

Course: Advance

Level 2

Day №03



**How do you go to
work everyday?**

*Do you experience getting
caught in traffic jams in
Russia?*



Traffic Jam

Situation :

In many big cities traffic jams create big problems. Listen to the solutions that some cities have found.

In big cities all over the world—Seoul, Taipei, Tokyo, Shanghai, New York, Paris, São Paulo—there is a flood of cars, trucks, buses on the streets. This has caused terrible traffic jams that pollute the air.

But in Singapore there are no traffic jams and its air is free from pollution. In downtown London, traffic circulates more freely than in the past, and in Amsterdam you'll find streets full of bicycles, not cars.

This happy situation is no accident. It is the result of government programs to fight air pollution and traffic jams. Put simply, governments are making it expensive and inconvenient to own a car.

For example, in Singapore, because of taxes and cost of permits, residents might pay over US\$250,000 to own a car. And drivers must pay to enter downtown on weekdays. In London, those who drive into the center of the city must pay a per-day fee of up to US\$47. In Amsterdam,

owning a car is inconvenient. There are few parking places and the maximum speed limit is only 50 kilometers per hour. Bicycles and trams are more convenient, so many city residents don't even own cars.

What do you think of these systems? They may work, but some people might feel they are not fair. Cars have become so common in our lives that people, rich and poor, feel they have a right to use them.

There might be other problems. Does the public transportation system work well? In some big cities—Los Angeles, for example—the answer is certainly “no.” Because the system is so limited, only about 10% of Los Angelenos commute by public transportation. It's easier and faster to drive a car.

Certainly, something must be done to fight pollution and traffic in the world's large cities. What's the solution where you live?



••Check Your Understanding••

Are the sentences true or false? Circle T or F.

1. Every big city in the world has problems with traffic jams. T/F
2. Traffic problems in Singapore are controlled by making cars expensive. T/F
3. There are fewer cars in downtown London than there used to be. T/F
4. The Los Angeles public transportation system sets a good example for other large cities. T/F
5. Cities everywhere can use the same system for controlling traffic. T/F

Recognize the following:

1. Main Idea
2. Body/ Key Points
3. Conclusion



***Let's check if there are words or phrases
you want to clear out***

Traffic

Traffic jam

Pollute the air

inconvenient

Common

Transportation system

resident



***Is traffic
terrible in
your city?***



Adverbs of Degree- tell us about the intensity or degree of an action, an adjective or another adverb.

Common adverbs of degree:

Almost, nearly, quite, just, too, enough, hardly, scarcely, completely, very, extremely

Adverbs of degree are usually placed:

before the adjective or adverb they are modifying:

e.g. It was **extremely difficult** to move.

The queue was **very long**.

before the main verb:

e.g. Cars could **hardly** move.

The road was **completely blocked**.

What do you think?

☐ **Ken:** Every city should do what these cities have done. It can't be that difficult.



☐ **Yeon-Suk:** There are other ways to solve the problem. Let's get rid of gasoline cars and use electric cars!



☐ **Susan:** These things are impossible in my city! People love their cars too much.



☐ **Luis:** We should do these things, but only step by step. People don't like change.



This is what they think about the problem with traffic.

What about you?

Try using the chart on the right to express what you think.

opinion NETWORK			
I	completely	agree with	Susan.
	somewhat		Luis.
Whose	opinion	do you	agree with?
	idea		think is right?
I	am not sure.	I think they all	make a good point.
	don't know.		have good ideas.

Is this really the solution to heavy traffic?



What programs have the Russian government put into place to address the problem with the congestion of roads?

What advantages/disadvantages do the solutions suggested in the book have?

In what circumstances are they applicable?

***Thank you for
today!***

***I'm looking forward to
seeing you again!***