

Task 3 – Reading into Writing: Means of Transport

At a glance

Level: ISE I

Focus: Task 3 – Reading into writing

Aims: To gain familiarity with the examination format and to practise writing based on a variety of texts.

Objectives: To read and understand basic information about different forms of transport and learn where they are used. This task aims to develop vocabulary and knowledge related to the ISE I specifications using tasks that are similar to Task 3 – Reading into writing in the ISE I Reading & Writing exam

Skill: Skimming and scanning to understand the uses of different means of transport, to read for specific details, to answer questions in context and to summarise texts

Topic: Means of transport and economic importance

Language functions: Reading for gist and understanding different modes of transport, their economic importance, specific details and summarising texts in 100-150 words

Lexis: Different modes of transport, uses, adjectives and adverbs

Materials needed: One student worksheet and dictionaries

Timing: 90 minutes

Procedure

Before class preparation

1. Insert images as indicated in Text A, B and C on the student worksheet.
2. Prepare **vocabulary lists** for reference of:
 - **Different means of transport (look up and print pictures):** Articulated lorry / lorries, high-speed railway, courier service, network of railways, trains, cargo planes, passenger planes, fleet of planes, no-frills airline, luxury airline
 - **Goods:** raw materials, diesel, petrol, coal, iron-ore, wood, textiles, fertilisers, finished goods

- **Adjectives and adverbs:** huge, high-speed, super-efficient, rural, mountainous, heavy, effective, efficient, essential, cheap, luxurious, evident, tremendously, extremely

In class

1. Tell the class about the aims of today's lesson which are to understand some different types of transport and their economic importance. Emphasise that this topic is one of the ISE I Reading & Writing exam topics. Tell students that they will be practising a reading into writing task under controlled conditions which will prepare them for Task 3 – Reading into writing of the ISE I Reading & Writing exam. Inform the students that in the exam they have to read to gain basic knowledge of a text and then summarise it. **Emphasise that summary writing is essential in this part of the examination.**
2. In open class, show the students pictures of the different types of transport (prepared before class). Ask students if they know what they are called and where they are used.
3. In open class, introduce the vocabulary (prepared before class) in stages about different types of transport, goods and adjectives and adverbs.
 - For the vocabulary on different means of transport, tell students to work in pairs to put modes of transport from smallest to largest.
 - For the adjectives, tell students to find the **opposite** meaning of the adjectives in English.
 - Tell students to copy the **adverbs** and find the meaning in their own language in pairs.
4. Give out one copy of the worksheet to each student. Explain how to answer the questions in Task 1. Allow 10-15 minutes to complete Task 1 and ask students for answers which should be written on the board (see answer key). Review the answers.
5. Tell students to complete Tasks 1, 2 and 3 in 20 minutes. Check that students have understood what they need to do. Time the activity. Review the answers in open class.
6. Before writing a summary it is important the students become familiar with what summary writing is and what to include in a summary. Go through Task 4 with the students.
7. Now the students have gained some knowledge on how to write summaries, ask the students to complete Task 5. Give the students eight minutes. After eight minutes, go through the answers in open-class and write up the correct answers on the board.

8. Tell the students that it is time for them to write their own summary. Direct their attention to Task 6. Allow students 20 minutes to complete the task using their own words and dictionary as support at this point.
9. Collect for marking.
10. In the next class, you can ask the students to compare what they have written with the model summary. They can comment on how it is better and the type of information that has been included.

Extension activity

Tell advanced students to prepare a short presentation (about 150 words) about a form of transport, its history and why it developed and where it is used.

Further support activity

Tell students to write a short paragraph (50 words) about a form of transport, using a dictionary and grammar book to help them. If necessary, provide a writing frame and key vocabulary to support writing skills.

After class

Design a poster or leaflet about one form of transport. Explain the history, the areas where it is used and why it is so important for the economy and people.

Student Worksheet

Task 3 – Reading into Writing:
Means of Transport

Read the three texts about different means of transport and their economic importance. Then answer the questions which follow.

