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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 25/04/13

## New sleeper coach service from London to Scotland

Planning a visit to Scotland this summer? If you are and you're a budget traveller you might want to consider taking a new sleeper coach service that is going to be introduced this summer by coach company Megabus.

You'll be able to travel from London to Edinburgh or Glasgow (or in the opposite direction) in under eight hours. The new budget coach service will offer passengers cut price tickets that will include a bunk bed and a sleeper kit.

Passengers will discover the sleeper kit includes a toothbrush, toothpaste, and eye mask. They'll be able to choose a blanket or a complementary onesie to snuggle up in during their overnight journey. Complementary refreshments will also be served.

The new £5m fleet of ten specially-designed vehicles was launched in mid-April by Megabus owners Stagecoach. The double-decker coaches will provide 53 luxury leather seats that convert into 42 beds. The service will provide more than 1,700 overnight beds every week.

The new budget buses will link eleven Scottish cities including Perth, Inverness, and Aberdeen. Prices will range from £15 to £60.

Stagecoach Group Chief Executive Sir Brian Souter said, "You can go to sleep in one city and wake up in another ready to start the day without having to pay extra for an expensive hotel room."

Whilst the 'sleeping coach' idea is nothing new, the coaches that are manufactured by Van Hool in Belgium will offer passengers a new concept of coach design and travel.

### SPEAKING

Think of three things you know about 'sleeper coach services'. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

#### Student A questions

- 1) Name the countries.
- 2) What will you get in the sleeper kit?
- 3) How many beds are on the new coach?
- 4) How much is a ticket?
- 5) What is a onesie?

#### Student B questions

- 1) Name the coach company.
- 2) Name the Chief Executive.
- 3) Name three Scottish cities.
- 4) Where are the coaches manufactured?
- 5) What did the Chief Executive say?

**Category: Travel / Transport / Coach Journey's**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

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### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**Sleeper coach services**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

**New sleeper coach service from London to Scotland** - *In pairs* choose three things from the article.

Write them below.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Add** three similar ideas of your own about the subject. Discuss together.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

Imagine you are the Stagecoach Chief Executive. Write a short paragraph on why you think the new idea of a 'sleeper service' on your coaches will be a success. Create five bullet points to help you then discuss it with your partner.

**The teacher** will choose some students to read out their work to the class.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Have you ever travelled overnight on a coach? Explain!
- 3) What was your worst journey on a coach? Explain.
- 4) Do you like travelling by coach?
- 5) Is it easier to take the train?
- 6) What do you think of the new coach service in the article?
- 7) Will you be using the new service?
- 8) Is £15 cheap to travel from Scotland to London?
- 9) How do coach journeys compare with rail or air journeys in your country?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's lesson?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Radio London* studio. Today's interview is: 'New sleeper coach service from London to Scotland'.

- 1) A budget traveller
- 2) A business traveller
- 3) A coach driver
- 4) A tourist

**The teacher** will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

*In pairs.* You are in a pub in London. Start a conversation about: 'An overnight coach journey you did on a coach'. 5 mins.

### SPEAKING - GAME

*Groups – 20 things you might see on a coach. 5 mins.*

**The teacher** will choose some groups to hear their findings in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

*Allow 10 minutes – As a class.*

Discuss the following...

New concepts of travel

**The teacher** can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Will you be travelling to Scotland this year?
- 3) Do you have coach services like those in the article in your country?
- 4) Do you think this type of sleeper coach service might expand around Europe like Ryanair?
- 5) Do you wear a onesie?
- 6) Do you wear an eye mask anywhere?
- 7) Will the new coach service be popular?
- 8) Do you have cheap coach travel in your country?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

New sleeper coach service from London to Scotland – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013

**GAP FILL: READING**

**New sleeper coach service from London to Scotland**

Planning a visit to Scotland this summer? If you are and you're a (1)\_\_\_ traveller you might want to consider taking a new sleeper coach service that is going to be introduced this summer by coach company Megabus.

You'll be able to (2)\_\_\_ from London to Edinburgh or Glasgow (or in the opposite direction) in under eight hours. The new budget coach service will offer passengers cut price tickets that will include a (3)\_\_\_ and a sleeper kit.

Passengers will discover the sleeper (4)\_\_\_ includes a toothbrush, (5)\_\_\_, and (6)\_\_\_. They'll be able to choose a blanket or a complementary onesie to snuggle up in during their (7)\_\_\_ journey. (8)\_\_\_ refreshments will also be served.

***toothpaste / complementary / budget / eye mask / kit / travel / overnight / bunk bed***

The new £5m (1)\_\_\_ of ten specially-designed (2)\_\_\_ was launched in mid-April by Megabus owners Stagecoach. The (3)\_\_\_ coaches will provide 53 luxury leather seats that convert into 42 beds. The service will provide more than 1,700 (4)\_\_\_ beds every week.

