

What's the best way to get around London?

Probably the Tube, although buses are cheaper.

3A Race across London

1 VOCABULARY & SPEAKING

transport

- a In pairs, can you think of four different forms of public transport in towns and cities in your country?
- b ➤ p.155 Vocabulary Bank *Transport*.

2 PRONUNCIATION /ʃ/, /dʒ/, and /tʃ/

- a (2.4)) Look at the pictures. What are the words and sounds? Listen and repeat.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |

- b Write three words from the list in each column.

adventure bridge catch coach crash
 journey rush station traffic jam

- c (2.5)) Listen and check. Practise saying the words.
- d Look at the words in the columns. What are the typical spellings for these sounds? Go to the **Sound Bank p.167** and check.
- e (2.6)) Listen to the pairs of words. Can you hear the difference? Practise saying them.

/tʃ/ and /dʒ/

- 1 a cheap b jeep
 2 a chain b Jane
 3 a choke b joke

/ʃ/ and /tʃ/

- 4 a ship b chip
 5 a shoes b choose
 6 a wash b watch

- f (2.7)) Listen and circle the word you hear.
- g (2.8)) Listen and write five sentences.

3 READING & LISTENING

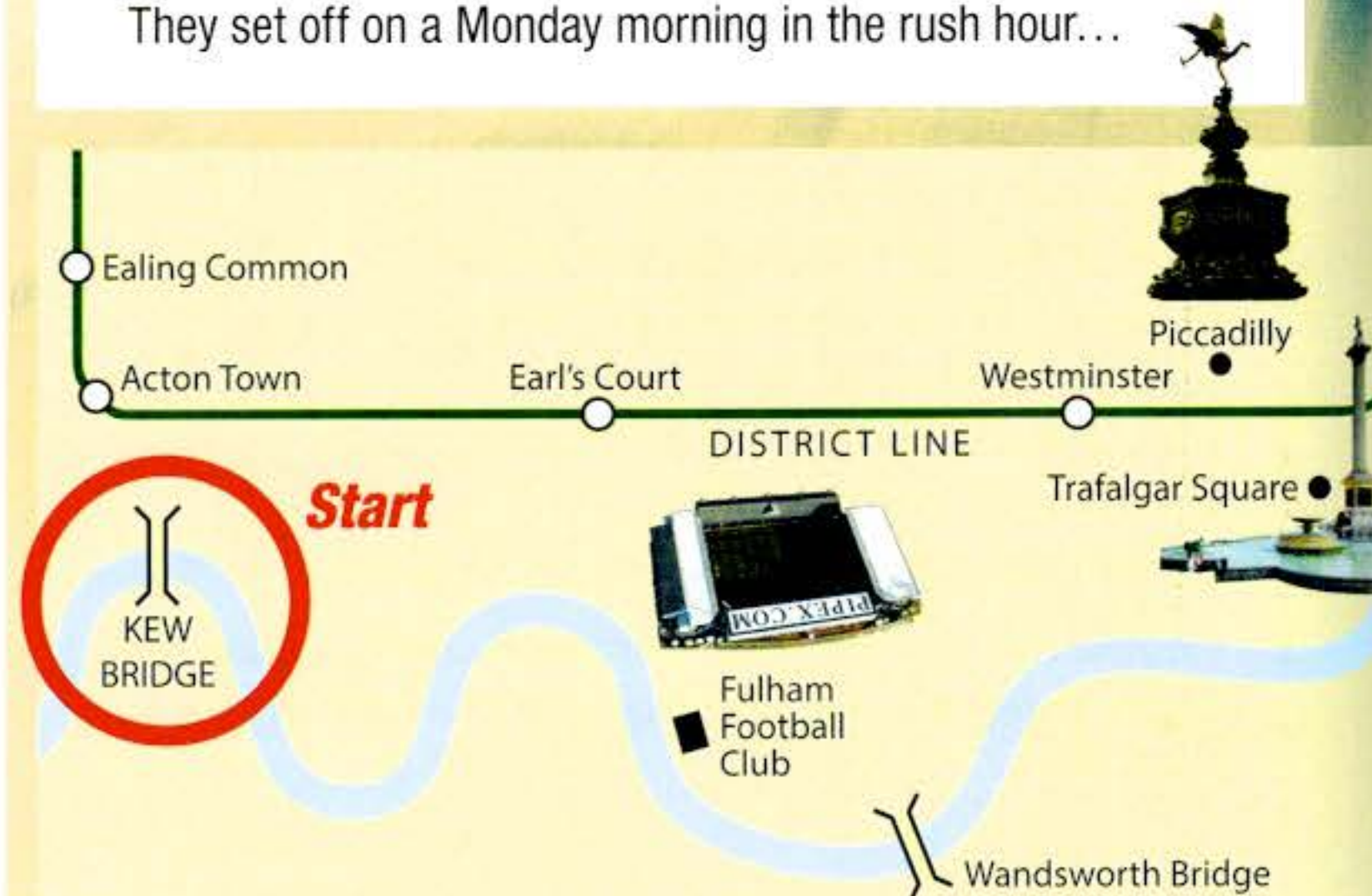
- a You are going to read about a race which the BBC car programme *Top Gear* organized across London. Read the introduction and answer the questions.
- Where do they have to go from? Where to?
 - What are the four methods of transport?
 - Which one do you think will be the fastest? Why?
 - In what order do you think the other three will arrive? Why?

