

Lesson Plan Outline

Topic: Wheels

Form: 9-V

Subtopic: Car culture

Teacher: Mizyova N.M.

Objectives

- to revise and practise using traffic vocabulary
- to practise making notes of the important information from a reading text.
- to practise asking for and giving factual information
- to prepare for a speaking activity and to participate in discussion on traffic and traffic problems
- to practise disagreeing and contradicting politely.

Resources used

- multy-media centre
- CD-R (slide-show, news-reel)
- 3 different texts
- hand-out cards
- posters and pictures

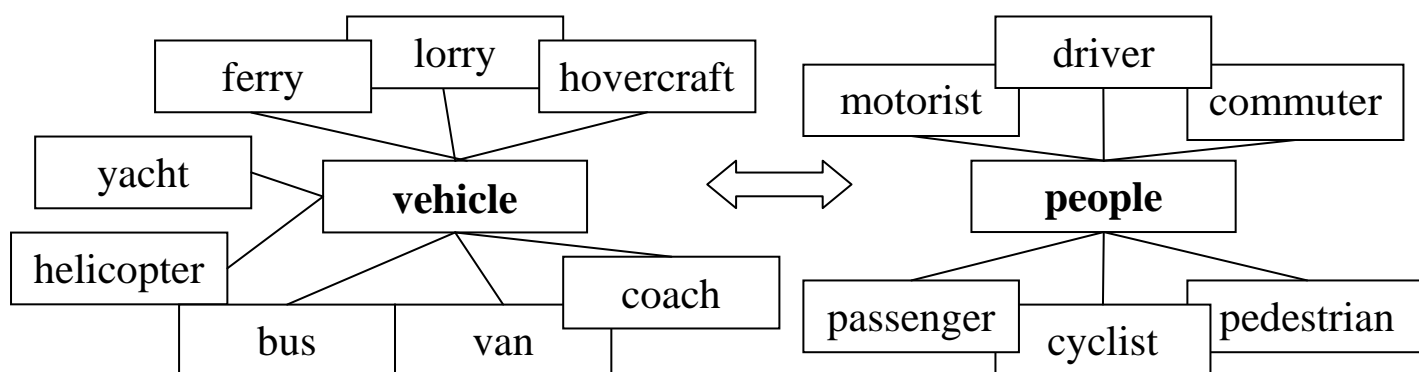
I Warm-up

Teacher: Today we're going to have an unusual lesson. It will be a TV talk-show. They seem to be rather popular nowadays. Personally, I am not having a claim on a role of Savic Shuster or Anna Bezulyk. But I'm pretty sure, we'll cope with our task and do our best to make this program no less interesting and exciting. OK, but we're getting about the bush. Let's proceed to our work.

II Vocabulary Work

Teacher: First, I want you to refresh the vocabulary on the topic «Wheels». You will need these words while leading the discussion.

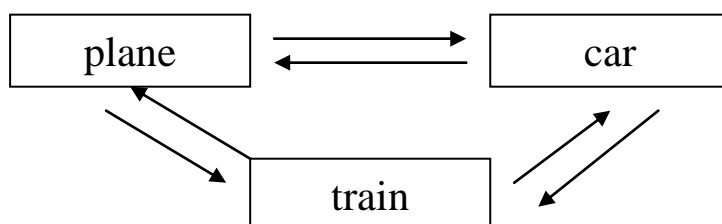
I will give you the cards with the words. Your task is to explain their meanings, without using the Ukrainian equivalents. And your group mate has to guess the word. If he (she) fails, he (she) will leave our game. In the end you are to complete this mind-map on the black-board.



III Reading

Prereading activity

Teacher: Now you'll read short texts just to enrich your knowledge on the topic. (three texts on the history of cars, trains and planes are given to three groups of students). While reading you can make some notes to share with your classmates afterwards.



(Jigsaw activity and checking comprehension in cross-group work)

IV Talk-Show «TV-Debates»

Teacher: Let's get down to our debates. By the way, have you got rich imagination? We are in the TV-studio. You can see a camera-man on the left. Here is our respected audience and soon our guests of honour will take their seats on this stage.

I'm glad to introduce them to you. So meet:

1) Mrs. Flower

The ecologist from Green Peace

2) Police inspector Petrenko

The Department of Transport

3) Mr. Brown

The car designer

4) Mr. Niemand

Our guest from Amsterdam, Netherlands.

5) Mrs. Jonson, a doctor.