Text 1 The Donkey (*insert image of donkey*)

In today's modern world of articulated lorries, high-speed railways and super-efficient courier services, it is easy to forget that many rural communities and villages across the world would disappear if there were no donkeys.

Much of the world is dependent on donkeys moving food from farms to small towns. Donkeys generally work very hard in rural and mountainous areas where there aren't any modern transport facilities. They carry huge amounts of food from the villages to the towns and bring fertilisers and other supplies back to the village. If a lorry runs out of diesel or petrol, it cannot be used, but the donkey just needs grass, water and rest and is ready to work again for long hours.

Text 2 The Railways (*insert image of railway*)

Many countries have an effective network of railways to help transport different types of goods, mostly unperishable goods.

The earliest recorded system was in Ancient Greece in 600BC. Since then, rail-links were built to connect short distances. In the 19th century, this changed dramatically. Many countries developed their own network with private links between different towns with Germany and Britain leading the way. These links provided the capacity to carry heavy goods such as coal, iron ore and wood. Building a railway was tremendously hard work for labourers. Railways are extremely expensive to construct but essential for transporting raw materials and finished goods such as textiles quickly and cheaply. In the early 19th century, the first passengers travelled on the railways with horse-drawn carriages. From 1840 -1850, Britain was completely connected by railways and used steam engines to pull carriages.

Text 3 Air Travel (*insert image of airplane*)

Air-travel is the most modern form of public transport and it was developed in the 20th century. Millions of people use airplanes for a variety of reasons. It is also extremely expensive to set up air-travel facilities. Some travel for business, others go on holiday by air and others use cargo planes to move their products from country to country very quickly. Some courier companies now have their own fleet of planes ready to carry parcels and post more efficiently. There are different types of passenger services – some are cheap and provide a 'no-frills' service which is good for short journeys. Other airlines provide passengers with a luxurious flying experience.

Airports are getting busier and it is evident that more passengers and businesses than ever are using airplanes to get to their destinations.

Task 1 - Comprehension

Read the statements below and then decide if they are True (T) or False (F) based on the information given in Texts 1, 2 and 3.

Statement	Answer	Mark (1 each)
0. Donkeys are not needed in today's economy	F	1
1. The Ancient Greeks had a railway system in 800BC.		
2. The very early railways connected a lot of cities.		
3. British passengers first travelled on trains in the 1820s.		
4. 'No-frills' airlines are popular because they are costly.		
5. Some courier services use their own convoys of planes.		

Task 2 – Vocabulary Development

Match the phrases from Texts 1, 2 and 3 in Column A to the nearest meaning in Column B

Column A		Column B
0. Articulated lorries		a) Safe roads and rail-tracks
1. Courier services		b) Collection of aircrafts
2. Modern transport facilities		c) Simple, no extras
3. Unperishable goods		d) Hard labour
4. Tremendously hard work	0-e	e) Very big trucks
5. Fleet of planes		f) Non-consumable items
6. No-frills		g) Parcel delivery service

Task 3 – Comprehension

Join the first half of the sentence in Column A to the correct ending in Column B

	Column A		Column B
1	Many remote communities need mules		A to transport non-food goods.
2	British railway networks developed		B but are needed by industry and governments for quick transport.
3	Many countries have an effective network of railways		C because they can deliver a more efficient service.
4	Railways are extremely expensive to construct		D because more passengers and businesses are using air transport.
5	Some courier companies now have their own fleet of planes	1	E to transport food, raw materials and essentials.
6	Airports are getting busier		F extremely quickly during the mid-19 th century.

Task 4 – Important information on summary writing

Discuss the following questions with a partner.

- **Why do we write summaries?**
- **Why should we plan a summary?**
- **How do I plan?**

We are now going to focus on Text 1 to see how we can prepare it for a summary.

Here are some important things to remember:

- Underline the main points / words and ideas.
- Try to find synonyms to replace some words to avoid repetition. Use your dictionary to help you.
 - Eg. *in rural and mountainous areas*= *remote areas*
 - *just needs grass, water and rest*= *easy to look after*
- You do not need examples and detailed information.
- Follow a basic plan.
- Write in proper sentences. You can correct your work and change them into shorter sentences using synonyms.
- Check word count – you must keep to the guidelines.

