

## Unit 9 Taking a Taxi



Today Naomi wants to take one of the world famous London cabs. Licensed cab drivers in London have an intimate knowledge of the geography of London streets. She hails a cruising taxi in the street. When a sign saying 'TAXI' is illuminated, it means the vehicle is available for hire.

### Key Words

**intimate**

*detailed*

**illuminated**

*lit up by lights*

**vehicle**

*a machine with an engine used for transporting people, such as a car, bus, or truck*

**available**

*able to be used*

### Listening for information (1)

- Listen to the dialogue between Naomi and a taxi driver and try to understand it without looking at the words in your book.
- Now you can look at the Key Words while the teacher explains them.

**Naomi :** Taxi! Taxi!

**Taxi-driver:** Where to, madam?

**N:** Covent Garden, please.

**D:** OK.

**N:** I have to go to the Royal Opera House. The performance starts at 7:30. Do you think I'll make it?

**D:** Yes, easily. It's only five past seven. Don't worry. I'm taking a route without much traffic.

**N:** Thank you . . .

**D:** Here you are. The Royal Opera House. And you have ten minutes to spare.

**N:** Oh, good. How much is it?

**D:** It's twenty-two pounds on the meter.

**N:** Here's twenty-five. Keep the change.

### Key Words

**taxi** cab

**madam (UK)** ma'am (US), used to address a woman in a polite way

**performance** an act of presenting a play, concert, or other form of entertainment to a group of people

### © Role-playing

#### Riding the London Underground



### Listening for information (2)

- Listen to the dialogue between Naomi and a front-desk clerk and try to understand it without looking at the words in your book.
- Now you can look at the Key Words while the teacher explains them.

Naomi is at the front desk of the hotel. She wants to learn how to ride the London Underground, usually referred to as the Tube.

**Naomi:** Hello. Could you tell me how to ride the Tube in London?

**Front Desk:** Certainly. First, find a large, wall-mounted Tube map as soon as you get to the Tube station. Pick up a paper map from the holder next to the wall map, and put it in your pocket. Find the icon on the wall map indicating the station where you are currently and the one for the station where you intend to go.

**N:** Yes. And then?

**FD:** Purchase an off-peak one-day Travelcard for Zone 1 and 2. I recommend an off-peak Travelcard because it is very crowded at peak times, that is 8 to 9:30am and 5 -6:30pm. And it's better to get one for Zone 1 and 2 because all the major city-centre sights are located in Zone 1 or 2. Then, have your Travelcard ready as soon as you reach the ticket barrier and pass it through the slot at the entrance to the barrier, walk through and collect the card at the other side.

**N:** I see.

**FD:** And also try to have some small change on you in case you need to use the bathroom at a Tube station.

**N:** Thank you for your advice.

### Key Words

<b>barrier</b>	<i>gate</i>
<b>slot</b>	<i>a long narrow hole in a surface</i>
<b>change</b>	<i>small coins</i>

**Grammar Spot**  
**Imperatives**  
**An imperative sentence can be used to give directions**

**Vocab Review**

**Match the words with the meanings.**

Front Desk  
 That's about it  
 fix  
 work  
 immediately  
 fix  
 scream  
 absolutely  
 lab  
 reasonable  
 in the vicinity  
 destination  
 sore  
 symptom  
 vomit

*do what is supposed to do*  
*repair*  
*that's all*  
 → *=reception*  
*painful*  
*be sick, bring up food from the stomach*  
*condition of disease apparent to the patient*  
*the place that someone is going to*  
*nearby; not far away*  
*repair*  
*laboratory; special room*  
*used to say that you completely agree*  
*without delay*  
*make a loud high noise with your voice; shriek*  
*not too expensive*

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