Module:

Transportation

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Lesson:

Transit in the U.S.

OBJECTIVES
In this lesson you will:

- Learn about different transit options
- Understand how to pay for public transit
- Learn how to walk safely in the city

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NEW WORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Meanings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>transit</td>
<td>cars, buses and trains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public transit</td>
<td>cars, buses and trains for everyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro Vanpool</td>
<td>shared rides for people who go to the same place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADA Paratransit</td>
<td>transit for people with disabilities or other transit needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Via to Transit</td>
<td>shared rides to the light rail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Night Owl Bus</td>
<td>a bus late at night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORCA Card</td>
<td>a card to pay for transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORCA Lift</td>
<td>a cheaper card to pay for transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit Go</td>
<td>an app to pay for transit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transfer</td>
<td>once you pay for transit, you can ride free for two hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>taxi / cab</td>
<td>a ride from a driver in a licensed car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rideshare</td>
<td>a ride from a driver in a private car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bike share</td>
<td>a bike you can rent by the hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short-term car rental</td>
<td>a car you can rent by the hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IN YOUR COUNTRY

Talk in a group:

▷ How do people get around in your country?
▷ How do people get from home to work or shopping?
▷ If they take transit, how do they pay?
▷ How do you get around now?
TRANSPORTATION

TRANSIT

Transit means transportation, or a way to travel. Public transit is for everyone. It is usually run by local governments or organizations. Private transit is owned by one person or company. In U.S. cities there are many transit options. Options might be different for each city.

ACTIVITY: Transit Vocabulary Match

Match the pictures to the words:

Images: kingcounty.gov, seattle.gov, cdc.gov
OTHER PUBLIC TRANSIT OPTIONS

In the Puget Sound area, there are transit options besides the typical trains and buses.

ADA Paratransit

ADA Paratransit is transit for people with disabilities or special transit needs. People who can’t use regular transit can ask for ADA Paratransit service.

Via to Transit

Via to Transit is a van that goes from neighborhoods to certain Light Rail stations. A driver picks up passengers from their homes or bus stops and drives them to the station.

Night Owl Buses

Most buses don’t run at night. However, there are some buses that run from 1:00 am to 5:00 am for people who work late.

Metro Vanpool

Vanpool is a shared ride for people who regularly go to the same place. You can join a Vanpool or you can start your own.

Images: kingcounty.gov
PAYING FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT

There are many options for paying for public transit.

ORCA Card

- The easiest way to pay for transit is with an ORCA Card.
- You can put money on your card and pay for any type of transit.
  - You can buy and refill an ORCA Card online, at a vending machine or in-person.
  - Use your card by tapping it on a card reader. Wait until you hear a “beep” sound.

ORCA Lift

- ORCA Lift is a cheaper ORCA card. It can cost about 50% less than a regular ORCA card.
- ORCA Lift is a good option for people who have lower incomes.
- Visit an enrollment office to apply for ORCA Lift.

Cash

- On city buses you can pay with cash.
- Put the cash in the machine by the driver.
- You must have the exact amount.

Tickets

- On some transit, such as light rail, trains, streetcar and ferries, you must buy a ticket before you can ride.
- Buy a ticket from the ticket vending machine.
Transit GO

- Transit GO is an app for your phone. You can use it to buy tickets
- If asked, show the app and digital ticket to the driver or fare enforcement officer.

Transfers

- When you pay for a transit ride, you will get a transfer.
- The transfer means you don’t have to pay for transit again for the next two hours.
- If you pay with cash, you will get a paper transfer from the driver.
- If you use an ORCA card or Transit GO, the transfer is automatic.
- You can only use the transfer to ride transit on the same transit system.
PRIVATE TRANSIT

Many people in the US choose to not own a car. In addition to public transit, there are also private transportation options you can pay for.

**Taxi**

If you need a ride in a car, you can pay for a taxi, also called a cab. A driver will pick you up in a licensed car. You can use an app, call a taxi company phone number, or wave to a taxi driver when they drive by.

**Rideshare**

Rideshare is similar to a taxi, but drivers use their private vehicles. Get a ride using an app on your phone. Lyft and Uber are examples of rideshare.

**Bike Share**

Many cities have a bike share program. There are bikes on the street to rent. Pick up a bike, ride it to where you need to go, then leave it there for the next person. Use an app on your phone to rent a bike. To be safe, bring a bike helmet.