Below you will see that the key words and phrases have been underlined.

The Donkey

In today's modern world of articulated lorries, high-speed railways and super-efficient courier services, it is easy to forget that many rural communities and villages across the world would disappear if there were no donkeys.

Much of the world is dependent on donkeys moving food from farms to small towns. Donkeys generally work very hard in rural and mountainous areas where there aren't any modern transport facilities. They carry huge amounts of food from the villages to the towns and bring fertilisers and other supplies back to the village. If a lorry runs out of diesel or petrol, it cannot be used, but the donkey just needs grass, water and rest and is ready to work again for long hours.

Task 5 - Summary notes

Now complete the notes below with a suitable word or phrase from the texts. You can use up to 3 words.

Means of Transport – Summary notes

Many communities would disappear (1) if there were no donkeys.

Donkeys are a _____ (2) which can travel in the countryside and mountain regions.

They take goods to sell and bring back _____ (3) to the villages.

Railways are _____ (4) for carrying _____ (5) materials and finished _____ (6).

They are used to carry _____ (7) items.

They are _____ (8) expensive to construct.

Airplanes are used for a _____ (9) of reasons.

Many courier companies have their own _____ (10) of planes to transport letters and parcels more quickly.

Task 6 – Writing a summary

In your own words (100-130 words), write a summary of the three texts about **Means of Transport**. Use full sentences and correct grammar.

Before you begin, here are some ideas of what to include (you need to put these into your own words):

Plan:

Title:

Summary on Means of Transport

Introduction:

1. Different types of transport
2. ***Different*** regional needs and reasons (try to find synonyms)

Body:

1. Donkeys – rural /mountainous areas
 - Advantages – keep working; easy to look after
2. Railways – started in Ancient Greece 600BC
 - First covered short distances – privately built – carried heavy raw materials and finished goods
 - Expensive but essential for economy
 - Early 19th century – carried first passengers in horse-drawn carriages
 - 1840s – Britain completely connected by railways using steam engines.
3. Airplanes – most modern form of transport – developed in 20th century
 - Many different uses – passenger / courier
 - Varying prices and types of service.

Conclusion:

Different types of transport – variety of purposes and all important to the economy.

Some are extremely expensive but still needed in today's world.

Answer Key

Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 5
1-F	1-G	1-E	1. disappear
2-F	2-A	2-F	2. Means of transport
3-T	3-F	3-A	3. Supplies
4-F	4-D	4-B	4. Essential
5-T	5-B	5-C	5. Raw
	6-C	6-D	6. Goods
			7. Unperishable
			8. Extremely
			9. Variety
			10. fleet

Task 4

- It helps us get basic knowledge of a topic.
- It is very important to plan because it helps us to select the key points and organise our work so it is easy to remember.
- Read the texts and highlight/underline the key points in each paragraph. Look at this example.

Key points:

Introduction:

1. Different types of transport
2. Economic importance
3. Where and when used

Donkeys

1. Rural , mountainous
2. Food – towns
3. Supplies back to village

Railways

1. Railways – ancient history
2. Links between towns
3. Very expensive – hard labour

Air-travel

1. Airplanes- most modern
2. Passenger
3. Cargo
4. Increasing use of air-travel

Conclusion:

1. All types of transport essential for economy

Model Answer (Task 6)

Means of Transport

There are different types of transport for various reasons in diverse regions such as donkeys, trains and planes in countries with developed economies.

Donkeys are needed in remote areas as they are easy to look after and keep working. Private railways started in Ancient Greece in 600BC. They covered short distances and carried heavy raw materials and finished goods. In the early 19th century, passengers first travelled in horse-drawn carriages. By the 1850s, steam engines used the railways which connected the major cities in Britain. Airplanes were developed in the 20th century and carry passengers, cargo and provide courier services with varying levels of service and prices.

There are different means of transport which are important to the economy. Some are costly but are needed in today's world.

(128 words)