The new budget buses will (5)\_\_\_ eleven Scottish cities including Perth, Inverness, and Aberdeen. Prices will range from £15 to £60.

Stagecoach Group Chief Executive Sir Brian Souter said, "You can go to sleep in one city and wake up in another ready to start the day without having to pay extra for an (6)\_\_\_ hotel room."

Whilst the 'sleeping coach' idea is nothing new, the coaches that are manufactured by Van Hool in Belgium will offer passengers a new (7)\_\_\_ of coach (8)\_\_\_ and travel.

***concept / expensive / link / double-decker / overnight / fleet / design / vehicles***

**GAP FILL: GRAMMAR**

**New sleeper coach service from London to Scotland**

Planning a visit to Scotland this summer? (1)\_\_\_ you are and you're a budget traveller you (2)\_\_\_ want to consider taking a new sleeper coach service (3)\_\_\_ is going to be introduced this summer by coach company Megabus.

You'll be able to travel from London to Edinburgh (4)\_\_\_ Glasgow (or (5)\_\_\_ the opposite direction) in under eight hours. The new budget coach service will offer passengers cut price tickets that will include a bunk bed and a sleeper kit.

Passengers will discover the sleeper kit includes a toothbrush, toothpaste, and eye mask. They'll be able to choose a blanket or (6)\_\_\_ complementary onesie to snuggle up in during (7)\_\_\_ overnight journey. Complementary refreshments will (8)\_\_\_ be served.

***their / that / might / also / or / a / if / in***

The new £5m fleet of ten specially-designed vehicles was launched in mid-April (1)\_\_\_ Megabus owners Stagecoach. The double-decker coaches will provide 53 luxury leather seats that convert (2)\_\_\_ 42 beds. The service will provide more than 1,700 overnight beds every week.

The new budget buses will link eleven Scottish cities including Perth, Inverness, and Aberdeen. Prices will range from £15 to £60.

Stagecoach Group Chief Executive Sir Brian Souter said, "(3)\_\_\_ can go to sleep in one city (4)\_\_\_ wake up in another ready to start (5)\_\_\_ day without having to pay extra (6)\_\_\_ an expensive hotel room."

(7)\_\_\_ the 'sleeping coach' idea is nothing new, the coaches that are manufactured by Van Hool in Belgium will offer passengers a new concept (8)\_\_\_ coach design and travel.

***whilst / into / for / you / and / the / by / of /***

New sleeper coach service from London to Scotland – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013

**GAP FILL: LISTENING**

**New sleeper coach service from London to Scotland**

Planning \_\_\_\_\_ this summer? If you are and you're a budget traveller you might want to consider taking a new \_\_\_\_\_ that is going to be introduced this summer by coach company Megabus.

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The new £5m fleet of ten specially-designed vehicles was launched in mid-April by Megabus owners Stagecoach. The \_\_\_\_\_ will provide 53 luxury leather seats that convert into 42 beds. The service will provide more than 1,700 overnight beds every week.

\_\_\_\_\_ will link eleven Scottish cities including Perth, Inverness, and Aberdeen. Prices will range from £15 to £60.

Stagecoach Group Chief Executive Sir Brian Souter said, "\_\_\_\_\_ in one city and wake up in another ready to start the day without having to pay extra for an \_\_\_\_\_."

Whilst the 'sleeping coach' idea is nothing new, the coaches that are manufactured by Van Hool in Belgium will offer passengers a new concept of \_\_\_\_\_.

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**WRITING/SPELLING**

**WRITING / SPEAKING**

**1) On the board** - In pairs/small groups – list **five ways to travel overnight from one big city to another in your country.**

Talk about each of them. Which is better? Why? Which is faster? Etc...5 mins.

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) The sleeper kit \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) The new coach \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Budget travellers \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **An overnight journey on a coach.** Your email can be read out in class.

**GAP FILL READING**

- 1) budget
- 2) travel
- 3) bunk bed
- 4) kit
- 5) toothpaste
- 6) eye mask
- 7) overnight
- 8) complementary

**ANSWERS**

- 1) fleet
- 2) vehicles
- 3) double-decker
- 4) overnight
- 5) link
- 6) expensive
- 7) concept
- 8) design

**SPELLING**

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) passengers
- 2) Scotland
- 3) fleet
- 4) budget
- 5) traveller
- 6) Edinburgh
- 7) discover
- 8) coach
- 9) kit
- 10) bunk bed

**SPELLING**

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**  
**Good = 15**  
**Very good = 18**  
**Excellent = 20**

- 11) toothbrush
- 12) toothpaste
- 13) blanket
- 14) complementary
- 15) refreshments
- 16) vehicles
- 17) double-decker
- 18) service
- 19) concept
- 20) eleven

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