TopGear Challenge

What's the fastest way to get across London?

On *Top Gear*, a very popular BBC TV series about cars and driving, they decided to organize a race across London, to find the quickest way to cross a busy city. The idea was to start from Kew Bridge, in the south-west of London, and to finish the race at the check-in desk at London City Airport, in the east, a journey of approximately 15 miles. Four possible forms of transport were chosen, a bike, a car, a motorboat, and public transport. The show's presenter, **Jeremy Clarkson**, took the **boat** and his colleague **James May** went by **car** (a large Mercedes). **Richard Hammond** went by **bike**, and **The Stig** took **public transport**. He had an Oyster card. His journey involved getting a bus, then the Tube, and then the Docklands Light Railway, an overground train which connects east and west London.

They set off on a Monday morning in the rush hour...





Jeremy in the motorboat

His journey was along the River Thames. For the first few miles there was a speed limit of nine miles an hour, because there are so many ducks and other birds in that part of the river. The river was confusing, and at one point he realized that he was going in the wrong direction. But he **turned round** and got back onto the right route. Soon he was going past Fulham football ground. He phoned Richard and asked him where he was – just past Trafalgar Square. This was good news for Jeremy. He **was ahead of** the bike! He **reached** Wandsworth Bridge. The speed limit finished there, and he could now go as fast as he liked. Jeremy felt like the fastest moving man in all of London. He was flying, coming close to 50 miles an hour! How could he lose now? He could see Tower Bridge ahead. His journey was seven miles longer than the others', but he was now going at 70 miles an hour. Not far to the airport now!



Richard on the bike

Richard could use bus lanes, which was great, but of course he had to be careful not to **crash into** the buses! He hated buses! Horrible things! When the traffic lights **turned red** he thought of cycling through them, but then he remembered that he was on TV, so he had to stop! When he got to Piccadilly he was delighted to see that there was a terrible traffic jam – he could go through the traffic, but James, in his Mercedes, would **get stuck**. He got to Trafalgar Square, and then went into a cycle lane. From now on it was going to be easier...



James in the car

He started off OK. He wasn't going fast but at a steady speed – until he was stopped by the police! They only wanted to check the permit for the cameraman in the back of the car, but it meant that he lost three or four valuable minutes! The traffic was **getting worse**. Now he was going really slowly. 25 miles an hour, 23, 20... 18... It was so frustrating!

- b Now read about the journeys by boat, bike, and car. Do you still think your predictions in a 3 and 4 are right?
- c Read the three journeys again and answer the questions with **Je** (Jeremy), **R** (Richard), or **Ja** (James).

Who...?

- 1 was asked to show a piece of paper
- 2 went much faster in the later part of his journey
- 3 nearly did something illegal
- 4 went more slowly in the later part of his journey
- 5 was happy to see that there was a lot of traffic
- 6 got slightly lost
- 7 had the most exciting journey

- d Look at the **highlighted** verbs and verb phrases. With a partner, work out their meaning from context.



