever use it. |
| 6 I couldn't live | <input type="checkbox"/> | f how to use them. |

b Make a list of gadgets you have at home such as:

- kitchen gadgets ■ cleaning gadgets ■ study aids ■ bathroom gadgets

b Compare your lists. Who wrote down the most things?

4

Language

Responding to opinions

Put the words in order to complete the responses. Write them in your exercise book.

- 1 A: Shopping online is great!
B: what you're buying. / you don't / Yes, but / to see / have the chance
- 2 A: Car parks have to be expensive because if they weren't, they would always be full.
B: they could / OK, that's / a bit cheaper! / make them / a good point, / but I still think
- 3 A: Children spend far too much time playing computer games these days.
B: but a lot of / Sorry, / really educational. / are actually / computer games
- 4 A: It's obvious that kids with intelligent parents are going to do well at school.
B: They still have to / do / not really. / Well, / the work.
- 5 A: So basically, you think it's a good idea for schools to teach children about food and health?
B: can argue / I don't think / Yes, exactly. / with that. / anyone

5

Language

Describing diagrams

Match the sentence halves.

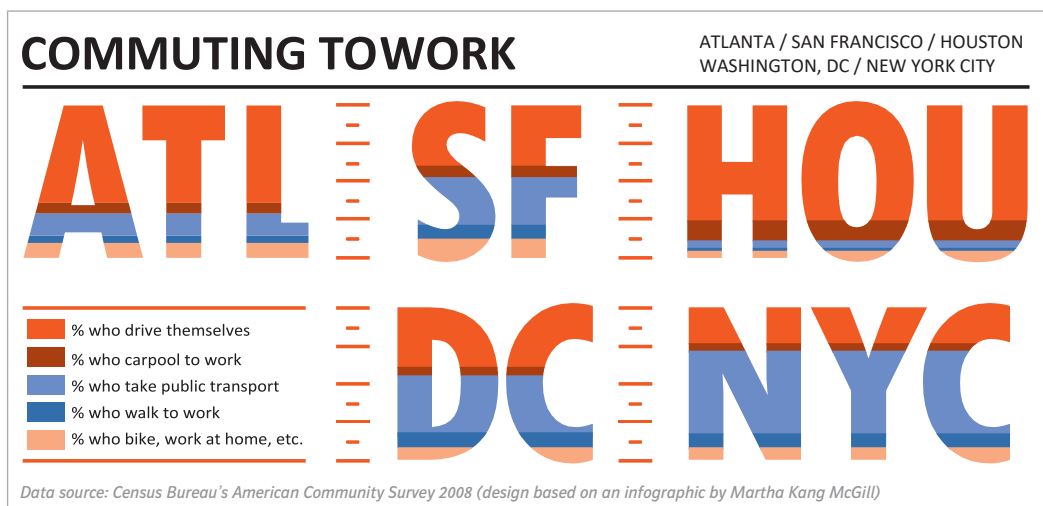
- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 E-book sales | <input type="checkbox"/> | a for several billion dollars. |
| 2 Online sales accounted | <input type="checkbox"/> | b almost 95%. |
| 3 The percentage of teenagers owning cell phones amounts to | <input type="checkbox"/> | c than at the end. |
| 4 At the beginning of the year, profits were higher | <input type="checkbox"/> | d by 15% in the last six months. |
| 5 Tablet ownership has increased | <input type="checkbox"/> | e rose rapidly at the beginning. |

6

Language

Describing a diagram

Complete the text about the diagram with words from the box below.



a large majority of ■ The reason for this ■ Summing up ■ approximately ■ whereas
 less developed than ■ was conducted by ■ the same number ■ The diagram shows
 a major role ■ According to the diagram

(1) _____ how the different means of commuting to work are distributed in five US cities. The study (2) _____ the Census Bureau's American Community Survey in 2008. It can easily be seen that in New York City, (3) _____ 50% of people use public transport to commute to work (4) _____ in Houston, (5) _____ people drive themselves. (6) _____ might be that in Houston, the public transportation infrastructure is (7) _____ in New York City. (8) _____, Washington, DC, and San Francisco have almost (9) _____ of people using public transport as those who drive themselves. (10) _____, we can say that cars still play (11) _____ in commuting to work in American cities.

