

Finding Out: Words in Context

Step 1: Look at the words in bold below. Can you guess what they mean? Write a short definition in English. (Don't use your dictionary yet. You will be able to check their meanings in the next section: Definitions.)

How's he going to **get around** without a car?

Driving is the worst way to **get around** the country because there are very few roads.

What do you think 'get around' means? _____

I had to walk home from the pub because I didn't have enough for the taxi **fare**.

You can get a discount **fare** for most flights if you show your student card.

What do you think 'fare' means? _____

He was always very **punctual**, so we knew something was wrong when he was ten minutes late to the meeting.

You need to try to be a little more **punctual**. I expect to see you at your desk at 8:30, not 8:45.

What do you think 'punctual' means? _____

The city centre has become more **congested** because more families now own cars.

The roads around the event were **congested** with thousands of cars.

What do you think 'congested' means? _____

The journey back to the centre of the town was hot and **uncomfortable**.

You look **uncomfortable** in that chair. Would you like to sit here instead?

What do you think 'uncomfortable' means? _____

The flight was **delayed** by bad weather.

If delivery is **delayed**, we will tell you immediately.

What do you think 'delayed' means? _____

His store is very popular. It is always **crowded** with customers.

He walked through the **crowded** street market.

What do you think 'crowded' means? _____

The longest **traffic jam** in the country's history occurred in 1990, when 15,000 cars were lined up for about 135 kilometres.

We were stuck in a **traffic jam** for two hours.

What do you think 'traffic jam' means? _____

This is a better and more **reliable** car than my last one. It never breaks down.

The trains are so **reliable**. They always arrive on time.

What do you think 'reliable' means? _____

The bridge carries both cars and **pedestrians**.

The risk to **pedestrians** has been reduced due to the fall in the number of cars.

What do you think 'pedestrians' means? _____

In order to reduce air pollution, the centre of the town has been made a **traffic-free zone**.

Traffic-free-zones should be set up around schools to force children to walk to lessons.

What do you think 'traffic-free zone' means? _____

The public **transport** in my hometown is excellent. There is no need to own a car.

Bikes are the main form of **transport** in the countryside.

What do you think 'transport' means? _____

The train network is heavily **subsidised** by the government.

Bus passes for students are **subsidised** by the university.

What do you think 'subsidised' means? _____

City bosses are making plans to run **cycle lanes** along six main roads.

If a **cycle lane** has a broken dotted line, cars are allowed to enter the lane.

What do you think 'cycle lane' means? _____

Younger drivers have a higher **accident** risk than older drivers.

Car **accidents** are the leading cause of death among young people in this country.

What do you think 'accident' means? _____



Finding Out: Definitions

Step 1: Match the words with their definitions. (If you can't understand the definitions, you can use a bilingual dictionary.)

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|----------------------|---|
| 1 get around | 1 to make someone or something late or slow them down |
| 2 fare | 2 arriving or happening on time (not late). |
| 3 punctual | 3 a line of vehicles (cars, trucks etc.) waiting behind something that is blocking the road |
| 4 congested | 4 to go or travel to different places |
| 5 uncomfortable | 5 a method of travelling or moving things from one place to another |
| 6 delayed | 6 a crash involving a car, train, plane, or other vehicle |
| 7 crowded | 7 having an unpleasant or slightly painful feeling in part of your body |
| 8 traffic jam | 8 a part of a road marked by painted lines and used by bicycles |
| 9 reliable | 9 the money that you pay for a journey |
| 10 pedestrian | 10 to pay some of the cost of goods or services so that they can be sold to other people at a lower price |
| 11 traffic-free zone | 11 with so many vehicles (cars, trucks etc.) or people that it is difficult to move around |
| 12 transport | 12 an area of a town or city where vehicles are not allowed |
| 13 subsidised | 13 containing a lot of people, especially too many |
| 14 cycle lanes | 14 a vehicle, piece of equipment, or system that always works well |
| 15 accident | 15 someone who is walking, especially in a town or city, instead of driving or riding |

Definitions taken from www.macmillandictionary.com

Answers: 1-4, 2-9, 3-2, 4-11, 5-7, 6-1, 7-13, 8-3, 9-14, 10-15, 11-12, 12-5, 13-10, 14-8, 15-6