

End of the road for the Philippine Jeepney?

Today, let's talk about the Philippine Jeepney. What is that you ask? It's an open mini bus-jeep that is derived from the American Jeep. Jeepneys can carry about 18 people, who sit shoulder to shoulder in it. There are glassless windows for ventilation in the hot Asian climate.

Jeepneys are the most popular form of transport in the gridlocked streets of Metro Manila. In fact, you will find them all over the Philippines. Each vehicle represents the multi-cultural history of the country. Every one of them is different. They are colourful, distinct and bright! There is a touch of Spanish, Mexican, American and Japanese in each of them.

Jeepneys first hit the road in the Philippines in the 1950s. They were refashioned military vehicles left behind by the US soldiers after World War II. Some entrepreneurial Filipinos took some US Jeeps and modified them, adding features to make them roadworthy, thus creating a new form of mass transport that quickly became popular, as it was a cheap way to get around!

The Jeepney is now suffering a decline in its popularity. They are more expensive to operate and repair than other vehicles, as they don't have standardised parts that are readily available. Jeepneys also emit a lot of carbon dioxide from their diesel engines.

Some operators in Manila have introduced smaller air-conditioned vehicles that are more profitable, which some passengers now prefer. Today there are around 50,000 Jeepneys roaring around Manila. By 2015, the city is hoping to replace 2,000 of them with electric Jeepneys. Eventually, it hopes to have 10,000 of them.

SPEAKING – WARM UP

What is a Jeepney? Where will you find them? Why? 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) How many passengers can travel on a Jeepney?
- 2) There is a touch of what?
- 3) When did Jeepneys first hit the road?
- 4) What is suffering a decline?
- 5) What have some operators introduced?

Student B questions

- 1) In which country will you find Jeepneys?
- 2) Where is the Philippines?
- 3) What will happen in 2015?
- 4) How many Jeepneys are there in Manila today?
- 5) Describe a Jeepney!

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WRITING / SPEAKING

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

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Think of three things you will see in a Jeepney. Add three things you will see on its outside.

Write them below. Talk about them!

- 1) _____ (1) _____
- 2) _____ (2) _____
- 3) _____ (3) _____

Add three positive things about Jeepneys. Then add three negative things. Discuss together.

- 1) _____ (1) _____
- 2) _____ (2) _____
- 3) _____ (3) _____

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

SPEAKING – QUICK DEBATE

In pairs – Student A thinks Jeepneys are cool and should keep going! Student B thinks air-conditioned minibuses are a better way to travel around Manila.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Have you ever seen a Jeepney before?
- 3) Would you like to travel on a Jeepney?
- 4) Will electric Jeepneys catch on?
- 5) Why are Jeepneys popular in the Philippines?
- 6) How do you get about your city?
- 7) Do they have air-conditioned mini buses in your city?
- 8) What colour are the taxis in your city?
- 9) Have you enjoyed this lesson?
- 10) Has this been a difficult lesson in English for you to understand?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Manila FM* radio studio. Today's interview is: *End of the road for the Philippine Jeepney?*

- 1) A Jeepney driver.
- 2) A minibus operator in Manila.
- 3) A tourist.
- 4) The Minister of Transport.

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

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. You are in an internet café in Manila. Start a conversation about the Philippine Jeepney. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 3

In pairs. You are in a pub in your town/city. Compare the Philippine Jeepney with your local transport services. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...

End of the road for the Philippine Jeepney?

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What colour are Jeepneys?
- 3) Are Jeepneys environmentally friendly?
- 4) What is the most popular form of mass transit in your country?
- 5) Would you like to own a Jeepney?
- 6) Why are Jeepneys falling into decline?
- 7) Does the air conditioning work on your local public transport system?
- 8) Does your city suffer from gridlock?
- 9) Is carbon dioxide from public transport a problem in your country?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

End of the road for the Philippine Jeepney?

Today, let's talk about the Philippine (1)__. What is that you ask? It's an open mini bus-jeep that is derived from the American (2)__. Jeepneys can carry about 18 people, who sit shoulder to shoulder in it. There are (3)__ windows for (4)__ in the hot Asian climate.

Jeepneys are the most popular form of transport in the (5)__ streets of Metro Manila. In fact, you will find them all over the (6)__. Each (7)__ represents the multi-cultural history of the country. Every one of them is different. They are colourful, distinct and bright! There is a touch of Spanish, Mexican, American and Japanese in each of them.

Jeepneys first hit the road in the Philippines in the 1950s. They were refashioned military vehicles left behind by the US (8)__ after World War II.

Philippines / Jeepney / ventilation / soldiers / gridlocked / vehicle / Jeep / glassless

Some (1)__ Filipinos took some US Jeeps and modified them, adding features to make them (2)__, thus creating a new form of mass transport that quickly became popular, as it was a cheap way to get around!