Stig on the Underground

- e **29**) Now listen to what happened to The Stig. Follow his route on the map.
- f Listen again. What information or warning do you hear when you are travelling on the Tube?
- g **210**) With a partner, write down the order in which you now think the four people arrived. Then listen to what happened. What order did they arrive in? Why do you think that Jeremy Clarkson was annoyed?
- h Think of your nearest big city. What kind of public transport is there? If a race was organized there between a bike, a car, and public transport, what order do you think they would arrive in?
- i **Communication** I'm a tourist – can you help me? **A** p.104 **B** p.109.













Glossary

- 1 mile** the unit of distance used in the UK and the USA (=1.6 kilometres); 15 miles = approx 25 km
- The Stig** nickname given to one of the members of the *Top Gear* team
- Oyster card** a kind of travel card which you use to travel on public transport in London
- the Tube** nickname for the London Underground

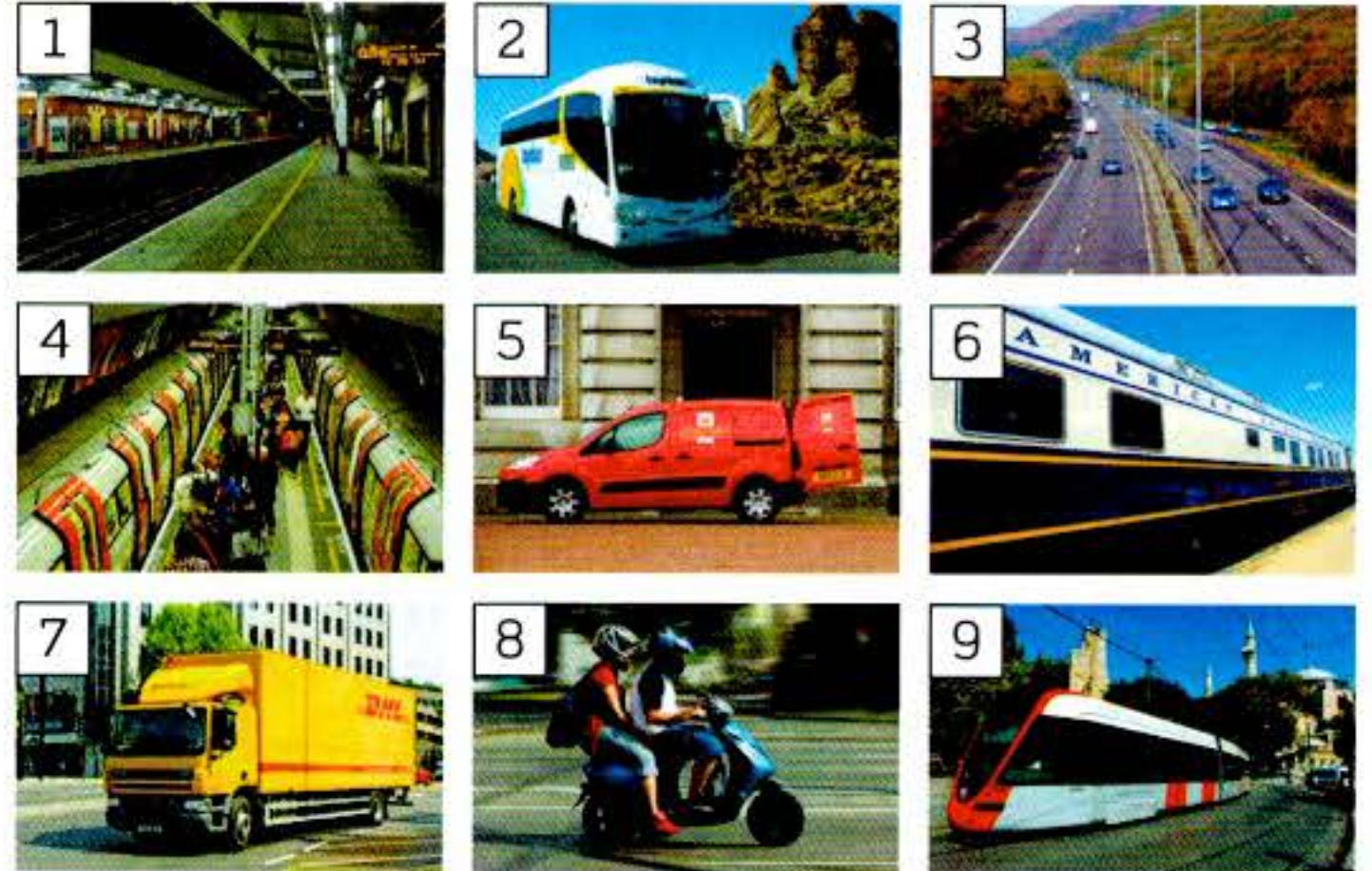
1 PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES

a Match the words and pictures.

