

Worksheet A

Introduction

Speaking

1. Look at the following forms of transport.

Car	Bus	Train	Underground	Tram
Bicycle	Helicopter	Plane	Motorbike	Ferry boat

Which of these forms of transport...

- ...do you often use?
- ...do you like using?
- ...have you never used?
- ...would like to use?
- ...do you think is the safest?
- ...can you find in your town or city?

2. Think about you local area, town or city

- What forms of transport do people generally use?
- Is it easy to get around your local area?
- What is the cheapest way to travel around?
- Are there any transport problems in your local area?

3. London is a massive city with a huge population and it needs a good and efficient transport system. It has many buses and a large underground system called the tube. Unfortunately, at the moment there are many problems with the transport system. You are going to read or hear a news report about a new form of transport for London. This is the headline...

TRAM NETWORK TO CARRY 50 MILLION

Which of the following words do you think you will or hear?

Conductor	Noisy	Airport
Solution	Election	Passengers
Famous	Traffic	Criminal
Residents	Destroyed	Journey

Read and check.

Worksheet B

Reading / listening

1. Are the following statements true or false?
 - a. Cars in London move fairly quickly
 - b. The tram network will cover all areas of London
 - c. The majority of the public think the plan is a good idea
 - d. People in central London disagree with the plan
 - e. The people who disagree think there will be more cars on their local roads
 - f. The Mayor of London thinks the plan is a good idea
 - g. The people who disagree think the trams will be dangerous
 - h. The tube trains have space for more passengers
 - i. The buses find it hard to carry all the passengers
 - j. Tram schemes generally reduce traffic

2. Write answers to these questions
 - a. What are the reasons for starting this new tram network?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

 - b. What are the reasons against starting this new tram network?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.

3. Do you think it is a good idea?

Speaking and writing

How would you improve the transport system in your local area? Would you like new forms of transport? How could you improve the system you already have?

Discuss your ideas with a partner, and then write a letter to your local Mayor or government leader to suggest the changes you have discussed.

Worksheet C

Vocabulary

Match the words on the left with their definitions or synonyms on the right.

Congestion	Plan
Network	Agreeing with / liking
Suburbs	A large interconnected system
Scheme	Heavy traffic
Approving of	Area where people live outside a city centre
Diverted	To support something
Petition	To carry out / put into practise
To implement something	Change in direction
To back something	A written request signed by many people

Text

Tram network to carry 50 million

As London's **congestion** problems worsen – traffic in central London now moves at 3 kilometres per hour – a new tram **network** in West London is being seen as a potential solution.

Upon its completion in 2009, the 200 million pound West London Tram **Scheme** will carry 50 million passengers a year, running from the **suburbs** to the edges of central London. The scheme will deliver major environmental and social benefits, with 75 per cent of the public who took part in public consultation **approving of** the plan.

However, there is resistance. Local residents in the western suburban districts say that nearly 30 000 vehicles will have to be **diverted** from the tram route onto what are currently quiet residential roads. More than 11000 residents have signed a **petition** demanding an urgent meeting with the mayor of London, who is **backing** the tram **network**. They feel their quiet roads will become dangerous, noisy and polluted.

The Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone, feels there is no other option than **to implement** this scheme, as the traffic is so heavy now, the tube trains are filled to capacity and the buses are struggling to cope with the number of passengers. He said that other tram **schemes** had cut road journeys by 20 per cent and improved the local quality of life