

Maglev

Level

Intermediate

Tasks

Discussing the most important factors for choosing to travel by rail
Choosing the correct alternative to complete three sentences about maglev trains
Reading an article about maglev trains
Identifying words in the article from their definitions
Discussing questions arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Write the word 'maglev' on the board and ask if any students know what it means. Tell students that the lesson is about maglev trains. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to compare their answers to the first question. Ask further questions, such as: what do you think about the rail service in your country? Do you prefer to take the train or drive? etc.
- 2 Ask students to guess the correct alternative in order to complete the statements. Students can scan the article in order to check their answers.

Answers

(a) Britain (b) 2003 (c) \$63 million

- 3 Students read the whole article. Ask them to tell you what they learn about maglev trains. If appropriate, deal with any useful vocabulary such as: *float / ironic*.
- 4 Ask students to find words in the article from their definitions.

Answers

(a) trialling (b) abandoned (c) astronomical
(d) outlay (e) to install (f) infrastructure

- 5 Ask students to discuss the questions in small groups. Ask one student from each group to report back the group's ideas to the class. Encourage discussion. Finish the lesson by providing language feedback.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maglev_train

<http://travel.howstuffworks.com/maglev-train.htm>

http://www.rtri.or.jp/rd/maglev/html/english/maglev_frame_E.html

<http://www.transrapid.de/cgi-tdb/en/basics.prg>