- | | |
|---|---|
|  carriage /'kærɪdʒ/ |  scooter /'sku:tə/ |
|  coach /kəʊtʃ/ |  the <u>underground</u> /'ʌndəgraʊnd/ (AmE <u>subway</u>) |
|  lorry /'lɒri/ (AmE truck) |  tram /træm/ |
|  motorway /'məʊtəweɪ/ |  van /væn/ |
|  platform /'plætfɔ:m/ | |

b  Listen and check.

c Cover the words and look at the pictures. Try to remember the words.



2 ON THE ROAD

Compound nouns

Compound nouns are two nouns together where the first noun describes the second, e.g. a *child seat* = a seat for a child, a *bus stop* = a place for buses to stop, etc. In compound nouns the first noun is stressed more strongly than the second. There are many compound nouns related to road travel.

a Complete the compound nouns.

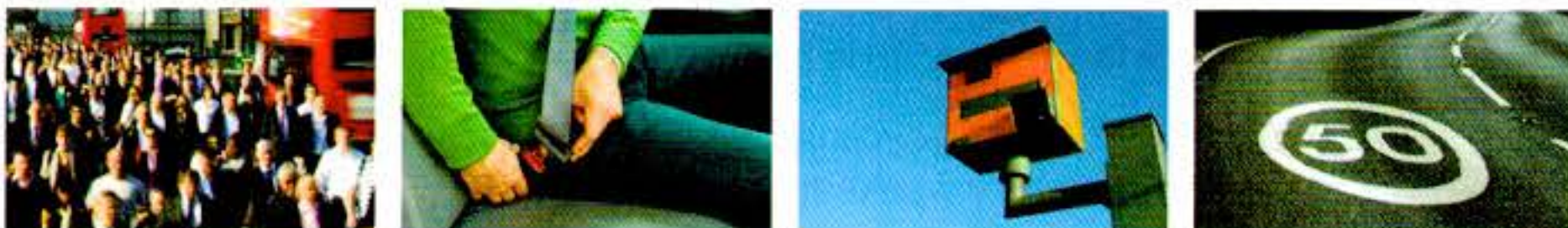
belt /bɛlt/ camera /'kæməɾə/ crash /kræʃ/ crossing /'krɒsɪŋ/ fine /faɪn/
hour /'aʊə/ jam /dʒæm/ lane /leɪn/ lights /laɪts/ limit /'lɪmɪt/ rank /ræŋk/
station /'steɪʃn/ works /wɜ:kz/ zone /zəʊn/



1 car crash 2 cycle _____ 3 parking _____




4 pedestrian _____ 5 petrol _____ 6 road _____



7 rush _____ 8 seat _____ 9 speed _____ 10 speed _____



11 taxi _____ 12 traffic _____ 13 traffic _____ 14 zebra _____

b  Listen and check. Then cover the compound nouns and look at the pictures. Remember the compound nouns.

3 HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

How long does it take?

It **takes** about an hour to get from London to Oxford by train.

It **took (me)** more than an hour to get to work yesterday.

How long does it take (you) to get to school?

Use *take (+ person) + time (+ to get to)* to talk about the duration of a journey, etc.

Read the information box above. Then ask and answer with a partner.

- How do you get to work / school?
How long does it take?
- How long does it take to get from your house to the town centre?

Phrasal verbs

Learn these phrasal verbs connected with transport and travel.

We **set off** at 7.00 in the morning to try to avoid the traffic. (= leave on a journey)

I arrive at 8.15. Do you think you could **pick me up** at the station? (= collect sb, in a car, etc.)

I got on the wrong bus, and I **ended up** on the opposite side of town. (= find yourself in a place / situation that you did not expect)

We're **running out of** petrol. Let's stop at the next petrol station. (= finish your supply of sth)

Watch out! / **Look out!** You're going to crash! (= be careful or pay attention to sth dangerous)