The Jeepney is now suffering a decline in its popularity. They are more expensive to operate and repair than other vehicles, as they don't have standardised parts that are readily available. Jeepneys also (3)__ a lot of carbon dioxide from their diesel engines.

Some (4)__ in Manila have introduced smaller (5)__ vehicles that are more (6)__, which some (7)__ now prefer. Today there are around 50,000 Jeepneys roaring around Manila. By 2015, the (8)__ is hoping to replace 2,000 of them with electric Jeepneys. Eventually, it hopes to have 10,000 of them.

operators / air-conditioned / profitable / roadworthy / emit / passengers / city / entrepreneurial

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

End of the road for the Philippine Jeepney?

Today, let's talk (1)__ the Philippine Jeepney. (2)__ is (3)__ you ask? It's an open mini bus-jeep that is derived from the American Jeep. Jeepneys can carry about 18 people, who sit shoulder to shoulder in it. There are glassless windows for ventilation in the hot Asian climate.

Jeepneys are the (4)__ popular form of transport in the gridlocked streets of Metro Manila. In fact, you will find them all over the Philippines. (5)__ vehicle represents the multi-cultural history of the country. Every one of them is different. They are colourful, distinct and bright! (6)__ is a touch of Spanish, Mexican, American and Japanese in each of (7)__.

Jeepneys first hit the road in the Philippines in the 1950s. They were refashioned military vehicles left behind by the US soldiers (8)__ World War II.

after / most / that / there / what / each / about / them

Some entrepreneurial Filipinos took some US Jeeps and modified them, adding features to make them roadworthy, thus creating (1)__ new form of mass transport that quickly became popular, as (2)__ was a cheap way to get around!

The Jeepney is now suffering a decline (3)__ (4)__ popularity. They are more expensive to operate and repair than other vehicles, (5)__ they don't have standardised parts that are readily available. Jeepneys also emit a lot of carbon dioxide from their diesel engines.

Some operators in Manila have introduced smaller air-conditioned vehicles that are more profitable, which some passengers now prefer. Today there are around 50,000 Jeepneys roaring around Manila. (6)__ 2015, (7)__ city is hoping to replace 2,000 of them with electric Jeepneys. Eventually, it hopes to have 10,000 (8)__ them.

of / by / as / in / a / the / it / its

GAP FILL: LISTENING

End of the road for the Philippine Jeepney?

Today, let's talk about the _____. What is that you ask? It's an open mini bus-jeep that is derived from _____. Jeepneys can carry about 18 people, who sit shoulder to shoulder in it. There are glassless windows for ventilation in the hot Asian climate.

Jeepneys are the most popular form of transport in the _____ of Metro Manila. In fact, you will find them all over the Philippines. Each vehicle represents the _____ of the country. Every one of them is different. They are colourful, distinct and bright! There is a touch of Spanish, Mexican, American and Japanese in each of them.

Jeepneys first hit the road in the Philippines in the 1950s. They were _____ left behind by the US soldiers after World War II.

Some _____ took some US Jeeps and modified them, adding features to make them roadworthy, thus creating a new form of mass transport that quickly became popular, as it was a cheap way to get around!

_____ suffering a decline in its popularity. They are more expensive to operate and repair than other vehicles, as they don't have standardised parts that are readily available. Jeepneys also emit a lot of _____ their diesel engines.

Some operators in Manila have introduced smaller _____ vehicles that are more profitable, which some passengers now prefer. Today there are around 50,000 Jeepneys roaring around Manila. By 2015, the city is hoping to replace 2,000 of them with _____ electric Jeepneys. Eventually, _____ 10,000 of them.

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING / DRAWING

1) On the board - *In pairs* - on the board draw a Jeepney. Label it! *One-two minutes*. Using your labelled words compile a short dialogue together.

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

- 1) Filipinos _____
- 2) Some operators _____
- 3) Jeepneys _____

3) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Philippine Jeepneys** Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL READING

- 1) Jeepney
- 2) Jeep
- 3) glassless
- 4) ventilation
- 5) gridlocked
- 6) Philippines
- 7) vehicle
- 8) soldiers

SPELLING

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

- 1) Philippines
- 2) Jeepney
- 3) shoulder
- 4) glassless
- 5) climate
- 6) transport
- 7) gridlocked
- 8) vehicle
- 9) multi-cultural
- 10) eventually

ANSWERS

- 1) entrepreneurial
- 2) roadworthy
- 3) emit
- 4) operators
- 5) air-conditioned
- 6) profitable
- 7) passengers
- 8) city

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) colourful
- 12) different
- 13) distinct
- 14) refashioned
- 15) military
- 16) soldiers
- 17) entrepreneurial
- 18) Filipinos
- 19) Roadworthy
- 20) available

End of the road for the Philippine Jeepney? – *5th August 2013*