

# MPs: National Shame of Inaccessible Transport for Disabled People

### **Description**

A group of senior MPs has issued a stark warning about the state of accessibility for disabled people on public transport in the UK. Describing the situation as a "national embarrassment", the parliament's crossparty transport select committee identified "systematic" failings across all modes of public transportation. They highlighted that disabled individuals are burdened with the responsibility of holding operators and authorities accountable, emphasizing the urgent need for change.

Transport for All, a charity led by disabled individuals, is urging the government to take immediate action based on the committee's findings. Local Transport Minister Simon Lightwood acknowledged that more needs to be done to ensure that all individuals can travel with ease and dignity. The report revealed that nearly seven out of ten disabled people encounter travel barriers on a regular basis.

The committee, chaired by Ruth Cadbury MP, emphasized the current complexity of the system, calling on the Department for Transport to streamline processes and review legislation for improved accessibility. They stressed the need for a cultural shift to prioritize disability inclusion as a fundamental human rights issue.

Transport for All echoed the committee's concerns, emphasizing the lack of equal access to transportation for the disabled community. Calling for immediate action, the charity's chief executive Caroline Stickland welcomed the report as a wake-up call for the government to address issues of transport accessibility nationwide.

Among the report's 29 conclusions and recommendations is a call for the government to develop a new inclusive transport strategy within a year. Additionally, ministers are encouraged to simplify the existing regulatory framework, which is deemed excessively convoluted and fragmented. Overall, the report points to a pressing need for significant improvements in the accessibility of public transport in the UK.

## **Vocabulary List:**

- 1. **Accessibility** /ək,sɛsə'bɪləti/ (noun): The quality of being able to be reached or entered particularly for disabled individuals.
- 2. **Systematic** /,sistə'mætik/ (adjective): Done or acting according to a fixed plan or system; methodical.
- 3. Burdened /'b3rdənd/ (verb): To be loaded with a heavy responsibility or obligation.
- 4. Convoluted /'kpnvəlu:tɪd/ (adjective): Extremely complex and difficult to follow.
- 5. Cultural /'kʌltʃərəl/ (adjective): Relating to the ideas customs and social behavior of a society.
- 6. Recommendations / rɛkəmen'deɪ[ənz/ (noun): Suggestions or proposals for the best course of action.



## Vocabulary quizzes

#### Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. In which state was Sarah when she was completely absorbed in reading a book?

Option: Ohio Option: Texas Option: California Option: New York

2. Which term relates to the financial conditions of a country or region?

Option: Geopolitical Option: Economic Option: Cultural Option: Defense

3. What are suggestions or proposals for a course of action?

Option: Tariffs

Option: Duties

Option: Recommendations

Option: Dispute

4. Which term refers to protecting a country against potential threats?

Option: Accessibility Option: Defense Option: Collaboration **Option: Reductions** 

5. What term describes the feeling of fascination or curiosity?

Option: Participated Option: Projections Option: Intrigue

Option: Acknowledged

6. Which term relates to the influence of geographical factors on politics and international relations?

Option: Stability Option: Geopolitical Option: Unified Option: Revitalized

7. What term refers to being a part of a group or organization?



Option: Avenues
Option: Membership
Option: Constraints
Option: Intrigue

8. Which term means imitating or reproducing the conditions of a real-life situation?

Option: Revitalized Option: Engrossed Option: Simulated **Option: Capablities** 

9. Which term relates to customs arts social institutions and achievements of a particular nation people or group?

Option: Cultural

Option: Acknowledged

Option: Unified Option: Welfare

10. What are the limitations or restrictions on an individual or group? ESL-NEWS.

Option: Burdened Option: Convoluted **Option: Constraints Option: Reductions** 

### Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The company made optimistic	_ about its future growth.		
12. The new marketing campaign	the sales of the product.		
13. The government aims to improve the	of healthcare services in rural areas.		
14. Customs are taxes imposed o	on imported and exported goods.		
15. Successful projects often require strong	among team members.		
16. Her contributions to the field were widely	by experts.		
17. The company implemented cost-cutting measures leading to significant			
in expenses.			



8. The team was with the task of completing the project within a tight deadline.			
19. The organization focuses on improving the	e	of underprivileged communities.	
20. The country witnessed a sense of togethe	rness and purpose feeling	in its	
goals.			
Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )			
21. The students in various extracurricular a	activities to enhance their s	skills.	
22. Political is crucial for the economic growth of a nation.			
23. Countries may impose on imported goods to protect domestic industries.			
24. Her hard work and dedication were by her peers.			
25. Customs are charges levied on goods transported across international borders.			
26. The research team followed a approach to analyze the data.			
27. The company showcased its innovative and advanced in the technology sector.			
28. Efforts are being made to achieve cost and increase efficiency.			
29. The conference focused on discussing the implications of international trade policies.			
30. The unexpected twists in the storyline added an element of to the movie.			

## **Answer**

Multiple Choice: 1. Ohio 2. Economic 3. Recommendations 4. Defense 5. Intrigue 6. Geopolitical 7.

Membership 8. Simulated 9. Cultural 10. Constraints

Gap-Fill: 11. projections 12. revitalized 13. accessibility 14. duties 15. collaboration 16. acknowledged

17. reductions 18. burdened 19. welfare 20. unified

Matching sentence: 1. participated 2. stability 3. tariffs 4. acknowledged 5. duties 6. systematic 7. capabilities

8. reductions 9. geopolitical 10. intrigue

#### **CATEGORY**

1. Business - LEVEL5



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