

5. Listening and gap filling

The following listening has been taken from the *Speak - Up* magazine, issue number 117, Year X, page 20.

Title: *Transport - The Light at the End of the Tunnel*. The Eurostar train, travelling from France to England and vice versa, under the Channel Sea.

Task: Read, fill in the gaps and check your answers when listening to the interview.

J. Sachs (Standard English). Andrea Kennedy (Standard American). Bruce Carnegie (Canadian accent)

Speak Up: Can you tell me why you ----- to take the trip this morning?.

J. Sachs: *Well, I can't say that I actually decided. I arrived home yesterday ----- on the day of -- ---- and my silver wedding anniversary, and my wife handed me an envelope inside which were ----- and tickets and French currency and the reservations for our ----- in Paris.*

SU: I mean, we've been hearing and hearing about the Channel Tunnel for so long now, does it actually live up to its reputation?

JS: *I think it was uneventful. It was unexciting, but that's how travel really ought to be. And I think in a ----- one's probably less regimented and able to get up and walk around without the rules and regulations of ---- ----- and seat backs and safety demonstrations, and so on. But ... so very -----.*

SU: Can you tell me why you decided to take this trip this morning?

A. Kennedy: *Just for --- . We didn't have any happening this weekend and we just thought the boys haven't to Paris, so we'd try the Channel Tunnel.*

SU: Did you have any misgivings about the tunnel part of the trip, ----- going under the water?.

AK: *I did as the Tunnel was being built, I thought that wild horses wouldn't get me -- -- But once I ... once it was built and people were actually travelling on it I ... it didn't bother me. I didn't want to be the first one going through the -----.*

SU: Were you aware that the train actually broke down not so long --- for a few minutes in the tunnel?

AK: *I think I'd heard something about that, but I didn't want to ----- about it too much!*

SU: Now you're obviously a visitor to the U.K., why did you decide to take the Channel Tunnel?

MW: *Simple. No aeroplane hassles. You can get on... Waterloo is connected to the Tube in downtown London: easy transit, no ----- , get on the train, and so you're ----- ... you get there much more relaxed and rested, I feel. But this beats it all, and frankly... and we're doing t---- ----- kilometres [per hour] right now and you wouldn't know it.*