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# Journey

## Teacher's notes

### Summary

This DVD programme is an illustration of an anecdote and could be used as support to the materials in Unit 8 of the Student's Book, before or after the anecdote on page 73. The programme is a film made by a group of friends during an ill-fated journey from Basingstoke to a party in Oxford.

#### Language focus

**Expressions:** *hitch a lift, hop in, overheated, parallel, pull in, What's going on?*

### Background information

In the programme the four people are going to a fancy dress party. In the UK it's quite common to dress up in costumes for themed parties for a birthday or other celebration. These people have hired their costumes from a shop but people also make their outfits.

When the car breaks down the partygoers have to hitch a lift. Hitching was very popular in the 1970s as a cheap way for young people to get around. However, these days it is considered more dangerous and is rarely done.

When the four arrive in Oxford they have a look at some of its sights. They see the Bridge of Sighs and the Radcliffe Camera. The Radcliffe Camera is one of Oxford's most distinctive landmarks. It was built between 1737 and 1749 with money given to Oxford University by Dr John Radcliffe, the royal physician. It was built to hold a new library and today it is a reading room of Oxford's Bodleian Library. It isn't open to the public, but it does hold 600,000 books in rooms underneath the surrounding Radcliffe Square.

The Bridge of Sighs joins the old and new buildings of Hertford College. It was built in 1914 and is a copy of the bridge in Venice.

### Procedure

#### Before you watch

- 1 Divide the students into pairs and ask them to look at the pictures, put them into a likely order and discuss what they think happens in the programme. Get some of the students to report back to the class some of their suggestions.

#### While you watch

- 2 Tell the students to number the pictures in the order they see them as they watch the programme. Check the answers with the whole class.

Correct order: b e f a c d

- 3 Ask the students to read through the questions in preparation for watching the programme again. Tell students to answer as many questions as possible from memory and then play the programme for them to answer the remaining questions and to check their answers.

a) 3   b) 2   c) 3   d) 1   e) 1   f) 2  
g) 2   h) 1   i) 3

#### After you watch

- 4 Ask the students to match each extract with one of the pictures in Exercise 1. Ask them to work in pairs and discuss what the words and phrases in italics mean. Allow the students to use a dictionary if appropriate.

a) 1 d   2 e   3 c   4 f   5 a   6 b  
b) 1 *What's going on?* = What's happening?  
2 *It's overheated.* = The car's engine is too hot.  
3 ... *parallel with* ... = running in the same direction as  
4 ... *hitch a lift.* = get a ride in a car by standing at the side of the road and asking cars to stop  
5 *hop in* = get in a car quickly  
6 *pull in* = stop at the side of the road

- 5 Put the students into pairs. Student A is one of the people in the programme and Student B is a friend who is asking about the journey. Ask the students to use the pictures in Exercise 1, the answers to the questions in Exercise 3 and the Language toolbox to help them with their conversation. Encourage Student A to be imaginative and inventive.
- 6 Put the students into groups and ask them to choose one of the situations given. Ask the students to tell each other about their situations and then ask groups to report back anything interesting from their discussions.

### **Optional extension**

For homework the students could write an account of their journey or situation as a letter or an email to a friend.

## 8

## Journey

DVD script (09:02)

(N = Narrator; Ha = Hannah; Hi = Hilda; Ni = Nick;  
D1 = Driver 1; D2 = Driver 2; C = Cyclist; M = Man)

N: This is definitely one of those journeys you wish you could forget. It started off really well. There were four of us and we were going to a party at a friend's house in Oxford. Oxford's about 70 kilometres from where we live. Anyway, it was a fancy dress party so we'd hired all these amazing costumes. Nick was a lion, Hannah was a rabbit, Hilda was a bumble bee and I was a fox. You don't see me much on the film because I'm the one who's filming everything. I took my video camera because we thought it would be fun to film the party. However, things didn't go exactly according to plan.

Ha: OK, we're on the way.

Ni: Right, how far are we from the motorway?

Ha: Right, let me have a look and check.

Hi: We're going to Oxford.

Ha: Right, OK.

Ni: So we need the A33, the M40.

Hi: M40, that's right, yeah.

Ha: Where is it? Point it out.

Hi: Wait, yeah.

N: We were all students and unfortunately Nick was the only one with a car. I say unfortunately because his old Mini was always breaking down. And naturally it did.

Ni: I think there's something wrong with the car.

Hi: This map is useless.

Ha: So's this car.

Hi: Oh no.

Ni: It's alright.

Hi: Oh no, this always happens, Nick.

Ha: Just pull in here.

Hi: Yeah, OK. It's overheated.

Ha: Is it hot?

Ni: Yes, it's hot!

Ha: Have you got some water in the back or something? Just fill up the radiator.