And of course the presenter of our TV-Debates, a young correspondent Miss Natalia Hyzhevskaya. And last but not least, I just want you to recollect the rules for leading the discussion.

Rules for leading discussion

1. Listen to your partner not interrupting him (her).
2. Respect the opinions of other people, even you don't agree with them.
3. Try to express your ideas confidently and distinctly.
4. Use only trustworthy information from the reliable sources.
5. Behave yourself calm, never raise your voice to prove your opinion.
6. If you are not right, be ready to admit your mistakes.
7. Make conclusion for yourself after each discussion.

That seems to be all. Now it's time to start our discussion and I'd rather take my seat in the hall among the viewers.

Presenter: Good evening and welcome to our Car Culture Studio.

CD «intro»

Today we are going to discuss a problem of traffic and environment. First, I'd like to mention that our audience is presented by people of all ages and social groups.

To begin with, let's clear up one question. How many of you, you parents, close relatives have got a car? Please, raise your hands. OK, thanks. I see the problem under consideration is really very urgent.

Now we are going to take a vote (a kind of referendum). My assistant will give you questionnaires with the only question.

What are your preferences in getting around the town?

☐ public transport

☐ private transport

The results of our voting are ... to ... in favour of a car. But at the end of our debates we'll repeat the voting once more.

CD «The Road»

There is no doubt we live in a stressful world. How often do we get struck in traffic jams? How often do we arrive at work or school stressed out, tired and angry? For many people, especially in big cities, the answer is every day. What's your point of view?

Lady: Just look at them! Cars parked everywhere. And crossing the road is really very dangerous. People drive so far. I was going across the road the other day and suddenly this big lorry came along and nearly hit me. And the pollution, it's really terrible these days.

Man: I know I use my car so much, but public transport is terrible, where I live. We live out of town, you know, and the car is of vital need for me.

Boy: People say, I'm mad, 'cos I always ride to school. I love it, and actually it's much quicker than the bus or even a car, because the traffic is so bad these days.

Presenter: Exactly. The number of cars has increased enormously in recent years. Do we know that only in Kyiv we have 1 mln cars? In Rome 1 thousand inhabitants posses 700 cars. I suppose I'd better give the floor to out guest inspector Petrenko.

Police inspector: Thanks. First I want you to have a look at these terrible pictures of car

accidents. Aren't they horrifying?

CD «car accidents»

Just think every day 7 persons die and more than 30 are wounded on our Ukrainian motorways. We lose near 30 000 people annual including both the pedestrians and drivers with passengers. And this occurs in the country where there is no war or any other natural disasters.

Presenter: That's really awful. But what are the reasons of this situation?

Police inspector: First of all – thoughtlessness, I'm pretty sure that most of the drivers and motorists are careless of danger. Sometimes they just ignore the traffic rules.

Man: There is something in what you say, but I have a point to disagree. As for the traffic rules most of my friends, owners of the cars, have no idea of them.

Police inspector: What do you mean?

Man: I won't let the cat out of the bag when I say that driving licenses are often sold as well as the cars. At least, most of my friends have never attended driving training courses, but they drive their cars.

Police inspector: I'm afraid you're making a mountain out of the mole hill. It's rather an exception of the rule than a usual state of things. Besides the new penal sanctions do much good.

Presenter: Thanks a lot. But I see our discussion is tending to be very hot. That's why just one funny thing to cheer you up. Can you imagine the situation when a person feels lucky being suffered in a terrible car accident? Have a look at this.

CD «Has he stopped screaming yet?»

Now, let's give a floor to our guest Mrs. Flower from Green Peace organization.

Ecologist: Dear friends! Do you know that :

- traffic is one of the major causes of global warming and climate change?
- in London cars produce 99% of all carbon monoxide in the atmosphere?
- traffic produces ozone which can reach dangerous levels in the summer?

Doctor : Excuse my interrupting you but let me continue this horrible list :

- 25000 deaths per year are caused by air pollution
- one in seven children suffers from asthma
- some types of cancer are related to traffic pollution.

Presenter: It's really awful. Traffic has destructive effect on people. Is there a way out? I see Mr. Niemand from Amsterdam has got some suggestions. Welcome.

Mr. Niemand: Well, on the face of it my suggestions will seem strange and unusual. But the dwellers of Amsterdam have already coped with the problem of traffic.

Presenter: Really? I'm curious to know your recipe.

Mr. Niemand: It's bike. I understand your surprise and even disappointment, but it's really so.

