

Asking for clarification

- Look at the photos of people going on holiday. Which method of transport do you prefer? Which method of transport is better for the environment? Discuss your answers with a partner.
-  (1.07) Read and listen to the interview. Why are more holidaymakers travelling by train?



- Interviewer** My guest this morning is Victoria Edwards who's going to tell us about trends in the travel business. Victoria, let's start with UK holiday makers, where are they going these days?
- Victoria** Good morning. Well, there's been quite a change over the last five years. Many people are staying in the UK for their holidays and there has been a sharp drop in the number of people taking holidays abroad.
- Interviewer** Why is that exactly?
- Victoria** One thing is that people are becoming more concerned about their carbon footprint, and they're worried about the impact of carbon emissions on the environment. People are making a conscious decision not to take flights to go on holiday.
- Interviewer** Carbon footprint? Could you explain what you mean by that?
- Victoria** Carbon footprint refers to the amount of emissions of CO₂ caused by each individual from the burning of fossil fuels, through energy consumption and transportation. In other words, the more flights you take, the more pollution you cause to the atmosphere.
- Interviewer** Does this mean that people will stop travelling altogether?
- Victoria** I don't think so, but they will think about using different means of transport.
- Interviewer** So you mean more people will go on walking or cycling holidays?
- Victoria** Yes, possibly. Or they may choose to travel by train instead of travelling by plane. The number of people using trains has already increased considerably as services have improved and more high speed routes have been introduced.
- Interviewer** Well, that's good news!

- Read the dialogue again and complete the table with the phrases that the interviewer uses to ask for clarification.

Asking for clarification

- Why is that ¹ _____?
- Could you explain ² _____?
- ³ _____ that people will stop travelling?
- ⁴ _____ more people will go on cycling holidays?

LOOK OUT!

Expressing trends

We can express the extent of a change or a trend by using modifying words, such as:

slight considerable dramatic steady sharp
substantial

These words are used as an adjective when they are modifying nouns, or as adverbs when modifying verbs.
There has been a sharp drop in the number of people taking holidays abroad.
The number of people using trains has increased considerably.

- Read the information in the **Look out!** box. Rewrite the sentences using the modifying word in brackets.

- The number of people buying bicycles has increased over the last three years. (steady)
- There has been a decline in the number of four-wheel drive cars on the roads. (substantial)
- The amount of holidays booked on the internet has risen over the last five years. (dramatic)
- There has been a fall in business air travel in recent months. (slight)
- There will be an increase in energy derived from renewable sources such as solar power. (sharp)
- According to current predictions, the price of oil will increase over the next decade. (considerable)

-  (1.08) Listen to two dialogues. What topics are the speakers talking about?

Dialogue 1: Wendy and Jessica _____

Dialogue 2: Jim and Brian _____

-  (1.08) Listen again and answer the questions.

Dialogue 1

- What trend has Wendy noticed?
- Does Wendy think this trend is a good or a bad thing?

Dialogue 2

- What changes in weather does Jim comment on?
- Does Jim have a positive view about the future?

- With your partner, make statements on the following topics using words from the **Look out!** box to express trends.

- public transport
- using the internet for homework
- watching films on the computer
- concern for the environment

- Work in pairs. Choose a topic from exercise 7. Prepare an interview expressing trends and asking for clarification.

- Act out your interview to the class.