

7 | Business travel

Starting point

- 1 How do you usually travel to work? Why do you choose this way?
- 2 How often do you travel for work? What do you like and dislike about it?

Video comprehension

- 3** VIDEO Watch the video and answer the questions with your opinions. The people are *Alex, Bryony, Dagmar, Kelly, Sonya* and *Vee*.

- 1 Who gives the best reason for using their transport to go to work?
- 2 Which person do you think has the best job in terms of travel?
- 3 Did they give similar likes and dislikes as you (in exercise 2) about travelling?
- 4 Who had the most disastrous trip? Why?

- 4** VIDEO Watch the video again and decide which person does each thing. The people are: *Alex (A), Bryony (B), Dagmar (D), Kelly (K), Sonya (S), Vee (V)*.

Which person...

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 usually cycles to work? | 7 likes experiencing new things? |
| 2 takes the bus in bad weather? | 8 doesn't enjoy waiting in airports for a long time? |
| 3 always travels to events they are training at? | 9 worries about forgetting their passport? |
| 4 takes 10 to 15 trips per year? | 10 was delayed by a volcano? |
| 5 doesn't like queuing? | 11 spent three extra days in Spain? |
| 6 finds travelling tiring? | 12 had problems with their passport? |

» For more exercises on this video, go to the DVD-ROM.

Speaking

- 5 Prepare to talk about the best and worst trips you have taken (either for work or holiday). Think of one good trip and one bad trip. Make some notes: *What made the trip good or bad? The airport? The weather? A problem with your passport?* Look back at exercises 3 and 4 for some ideas. You should prepare to talk for about one minute for each trip.
- 6 When everyone is ready, stand up and walk around the room. Tell your classmates about your best and worst trips. Try to talk to as many people as possible.
- 7 When you have spoken to everyone, sit down and decide as a group, which of you had the best and worst trips.

Glossary

Queuing (v): waiting in a line of people, cars, etc. for something or to do something.

Erupt (adj): when a volcano throws out burning rocks, smoke and lava.

Cyclone (n): a violent tropical storm in which strong winds move in a circle.

Video script

How do you travel to work?

Dagmar: By car, I'm afraid. I should probably say by tram, but I use the car. It's about a 10 minute drive from home, because I work late and I don't like to be using the tram or the bus at 9 or 10 o'clock at night.

Alex: Usually I cycle to work, but sometimes, if it's raining, I take the bus.

Bryony: I usually cycle to work, and when the weather's bad, I drive.

How many trips do you take a year?

Alex: I take between 3 and 5 trips abroad for work every year, and maybe one personal trip.

Vee: I take 12 foreign trips per year on average and I always travel to any event that I'm training at.

Sonya: I usually take between 10 and 15 business trips a year, most often that's to New York or Milan but sometimes also London.

What do you like or dislike about travelling?

Alex: I like the excitement of travelling. I like discovering new places. But I don't like queuing.

Bryony: It's nice to visit new places, but I don't like the fact that it's very tiring.

Kelly: I enjoy being in a different place, I enjoy getting to meet people in other countries and experience new things. I don't enjoy waiting in airports for a long time and being away from home for long periods.

Vee: Well, I love the travel that I do, but I would really love to spend less time in airports.

Sonya: Sometimes it can be quite stressful and I'm always worried that I will forget something like my passport for example. I quite enjoy visiting new places and meeting new people, so in general I enjoy it.

Can you describe a disastrous trip?

Alex: About a year ago I was flying out to Iceland when the volcano erupted and I was stuck in the airport for 13 hours. It was horrible.

Bryony: Once I went on a trip to Spain and it was snowing in the UK and my flight was cancelled, so I couldn't come back for another three days.

Kelly: Yes I went to Hong Kong about 10 years ago and I was working out there. I wanted to take a holiday and go to Indonesia, but I realized at the last minute I didn't have enough time on my passport. I needed 6 months. I'd already booked the holiday, I'd already paid the money, I'd already arranged with friends who were going to come with me. And so I had about 48 hours in which to get a new passport, otherwise I was going to lose out on the holiday. It was a bit stressful and in the middle of all this there was also a really bad cyclone and the embassy was shut for a day and I really thought I wasn't going to make it on my holiday, but I did.

Worksheet answer key

- 1 Answers will vary.
- 2 Answers will vary.
- 3 Answers will vary but should reflect the points made in the video.
- 4
 - 1 Alex and Bryony
 - 2 Alex
 - 3 Vee
 - 4 Sonya
 - 5 Alex
 - 6 Bryony
 - 7 Kelly
 - 8 Kelly
 - 9 Sonya
 - 10 Alex
 - 11 Bryony
 - 12 Kelly