7 Language

used to and would

Complete the web postings from childhoodbeliefs.com with *used to* or *would*. Where both are possible, use *would*.

- I _____ believe that if you turned the TV off when someone was on the screen, they would die! I _____ wait until there was a scene without people before turning it off.
- When I was little, I _____ think that there were little tiny men that lived in traffic lights that turned them red, yellow and green. I thought they _____ watch to see if there were any cars before changing the lights.
- I _____ believe that songs were performed by little bands that lived in my radio. I thought they _____ wait until the name of their band was announced and then start playing!
- I _____ believe that when the shop on my street closed at the end of the day, the shopkeeper _____ take all the things off the shelves and take them home ... only to bring them back the next morning and put them back again.

8 Language

used to and would

a Which verbs usually go with:

- 1 *used to and would?* 2 *used to, but not would?*

think buy go enjoy have live
 walk believe take dislike play listen to

b Choose six verbs from 5a and write sentences about you past. You can write about your life:

- as a child ■ at primary school ■ at lower secondary school ■ in your last holidays

c Listen to each other's sentences. Ask questions to find out more.

Reading & Language

Across cultures: time

a Read the two paragraphs quickly for the main ideas.

“Well, this is New York and everything here is hurry, hurry, hurry. People (1) _____ to work, to concerts, to restaurants, and then back home again. I don’t know why but I guess life is just faster here. It’s really important to be (2) _____, especially in business, because time is money. But it’s important for other things too, like meeting friends. I feel that when I’m (3) _____, it shows my friends that I know their time is valuable. I never make them wait. In fact, everything I do, I’m always exactly on time – (4) _____ – sometimes even early. It’s my personal choice but it’s also the way we do things here.”



“I like to (5) _____ doing everything. For example, I (6) _____ getting up and getting dressed and having breakfast and stuff. I mean, usually my parents (7) _____ do this or that, but I just think ‘What’s the rush? Everything will be fine in the end.’ Or maybe it won’t. But does it matter if it’s a bit late? I do the important things, like going to class, but I’(8) _____ never _____ get there, and actually, I’m usually (9) _____. Well, anyway not very late. My teachers don’t complain about me. Well, anyway, not much.”

b Circle the correct choice in statements a–e.

- a Life / Business in New York is ‘hurry, hurry, hurry’.
- b Denise thinks her friends’ time is money / valuable.
- c She’s always exactly on time because she likes to be / that’s New York culture / she likes to be and it’s New York culture.
- d Blake is surprised at people who get to class on time / worry about being late.
- e His teachers / parents are not always happy with him.

c Read the paragraphs again. Complete the sentences with the best expression in the correct form. Some expressions are used more than once.

right on time ■ on time ■ be in a hurry to ■ be always rushing ■ take one’s time -ing

Reading

Across cultures: time

These web postings are a conversation between two people, but they're in the wrong order. Read the postings carefully then number them in the right order.

1 Where I live, it's OK to be late for work at most companies, but no more than half an hour late. *Macy110*

.....

___ Maybe half an hour, 45 minutes late. That's normal for us. But when it's time to go home, were not sorry of course! 😊 *Helios*

.....

___ Good idea. Then they have time for other things, like family life and their interests. *Helios*

.....

___ Really? Not here. In fact, we usually arrive early every day, about twenty minutes early. And we finish late as well. *Stefan*

.....

___ Of course! Well, I usually work 8.30 to 4.30 but wo of my colleagues actually start work early so they can finish early and go home. *Macy 110*

.....