**Short-Term Car Rentals**

There are many cars throughout the city that you can rent cheaply for only an hour or two. Use an app on your phone to rent the cars.
WALKING
Many people in U.S. cities like to walk. It’s important to be safe. Walking in the U.S. might be different than walking in your country.

ACTIVITY: What’s Wrong?
Look at the picture below. What’s the problem? Talk with a group:
Safety While Walking

In the US, cars drive fast, and they may not see you if you’re walking. It’s important to follow safety rules:

1. Always cross at a crosswalk if you can.

2. If there is a light, push the button and wait for the walk signal.

3. Before you cross, look both ways for traffic.

4. If you’re at a busy street and there are cars stopped, make eye contact with drivers before you cross.

Image: dc.gov
Other Walking Safety Rules:

- Put your cell phone away.
- Wear bright clothing, especially at night.
- Children should hold hands with adults.

Image: nhsta.gov

WRAP-UP

Answer the questions. Share with your class or teacher.

- What is one new thing you learned?
- How will you use transit differently in the future?
RESOURCES
Below are some websites for more information:

• Other King County transit options: https://kingcounty.gov/depts/transportation/metro/travel-options.aspx

Lesson:

Navigating Transit

OBJECTIVES

In this lesson you will:

• Learn how to read a transit schedule
• Learn about public transit apps and resources
• Understand what to do if you get lost

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<td>public transit</td>
<td>cars, buses and trains for everyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>schedule</td>
<td>times the bus or train is coming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>navigate</td>
<td>find your way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google Maps</td>
<td>an app to look for directions and different transit options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leave</td>
<td>go from a place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arrive</td>
<td>come to a place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>route</td>
<td>streets the driver uses every day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rideshare</td>
<td>a ride from a driver in a private car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Bus Away</td>
<td>an app to see real-time transit schedules and routes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IN YOUR COUNTRY

Talk in a group:

▷ In your country, how do people find their way to a new place?
▷ What happens if someone gets lost?
▷ Did you ever get lost in the U.S? What happened?
HABIBA GETS LOST

Habiba is from Somalia. She moved to the U.S. after living in South Africa for 6 years. In South Africa, Habiba walked everywhere. Now, she lives in a bigger city. Because she doesn’t drive, she has to take the bus.

One day, Habiba had a doctor appointment. The doctor said she can take the bus from her home to the doctor’s office. Habiba gets on the bus. She rides for 10 minutes but she doesn’t know where to get off. She keeps riding. She rides for 20 more minutes. Habiba looks outside. She doesn’t know where she is. Habiba is lost.

Questions

▷ How do you think Habiba felt?
▷ What should Habiba do?
▷ Have you ever been lost? What happened?
ACTIVITY: Which Transit?

Look at the pictures below. Which transit do you use? Talk with your class. How many people in your class use each kind of transit?

bike  bus  car  light rail / train  ferry  walk

NAVIGATING TRANSIT

Finding your way on transit can be hard. At a bus stop or station there are signs to help you figure out which bus or train to take:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signs</th>
<th>Maps</th>
<th>Transit security officers and drivers can help and answer questions.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>show which buses stop at that bus stop.</td>
<td>show where the buses or trains go.</td>
<td>can help and answer questions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Images: kingcounty.gov, cdc.gov and seattle.gov
ACTIVITY: Reading a Bus Schedule

Bus schedules are available at bus stops, on buses, and online. Read the bus schedule below. Work with your classmates. Answer the questions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pacific Hwy S &amp; Kent Des Moines Rd* Stop #60800</th>
<th>SeaTac Int’l Airport Int’l Blvd &amp; S 176th St* Stop #60900</th>
<th>Tukwila Int’l Blvd Station Bay 1 Tukwila Int’l Blvd &amp; S 154th St* Stop #60921</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:21 AM</td>
<td>11:33 AM</td>
<td>11:41 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:36 AM</td>
<td>11:49 AM</td>
<td>11:57 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:52 AM</td>
<td>12:05 PM</td>
<td>12:13 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:07 PM</td>
<td>12:20 PM</td>
<td>12:28 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What time is the first stop at Pacific Hwy S & Kent Des Moines Rd?

What time is the last stop at Tukwila Int’l Blvd Station Bay 1?

