

Functional Skills English | Level 2 Reading | Language Features (finding examples)

Look at the text below. This text uses language features to help inform readers about transport developments.

Smart transport is the way forward

Just a few years ago, catching public transport was very different to today. You'd have been anxiously peering down the road, waiting for a bus that never seemed to arrive on time, clutching the exact change for your fare. Today, lots of people can relax and have a more comfortable journey. They know exactly when the bus will arrive, which is essential if they are going to work. They also have the choice to pay by smart card, contactless card or mobile ticket.

This positive change in people's experience of everyday travel was made possible by developing new technologies – in this case, real-time information systems, microchips, wireless scanning and smartphone apps. These were then tested in the real world, with a wide range of pilot projects.

Public transport smart cards were first piloted on buses in the Harrow area of London in 1994. This early trial led to the introduction of the Oyster card in 2003. Since then smart cards have become prevalent across the globe in cities such as Sydney, Stockholm and Paris. They help users to take it easy on their journeys,

as they don't need to worry about finding machines or having the correct change.

According to experts, the UK is about to enjoy a transport revolution. For example, there is currently a big push to develop driverless cars. Driverless cars are connected to the internet and need little or no driver intervention. Research found that driverless vehicles could improve mobility for older people who can no longer drive a car and live in rural areas.

New ways of thinking are also changing how people get around. Mobility as a Service (MaaS) is a smartphone enabled service, which makes using and paying for all travel possible from just one app. MaaS started in Finland and a pilot in the West Midlands began in 2017.

Just like purchasing a phone contract, the app allows you to choose from different monthly plans. You can put credit towards bus and train travel, taxis, bike sharing schemes and even car rental. MaaS could allow people to save on their monthly transport spending and offers an eco-friendly alternative to car use.

(Source adapted from: Smart transport can change people's lives – but austerity is suppressing new transit tech, Emilia Smeds © 2010–2019, The Conversation Trust (UK) Limited)

For each language feature below, give an example from the text.

1. *direct address*

2. *emotive language*

3. *rule of three*

4. *technical language / jargon*

5. *hyperbole*

6. *metaphor*

7. *abbreviation*

8. *modal verbs*

9. *alliteration*