

Foot Traffic

Amir and Tu talk about dealing with traffic as a pedestrian.



- 1 **Tu:** Do you travel by car in Iran?

Amir: Well, you know, when I was in Iran it was just like your case. I felt like this is natural. This is how I saw the traffic. This was how it is supposed to work. When you go abroad, and like me right now, I'm living abroad, then I go back to Iran, I cannot drive with the flows again just like

- 2 before. It is very difficult for me. At first, I become very much like foreigners and get mad at every mistake, you know, every illegal moves, you know, other Iranians are doing, so but after awhile I get the hang of it, so then I learn how to really my get work done.

- 3 **Tu:** Well, actually, one more thing is how do people cross the road in Iran?

Amir: Well, actually, the government has built very good infrastructure, so we have this, you know, this

pass-way that you can walk, you know, and cross the streets, but well, it really depends on how much these roads are now implemented, and how people really feel like ...

Tu: Following it.

Amir: Following it. Yeah.

- 4 **Tu:** Well, actually, one thing in Vietnam, one thing typical to Vietnamese traffic is people cross the road anyway they want.

Amir: Yeah.

Tu: We don't go with them. Yeah, what do you call it? The white one? The zebra? Like the crossing line? We don't cross?

Amir: Ah, crosswalk!

Tu: Yeah, yep, that one. We don't cross the road there. We just cross the road whenever we want and wherever we want.

- 5 **Amir:** Oh, I see. So what happens in case of an accident, if the car hits a passerby?

Tu: You know, actually, one of the amazing things is we never got hit by that.

Amir: Never?

Tu: And foreigners look amazed at it. Like, they just can't believe it. They just don't know why? How come people cross the road without ... but actually we just look slowly, slowly, one-by-one, and we even cross in front of a car. It's pretty normal for us. It's easy though if you get used to it.



Summarize

Take notes as you listen or read the interview on the left side of the paper. Then write complete sentences to summarize the story in your own words. The first one is done.

<p>Part 1: cars in Iran? heavy traffic is natural when returning, can't do it</p>	<p><u>When Amir lived in Iran he felt like heavy traffic was a normal part of life and it didn't bother him. However, after he spent time living in a different country, when he returned to Iran it was very hard for him to believe how bad the traffic was.</u></p>
<p>Part 2: he was like a foreigner got mad at illegal moves got the hang of it - learned</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Part 3:</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Part 4:</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Part 5:</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

Start a Conversation: ANSWERS



Match the following questions with the responses.

1. Do you usually travel by car?	___ I have a car but usually I take the subway, because it is faster.
2. Does the way people drive bother you?	___ I would rather walk but I like to get exercise and fresh air.
3. Are there special places for people to cross the street in your hometown?	___ There are so many cars that are brand new.
4. Do a lot of people ride bikes?	___ A lot of motorcycles hit people who are walking. Plus, the air is really bad.
5. Is the public transportation system good?	___ If there are no accidents, then they usually arrive exactly on time.
6. Do buses, trains, and subways arrive on time?	___ We have buses, but no subways and no trains so most people drive.
7. Is it dangerous for pedestrians?	___ Everything is really spread out so it takes a long time to ride a bike.
8. Are there a lot of nice cars?	___ Yes, we have crosswalks but people don't always use them.
9. Which do you prefer, walking or driving?	___ Yeah, I hate it when people honk their horn at me. It drives me nuts.
10. Do you have a car?	___ In this city, you pretty much have to have a car to get anywhere.

Keep the Conversation Going

Keep the conversations going by using the words in **bold** for ideas and then ask a follow up question.

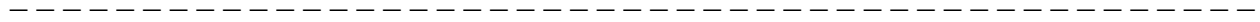


A: Do you like **walking, riding a bike, taking public transportation, or driving**?

B: I have a new **car** so I recently I like driving but I used to **read** on the bus?

A: _____

(Write a question here) _____ ?



A: Is it easy to **get around** if you don't have a **car** in your city?

B: Most places are **too far** to **walk** but the **public transportation** is good and it's **cheap**. How about where you are from?

A: _____

(Write a question here) _____ ?

Start a Conversation: ANSWERS



Match the following questions with the responses.

1. Do you usually travel by car?	10 I have a car but usually I take the subway, because it is faster.
2. Does the way people drive bother you?	9 I would rather walk but I like to get exercise and fresh air.
3. Are there special places for people to cross the street in your hometown?	8 There are so many cars that are brand new.
4. Do a lot of people ride bikes?	7 A lot of motorcycles hit people who are walking. Plus, the air is really bad.
5. Is the public transportation system good?	6 If there are no accidents, then they usually arrive exactly on time.
6. Do buses, trains, and subways arrive on time?	5 We have buses, but no subways and no trains so most people drive.
7. Is it dangerous for pedestrians?	4 Everything is really spread out so it takes a long time to ride a bike.
8. Are there a lot of nice cars?	3 Yes, we have crosswalks but people don't always use them.
9. Which do you prefer, walking or driving?	2 Yeah, I hate it when people honk their horn at me. It drives me nuts.
10. Do you have a car?	1 In this city, you pretty much have to have a car to get anywhere.