If the bus leaves SeaTac Int’l Airport at 12:05, what time will it get to Tukwila Int’l Blvd Station Bay 1?
TRANSPORTATION

TRANSIT APPS
If you have a mobile phone, there are many apps to help you plan your trip.

Google Maps
Google Maps can help you plan your trip for any type of transit.

See a map
Type to look for places or addresses.
The blue dot is you.
Use the arrow to find yourself on the map.
Click to find directions.
Google will recommend routes. You can see how long it will take and what time you should leave.

Choose when you want to leave or arrive.

Choose your transit:
- car
- public transit
- walk
- rideshare
- bike

Find directions from one place to another.
ACTIVITY: Google Maps Practice

Use your phone. Practice in class or at home.

1. Download the Google Maps app for your phone.

2. Type in your address and find your home on the map.

3. Look for directions from your home to your school.

4. Answer the Questions:
   - How will you travel? (Circle)
   - How long will it take you? ________________
   - What time should you leave? ________________
One Bus Away

One Bus Away can show you when buses and trains are coming.

Click to get a real-time bus schedule.

Click on a stop see which buses stop there.

Use the arrow to find yourself on the map.

The blue dot is you.
ACTIVITY: Reading a One Bus Away Schedule

Look at the schedule above. Answer the questions:

- Which bus is coming next? ________________
- Which bus already left? ________________
- What time is the next 43 bus coming? ________________

The schedule shows when buses or trains are coming to that stop.
GETTING LOST

Sometimes it can be hard to find your way. If you ever get on the wrong bus or train, don’t worry! There are a few things you can do:

• Before you get on the bus, write down the name, address, and phone number of the place you’re going. That way, if you get lost you can ask for help.
• Ask the driver or transit security officer for help.
• Ask another rider for help.
• Check your transit apps.

HABIBA FINDS HER WAY

Although she didn’t speak much English, Habiba decided to ask the bus driver for help. Luckily, she had written down the name and address of the doctor’s office on a piece of paper. She gave the note to the bus driver. The bus driver was very friendly. He knew where the doctor’s office was. He told Habiba when to get off the bus.

Habiba got to the doctor’s office. She was late, but the doctor was very happy to see her. The doctor opened a map on Habiba’s phone. She showed Habiba how to get home. Habiba felt happy.
WRAP-UP

Think about the questions below. Talk with a group or your teacher.

- How do you feel about navigating transit in the US?
- Which apps will you use?
- Do you think you will get lost again? Why or why not?
Lesson:

Driving

OBJECTIVES

In this lesson you will:

• Learn how to apply for a driver’s license
• Learn about main traffic laws
• Learn what to do at a car accident
• Learn what to consider when you buy a used car

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### NEW WORDS

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<th>Words</th>
<th>Meanings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>driver’s permit</td>
<td>document that allows you to drive before you get a driver’s license</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fee</td>
<td>payment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>valid</td>
<td>legal/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>renew</td>
<td>get a new one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>training</td>
<td>class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pass a test</td>
<td>do a good job on a test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fail a test</td>
<td>do a poor job on a test; you must take it again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temporary license</td>
<td>license which is good for a short time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>permanent license</td>
<td>license which is good for a long time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yield</td>
<td>give way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>merge</td>
<td>join</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pedestrian</td>
<td>person walking on the road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>put your car in gear</td>
<td>start the engine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IN YOUR COUNTRY

**ACTIVITY: Driving in Your Country**

Talk about your experience and discuss with your classmates:

- Did you drive in your country? Why or why not?
- If yes, were you a good driver?
- When did you get your license?
- Do people drive well in your country?
GETTING YOUR DRIVER’S LICENSE (WHEN YOU ARE 18 AND OVER)

1. Visit a Driver’s License office and apply for an instruction permit.
2. Bring your ID, proof of state residence and know your social security number. Pass a vision test, have your photo taken and pay the fee.
3. Pass the knowledge test at a training and testing location. You can study for it by yourself or take a training at a driver’s license school.
4. Get an instruction permit. Your permit is valid for one year. You can renew, but you must pay a renewal fee. You can renew your permit up to 2 more times.
5. Practice driving. With a permit you can practice driving with a licensed driver with more than 5 years of experience or you can take a training. The licensed driver must sit in the right-front passenger seat.
6. Schedule a driving test.
7. Pass a driving test. If you fail the test, you will have to wait for a certain period before you can take it again.
8. Visit a driver licensing office. Apply for a license and pay the fee. First, you will get a temporary license. The permanent license will be mailed to you within 7-10 days.