___ Do you? How late? I hate it when I have to work late. *Macy110*

.....

___ Yeah. Once I tried to copy them. I decided to be early for work – but I couldn't get up on time. In fact, I arrived late. *Macy110*

Language

Keyword: *time*

Read the sentences, then complete the expressions with:

- late ■ early ■ time

- 1 I usually start work _____. It's nice and quiet because no one's there yet.
- 2 Last night, I had to work _____ so I'm a bit sleepy this morning.
- 3 If we arrive _____, we can have breakfast at the airport before we get on the plane.
- 4 In my job as a doctor, I usually finish _____. I have to do a lot of paperwork every day.
- 5 Don't arrive _____ for class again, Kim. We start at 9.00 exactly.
- 6 Sorry, but it's _____ to close the shop now.
- 7 I want to finish _____ today so I can go to the sports bar and watch the game.
- 8 Sorry I'm _____ for my appointment. I couldn't find your office.
- 9 Hi, Anna. Do you have _____ for coffee and cake after class?
- 10 Ah, you're _____ for class today, Kim. Well done!

Key

1 Listening

Transport

- 1 The aim of the interviews is to find out how people feel about living in Calston / the local environment of Calston.
- 2 Traffic has got much worse. Driving through the centre takes more time now. It is much noisier.
- 3 The interviewee expects that pollution will be a problem in the future.
- 4 Banning cars from the centre and having cars pay to enter the town centre are the two options mentioned.
- 5 He thinks that banning cars from the centre it is not a bad idea, but he can't imagine it would ever happen. Concerning drivers having to pay to enter the town centre, he thinks that this would not be popular among inhabitants, and that this would not solve the problem but rather shift the problems to areas outside the city.
- 6 The interviewee thinks that the town should rather spend money on cleaner streets and better schools.

3 Language

Gadgets

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 I use it | d all the time. |
| 2 I don't know | f how to use them. |
| 3 It makes life | a easier. |
| 4 I have one but I | e hardly ever use it. |
| 5 I don't even | b have one at home. |
| 6 I couldn't live | c without it. |

4 Language

Responding to opinions

- 1 **A:** Shopping online is great!
B: **Yes, but you don't have the chance to see what you're buying.**
- 2 **A:** Car parks have to be expensive because if they weren't, they would always be full.
B: **OK, that's a good point, but I still think they could make them a bit cheaper!**
- 3 **A:** Children spend far too much time playing computer games these days.
B: **Sorry, but a lot of computer games are actually really educational.**
- 4 **A:** It's obvious that kids with intelligent parents are going to do well at school.
B: **Well, not really. They still have to do the work.**
- 5 **A:** So basically, you think it's a good idea for schools to teach children about food and health?
B: **Yes, exactly. I don't think anyone can argue with that.**

5 Language

Describing diagrams

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 E-book sales | e rose rapidly at the beginning. |
| 2 Online sales accounted | a for several billion dollars. |
| 3 The percentage of teenagers owning cell phones amounts to | b almost 95%. |
| 4 At the beginning of the year, profits were higher | c than at the end. |
| 5 Tablet ownership has increased | d by 15% in the last six months |

6 Language

Describing a diagram

(1) **The diagram shows** how the different means of commuting to work are distributed in five US cities. The study (2) **was conducted by** the Census Bureau's American Community Survey in 2008. It can easily be seen that in New York City, (3) **approximately** 50% of people use public transport to commute to work (4) **whereas** in Houston, (5) **a large majority of** people drive themselves. (6) **The reason for this** might be that in Houston, the public transportation infrastructure is (7) **less developed than** in New York City. (8) **According to the diagram**, Washington, DC, and San Francisco have almost (9) **the same number** of people using public transport as those who drive themselves. (10) **Summing up**, we can say that cars still play (11) **a major role** in commuting to work in American cities.

