

Electric Buses, Cleaner City

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. emission (noun) /ee-MISH-un/: a gas or substance released into the air
Example Sentence: The new buses produce fewer emissions than old diesel buses.
2. battery (noun) /BAT-er-ee/: a device that stores energy for a machine
Example Sentence: The bus battery needs several hours to charge.
3. route (noun) /ROOT/: the path followed by a vehicle
Example Sentence: The driver knows the busiest route in the city.
4. charge (verb) /CHARJ/: to fill a battery with electricity
Example Sentence: The bus must charge before its morning route.
5. reliable (adj) /ree-LY-uh-bul/: working well and able to be trusted
Example Sentence: Passengers need a reliable service every day.



Many cities are replacing some diesel buses with electric buses. Electric buses do not burn fuel while they move through the streets. They can reduce harmful emissions and make less noise near homes and schools. This may improve the air in busy neighborhoods. It can also make bus travel more comfortable for passengers.

The change requires careful planning. A bus needs enough battery power to finish its route before it charges again. Transport planners must study traffic, hills, weather, and passenger numbers. A short route may be easy to change, while a long route may need extra buses. Good planning can prevent delays and keep the service reliable.

Electric buses can cost more at the beginning than older buses. Cities also need charging stations, trained workers, and new repair equipment. However, electric buses may cost less to operate over

many years because electricity and maintenance can be cheaper. The final decision should consider both the first price and the long-term cost. It should also consider the health of local residents.

Not every city can change its whole bus system at once. Leaders may begin with the most polluted routes or test a few buses first. They should explain the plan clearly so drivers and passengers understand the changes. If the service becomes slower or less frequent, people may lose confidence. Cleaner transport works best when it is also affordable and convenient.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Would you support a small increase in transport fares if it helped a city buy cleaner buses? Why?
2. What problems could happen if a city buys electric buses without building enough charging stations?
3. Should schools teach students how public transport affects city health?
4. Which matters more to you on a bus: low noise, low price, speed, or comfort?
5. Imagine you are a transport manager. What would you say to drivers who worry about the new technology?
6. How could a city encourage more people to use buses instead of private cars?
7. Would electric buses solve traffic problems, or would the city need other solutions too?