Driving schools can help you prepare for the knowledge test and help you learn to drive. You might even find a teacher who speaks your language.
TRAFFIC SIGNS AND TRAFFIC LAWS

Many accidents occur, when drivers don’t see or follow traffic signs and traffic laws.

ACTIVITY: Vocabulary Practice

Match the vocabulary to the pictures

- stop sign
- yield sign
- no parking any time
- one way
- school zone
- merge
- construction
- do not enter
- disabled parking
- pedestrian crossing
- speed limit
Traffic Rules

Read the rules and write G if they are good or B if they are bad.

___ Don’t drive if you don’t have a car insurance.
___ Do not drive if you don’t have a license.
___ Check if the tires have enough pressure before you drive.
___ Adjust your seat, mirrors and lights before putting the car in gear.
___ Keep your eyes off the road at all times.
___ Talk on the phone while driving.
___ Don’t eat, drink or smoke while driving.
___ Be aware of what other drivers around you are doing.
___ Drive over the speed limit.
___ Keep a 2-second distance between you and the car in front of you.
___ Don’t wear your seat belt if it’s uncomfortable.
___ Reduce speed in work zones.
___ Drink and drive.
___ Turn on the headlights when it’s raining or at nighttime.
___ Drive when you’re tired.
___ Be careful when changing lanes.
___ Follow other cars too closely (tailgate)
___ Make sure children less than five years old are in a child safety seat in the back seat.
___ Give right of way to pedestrians and emergency vehicles, such as police cars, ambulances and fire trucks.
___ Use turning signals properly.
WHAT TO DO AFTER AN ACCIDENT

1. Stay at the scene.
2. Call 911.
3. If you are on a highway, stay in the car and wait for the police or an ambulance.
4. Turn off the engine and turn on the hazard lights.
5. Stay calm. Exchange contact and insurance information with the other driver.
6. Contact your insurance provider.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARE PULLED OVER

1. When you see a police car following you with the lights flashing, pull over to the side of the road safely and quickly.
2. Wait inside your car for the officer to come.
3. Keep your hands on the steering wheel where the officer can see them.
4. Stay calm.
5. Provide necessary documentation (your license, proof of insurance or car registration) if the officer asks for it.
6. Be polite. Do not try to give the officer money.
7. If you get a ticket, you can present your story in traffic court if you feel you were treated unfairly.
DRINKING AND DRIVING

Driving after you drink too much alcohol is a serious crime. It is called Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or Driving While Intoxicated (DWI). It can lead to a very dangerous and harmful situation. Drinking and driving is illegal and can be strictly punished. You can get arrested and spend time in jail. You can lose your license temporarily and pay a big fine. You can injure or kill other people.

BUYING A CAR

Buying a Used Car

When you get a good job and think you are ready to buy a car, you will have several options. You can buy a used or new car. If you decide to buy a new car, there are a few things to consider. First, don’t rush to buy a car. Take your time to go to a few car dealerships that you or your friends trust. Know how much money you can spend and what car you need. When you buy a car it’s important to think about gas mileage, safety, special features and maintenance cost. Ask the dealer to see the car’s history of accident and repairs report. Don’t immediately accept the sticker price. You can always bargain with a salesperson for a lower price. Before signing a contract, take the car for a drive test to check all the features (headlights, turning signals, windshield wipers, gas and breaks pedals). You might also want to take the car to a qualified mechanic for an inspection to make sure it doesn’t have any serious problem.
Buying a New Car

When you buy a new car, it comes with a warranty. A warranty helps to keep repair and maintenance costs low. You must have good credit because you will need a bank loan. You will make monthly payments on your car. For a first car, a new car is sometimes too expensive.

After you buy a car, you must get insurance on the car. The cost of the insurance will depend on your age, driving history and neighborhood.

WRAP-UP

Talk to your classmates. Is it better to own your car or use public transportation? Why do you think so? Write three reasons.

RESOURCES

For more information visit the Washington state department of Licensing website at www.dol.wa.gov. There you can find the entire Washington Driver Guidebook and learn about the DMV’s services.