7 Language

used to and would

- 1 I **used to** believe that if you turned the TV off when someone was on the screen, they would die! I **would** wait until there was a scene without people before turning it off.
- 2 When I was little, I **used to** think that there were little tiny men that lived in traffic lights that turned them red, yellow and green. I thought they **would** watch to see if there were any cars before changing the lights.
- 3 I **used to** believe that songs were performed by little bands that lived in my radio. I thought they **would** wait until the name of their band was announced and then start playing!
- 4 I **used to** believe that when the shop on my street closed at the end of the day, the shopkeeper **would** take all the things off the shelves and take them home ... only to bring them back the next morning and put them back again.

8 Language

used to and would

- 1 *used to and would?* **buy, go, walk, take, have (e.g. have coffee), listen to, play**
- 2 *used to, but not would?* **think, enjoy, believe, dislike, have (e.g. have a cat), live**

9 Language

Across cultures: time

b

- a Life / Business in New York is 'hurry, hurry, hurry'.
- b Denise thinks her friends' time is money / valuable.
- c She's always exactly on time because she likes to be / that's New York culture / she likes to be and it's New York culture.
- d Blake is surprised at people who get to class on time / worry about being late.
- e His teachers / parents are not always happy with him.

c

"Well, this is New York and everything here is hurry, hurry, hurry. People (1) **are always rushing** to work, to concerts, to restaurants, and then back home again. I don't know why but I guess life is just faster here. It's really important to be (2) **on time** especially in business, because time is money. But it's important for other things too, like meeting friends. I feel that when I'm (3) **on time**, it shows my friends that I know their time is valuable. I never make them wait. In fact, everything I do, I'm always exactly on time – (4) **right on time** – sometimes even early. It's my personal choice but it's also the way we do things here."

“I like to (5) **take my time** doing everything. For example, I (6) **take my time** getting up and getting dressed and having breakfast and stuff. I mean, usually my parents (7) **are in a hurry to** do this or that, but I just think ‘What’s the rush? Everything will be fine in the end.’ Or maybe it won’t. But does it matter if it’s a bit late? I do the important things, like going to class, but I (8) **m never in a hurry to** get there, and actually, I’m usually (9) **on time**. Well, anyway not very late. My teachers don’t complain about me. Well, anyway, not much.”

10

Reading

Across cultures: time

- 1 Where I live, it’s OK to be late for work at most companies, but no more than half an hour late. *Macy110*
- 4 Maybe half an hour, 45 minutes late. That’s normal for us. But when it’s time to go home, were not sorry of course! 😊 *Helios*
- 6 Good idea. Then they have time for other things, like family life and their interests. *Helios*
- 2 Really? Not here. In fact, we usually arrive early every day, about twenty minutes early. And we finish late as well. *Stefan*
- 5 Of course! Well, I usually work 8.30 to 4.30 but wo of my colleagues actually start work early so they can finish early and go home. *Macy 110*
- 3 Do you? How late? I hate it when I have to work late. *Macy110*
- 7 Yeah. Once I tried to copy them. I decided to be early for work – but I couldn’t get up on time. In fact, I arrived late. *Macy110*

11

Language

Keyword: *time*

- 1 I usually start work **early**. It’s nice and quiet because no one’s there yet.
- 2 Last night, I had to work **late** so I’m a bit sleepy this morning.
- 3 If we arrive **early**, we can have breakfast at the airport before we get on the plane.
- 4 In my job as a doctor, I usually finish **late**. I have to do a lot of paperwork every day.
- 5 Don’t arrive **late** for class again, Kim. We start at 9.00 exactly.
- 6 Sorry, but it’s **time** to close the shop now.
- 7 I want to finish **early** today so I can go to the sports bar and watch the game.
- 8 Sorry I’m **late** for my appointment. I couldn’t find your office.
- 9 Hi, Anna. Do you have **time** for coffee and cake after class?
- 10 Ah, you’re **early** for class today, Kim. Well done!