CD «bikes (photo)»

Everything began in the 1960s, when some students painted hundreds of bicycles white and placed them around Amsterdam for people to use. They hoped to save energy, reduce pollution and provide free public transport. And now there is already less traffic in central Amsterdam, because both locals and tourist have been using the white bikes.

I'd like to add that the Netherlands has the highest proportion of bicycle in the world- 14 mln bicycles between 15 mln people!

Viewers: I completely agree with you. The advantages of bicycles over cars are obvious. I've read somewhere that to cut down a air pollution, employees of some U.S. companies are being encouraged to leave their cars at home. One company in California gives employees a dollar a day if they walk or bike to work. In Seattle, Washington – a 12 mile path is being used every day by 800 bikes on their way to work. The Seattle bike trail goes from the centre of the city out to the suburbs. It's paved and even has traffic signals, signs and speed limits.

Viewers 2: That's impressive. But why does nobody mention that bikes are not so fast and comfortable as cars?

Mr. Niemand: As for the velocity of bikes it's a point to argue. I've got some proofs to show.

CD «I'd buy a proper bike»

Presenter: It's rather convincing.

Nobody doubts that cycling is good for our health. But not this extreme riding as we have just seen. Besides, personally, I can't imagine my granny going cycling for long distances. There must be another way out to solve our traffic problem.

Car

designer: Absolutely right. What we have to do is to create entirely new type of cars. Nobody will argue that traffic pollution seems to be getting worse in our ever-expanding cities, and may only end when we have used up our petrol resources and found an alternative, cheaper form of power. One of them is making a solar car.

I want people to realize the potential of solar energy. A lot of people think solar cars are slow, but they have reached speeds of nearly 80 k.p.h.. And even in cloudy weather they work properly.

Presenter: Sorry to interrupt you, but we are the commercial channel. We need to have some break for adverts. So, stay with us, we we'll back in two minutes.

CD «car adverts»

Presenter: Here we are again in our studio. So, everybody admits the problems caused by traffic. But what shall we all do to improve the situation? How should we change our life style?

Viewer 1: Use your leg ...

Viewer 2: Use public transport ...

Viewer 3: Think before you go ...

Share cars ...

Viewer 4: Don't believe adverts ...

Viewer 5: Take action ...

Presenter: Thanks a lot. Our audience is very active and not indifferent to the problems discussed. But though we live in a small provincial town, we've got the same problems as large industrial cities. I hope the local councils will take into consideration our advice and improve the shortcomings in our traffic system.

So, let's examine the transport situation in Rivne and give your possible solutions to the problem.

Viewer 1: I think, the main problem is Soborna Street, which goes right through the centre of the town. There have been several serious accidents recently. Besides, air pollution from traffic is increasing and old buildings in the town are getting dirty and damaged. There is a terrible traffic jam every morning in the central crossing and there is nowhere to park downtown.

Viewer 2: There is no any special tracks for cycling.

Viewer 3: On the one hand the public transport is far from excellent, but on the other hand the bus and trolley-bus fares are quite cheap. We don't have up-to-date bus-stops for passengers to protect them from rain and nasty weather. And they are not lighted enough, you know what I mean?

Presenter: I see your point. But all things considered what do you suggest?

Viewer 1: Why don't they build the bypass? It would get the traffic out of the town.

Viewer 2: Personally, I think they should improve the bus service. It's not very good at the moment. More people would use the buses if they came regularly and there would be less traffic.

Viewer 3: That's a good idea. The buses are terrible at the moment. What about building a car park in the centre and improve the bus service into the town centre?

Viewer 4: I suppose we need a bicycle track somewhere in the centre or at least by the side of the river.

Viewer 5: Why don't they make the centre of Rivne a pedestrian area and build a tunnel under the main square?

Viewer 6: The Department of Transport should put more traffic lights and zebra crossing in our streets, especially near schools, kinder-gartens and that sort of things.

Presenter: Thanks a lot for your proposals. I hope our local council will do it's best to help with traffic problems.

Our talk-show is coming to an end. And we'll have one more voting and see if you've changed your point of view as for the public transport or cars.

(The presenter gives out the questionnaires)

The results now are ... to ... in favour of public transport. I'm glad our discussion helped you to make right conclusions.

I really appreciate your coming here and discussing such urgent problem of our society.

Teacher: Well done, guys. Everybody was active and displayed good knowledge on the topic discussed. I'm sure all of you deserve only excellent marks for your activity.