Ni: It's on fire!

Ha: Have a look, have a look.

Hi: You know, Nick, this always happens. If you would have just bothered to check the water before we drove off, this wouldn't have happened.

Ni: I can't help it, darling.

Hi: You can't help it ... I've had enough.

N: Hilda was furious and she stormed off in her bumble bee costume, but there was nothing we could do. No buses to Oxford. The only thing we could do was hitch a lift, but four people in fancy dress costumes? It wasn't easy.

Ha: That's obviously not going to go anymore, is it?

Ni: What do you reckon?

Hi: There's no bus around here, is there?

Ha: There's hardly any people around here. Well, um, the only thing we can do is, I don't know, hitch a lift.

N: I remember a couple of cars slowed down and we got really excited but one of them just asked us for directions. We were so disappointed.

Ha: Come on, look there's a car coming, there's a car coming. It's slowing, it's slowing, it's slowing, it's slowing, it's slowing ... I don't believe it. There's another one, another one.

D1: Do you, er, do you know the way to Basingstoke?

N: But just when we were getting really fed up, a nice man stopped, picked us up and we all squeezed in to his little red car.

Ni: Come on Tony, come on.

D2: Hi. What's going on here then?

Hi: Well, we need a lift.

Ni: Yeah, we're trying to go to Oxford.

D2: I love the costumes. Where do you say you're going?

Ni: Oxford.

D2: Oh right, well, you're in luck, that's exactly where I'm going.

Hi: Oh yes!

Ni: Is it alright if we come with you?

D2: Do you want to hop in?

Ha: Brilliant, brilliant.

Hi: Oh great.

N: After a while we stopped for a cup of tea at a motorway café and that was really funny. I mean, how often do you see a lion, a rabbit, a bumble bee and a fox having a cup of tea? But the funniest thing was that most people just ignored us. A couple of children laughed and

pointed but most of the adults just pretended we weren't there. So British!  
Finally we got to Oxford. I suppose it was late afternoon. Unfortunately we had no idea where we were, or how to get to the party, but we eventually found the place on a map.

Ha: Bye-bye, bye. bye-bye.

Ni: Does anyone know where we're going?

Ha: Um, we're going, what was the name of the street? Cowland?

Hi: Cowley.

Ha: Cowley. Cowley Street.

Hi: Have you found it?

Ni: Yeah, it's there. Hooray.

Ha: Right, so how do we get there then? We're here.

N: It was a lovely day, so we decided to walk to the party. Also, apart from Nick, none of us had been to Oxford before and we thought it was a good opportunity to see something of the city. But actually, about an hour later, we realised we were lost. By that time we wanted to get to the party as well, so we stopped and asked a local about buses.

Hi: Excuse me, do you know where Cowley Street is?

C: Are you looking for anywhere in particular in Cowley Road?

Hi: Is it possible to get a bus there maybe, or ...

C: Yes, certainly.

Hi: Do you know which, which bus we should take? And where from?

C: I think to get a bus you go up this little road ...

Hi: Yeah.

C: ... into a road called Queen Street, which is parallel with this one and there are buses to Cowley Road.

Hi: Brilliant, that's so kind of you.

N: Oxford is quite a small place really, but believe it or not, we managed to get lost. Again.

Ni: We're in Oxford and we're lost.

N: But we were quite enjoying ourselves, pretending to be tourists. I was glad I had my video camera with me. I got some really good shots of the beautiful old buildings.

Ni: Lovely, isn't it? Have you seen the gargoyles? Take a picture of them. That one looks like your dad!

Ha: What's that bridge called then?

Ni: It's the Bridge of Sighs.

Ha: Is it?

Ni: That is called the Radcliffe Camera.

Hi: Great, suppose we just wait for a bus then.

N: We were going to get a bus to the party but then we remembered we had our costumes on. And the bus driver looked a bit nervous when he saw us at the bus stop, so finally we just got a taxi.

Hi: Oh, great!

N: Um, what happened next was a bit of a shock.

Hi: It must be here.

Ha: Looks like it's a brilliant party, look at all the mess.

Hi: It's rather quiet though.

Ha: It is a bit quiet.

Ni: Give a knock on the door.

Hi: Knock on the door.

Ha: We'll just have to knock on the door.

Hi: Hello.

Ha: Hiya.

M: What's going on?

Ha: We're here for the party.

M: The party was yesterday, guys.

N: Nick had got the wrong day for the party. We couldn't believe it! We'd got the costumes, hitched a lift, spent hours getting there, and there was no party. Nick must have been the most unpopular man in England that day. And I can honestly say that I would never go on a journey with him again. Not if you gave me a million pounds.

Hi: We are taking a taxi home and guess what ... you're paying for it.

Ni: What do you mean, there's no film in the camera?