

Thematic Revision: Transport



How would you feel on a train like this?

If I _____ in such a situation, I would probably feel hot and suffocated. As the train is t_____ (Book 1, pg 22, crowded) with people, I would feel very uncomfortable. In fact, I might even feel stressed and _____ if the c_____ (Book 1, pg 21) around me fail to respect my personal space and come a step too close. As I would most likely be on my feet, I might also feel _____.

However, it is also possible that I might feel nothing at all. A crowded train like this is not uncommon, and as a Singaporean, I am a _____ t_____ to (used to) packed trains such as this one. In fact, I might even feel _____ to have squeezed onto the train, as the unlucky ones might have been left standing on the p_____. For me, I would listen to some music on my earphones so as to create an o_____ of peace and sanity for myself in the midst of this crowd.

Would you like to own a personal mobility device (PMD)?

I would not mind having a personal mobility device as I think it has its m_____ (Book 1, pg 86; advantages). First and foremost, a PMD would allow me to travel with more independence because I would literally become my own driver. _____ a hoverboard or an e-scooter, I would no longer be _____ the mercy of bus timetables. Instead, I can simply h_____ onto my device any moment I am ready, saving precious _____. Furthermore, a PMD would also allow me to c _ _ c _ _ v _ _ _ (bypass; find a way around) traffic jams. During the rush hour, congestion on the roads can be quite a _ _ _ _ (serious). _____ a PMD, we would be able to bypass clogged roads by travelling on footpaths instead. This could facilitate s_____ distance travel, such as from our homes to the train station or the neighbourhood park.

Furthermore, I would not mind having a PMD as I can imagine it would be quite fun. PMDs such as e-scooters and hoverboards are relatively easy to o_____, and are increasingly used for r_____ (fun; enjoyment). As they are small, slim and electric powered, they allow people to explore areas quickly and conveniently. For example, rather than explore Singapore's Civic District __ foot, I would be able to travel more easily on a PMD, riding between destinations rather than w_____ to them. Being on an e-scooter would also give me a feeling of being in control. The feeling of wh_____ p____ everyone on a scooter might be fun and e_h_____ (Book 1, Pg 71, thrilling). The other advantage is that PMDs are quite affordable. _____ cars that can only be owned by the a_____ (Book 1, Pg 59; rich) in Singapore, PMDs do not come with an e____ b_____ (Book 3, pg 6; very high) price tag, and can be enjoyed by most families.



Some say that PMD users are annoying. Why might this be so?

This might be because PMD users have not been very considerate. Some of them park their devices h_____ (in a disorganised manner), littering and obstructing footpaths. This makes common spaces u_s_____ (ugly) and dangerous.

Furthermore, some users disregard the safety of p_____ (check spelling!) and have no q_____ exceeding the legal speed limit. This is particularly true of teenagers. Being young and i_p_____ (Book 2, pg 63; easily influenced), youths might find it 'cool' to speed along footpaths, especially when they are with their friends. If their friends challenge them to go even faster, some teenagers might s_____ (Book 1, pg 5) to peer pressure in order to prove that they are brave and fun-loving. Unfortunately, such irresponsible behaviour can j_____ (Book 2, pg 52; risk) the safety of pedestrians, especially children and _____ elderly. In fact, there _____ been a number of accidents that have led to very g_____ (serious) injuries. This explains why many have a p_____ impression _____ PMD users.

To make matters **w**_____, there _____ also been fires caused by PMDs. Some users leave their devices charging overnight, while others use cheap and inferior batteries which could cause the device to **ov**_____.

‘PMDs should be banned.’ Do you agree?

No, I disagree. While some see these devices as a **m** _____ (Book 1, pg 72; *threat*), I believe the problems that PMDs cause can be managed if proper measures are _____ in place. Firstly, the authorities should ensure that riders **c**_____ (Book 2, pg 56) with speed limits. Fines or even jail terms could be meted _____ (Book 3, pg 100) to deter speeding. This would greatly reduce the risks _____ to pedestrians. Secondly, before being allowed on footpaths, riders could be made to attend a **m** _____ (Book 3, pg 96; *compulsory*) course. Here, instructors could **u** **d** _____ (emphasise) the importance of safety, and advise PMD owners on the types of batteries that should be purchased, as well as the need to charge their devices away from combustible materials. With increased **a**_____, the number of accidents would be reduced.

For me, I would not **a** **v** _____ (Book 3, Pg 31; *support*) a ban on PMDs as I feel that these devices could be beneficial to society. Apart from **f**_____ our commutes, PMDs are also environmentally friendly as they run on electricity. Banning them without first exploring their potential would be a pity. Moreover, PMDs could be **i** _____ **p** _____ (Book 3, pg 53; *essential*) to those with mobility issues. For many senior citizens, mobility becomes a challenge when their knees have **d** **t** _____ (Book 3, pg 80). When this happens, motorised wheelchairs or mobility scooters could be their only way of getting around **i**_____. Owning a personal mobility device could be **emp**_____ and life-changing, as it would help reacquaint old people with the freedom and control they may have **l**_____. Hence, I do not think PMDs should be banned.



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Answers

How Would You Feel If...?

were, **teeming**, frustrated/irritated/vexed/exasperated/annoyed,
commuters, tired/fatigued/drained/exhausted

accustomed, lucky/fortunate/grateful/glad/relieved, platform, oasis

Would You Like to Own a PMD?

merits, With, at, hop, time, **circumvent**, **acute**, With, short

operate, recreation, on, walking,
whizzing past, **exhilarating**, Unlike, **affluent**, **exorbitant**

Are PMD Users Annoying?

haphazardly, unsightly

pedestrians, qualms, **impressionable**, **succumb**,
jeopardise, the, have, **grave**, poor, of

worse, have, overheat

A Ban On PMDs?

menace, put, **comply**, out, posed, **mandatory**, **underscore**, awareness

advocate, facilitating, **indispensable**, **deteriorated**, independently, empowering, lost