



Pre-Reading Activities

A: Discussion

1. Match the words with the things in the picture.
windshield; parking fine
2. Work in groups and discuss the questions below.
 - a. Have you ever had a fine for parking?
If you have, why did you get it? What did you do?
 - b. Why are there fines for parking?
 - c. How much are fines for parking in your country?



B: Vocabulary

Match the words with their correct meanings.

1. The **world** means the same as...
2. A **parking offender** is someone...
3. The **main square** of a city or town is...
4. **Nearby** means the same as...
5. A **ticket machine** is...
6. A **penalty notice** is...
7. When you **ignore** something you...
8. When you **owe money** to someone you...

- a. ...a machine which you put money into to get a ticket.
- b. ...close.
- c. ...a flat open area in a town or city, usually with four sides, with buildings round it.
- d. ...who parks their car in a wrong place and gets a fine.
- e. ...the Earth.
- f. ...have to pay some money to that person.
- g. ...you pretend that it hasn't happened.
- h. ...a piece of paper telling you that you have done something wrong and that you have to pay a fine.

Reading Activities

A: Predicting

1. Read the first part of today's article. Write in the gap the amount you think the woman has paid in fines. Compare your answer with other students.
2. Listen while your teacher reads you the correct answer.

A woman in Glasgow, Scotland is one of the world's worst parking offenders.

The driver has paid US\$_____ in fines over the past three years. (Continued/...)

B: Vocabulary

1. Read today's article quickly and underline the words you studied in **Pre-Reading B**.

LONDON Mon Jan 13 (Reuters) - A woman in Glasgow, Scotland is one of the world's worst parking offenders.

The driver has paid US\$19,300 in fines over the past three years but still leaves her car in the city's main square almost everyday without paying. A year's ticket to a nearby car park costs just 1,800 pounds.

The woman also owes 8,000 pounds on each of her family cars. A Glasgow City Council spokesperson says that the woman doesn't go to the ticket machine and she gets penalty notices put on her windshield. She ignores them.

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2. Now choose two more words from today's article that you don't know. Check their meanings in your dictionary. Think about how you can explain these words in English.
3. Work in groups and share the meanings of the words you have chosen.



C: Headlines

Newspaper articles usually have headlines. Work in pairs and write a headline for today's article.

D: Questions

Complete the questions below with one of the question words. Then answer the questions.

who, how much, where

1. ___ is one of the world's worst parking offenders?
2. ___ has the woman paid in fines?
3. ___ does she still leave her car?
4. ___ does a year's ticket to a nearby car park cost?
5. ___ money does she owe for her two family cars?

Post-Reading Activities

You may do one or more of these.

A: Language

Read today's article again and find examples of:

the present perfect simple (e.g. *I have gone...*)

the superlative (e.g. *The biggest...*)

the present simple (e.g. *She loves...*)

B: Discussion

Discuss the questions in your groups.

1. *Why do you think the woman parks her car in the wrong place?*
2. *What should the Glasgow City Council do?*
3. *Do you think the woman will stop parking her car there?*
4. *How would you stop her parking there?*

C: Answer the Questions

Imagine you are the woman in today's article. A television reporter wants to ask you why you park in the wrong place. Here are the television reporter's questions.

1. *Why do you park in the wrong place each day?*

2. *There's a carpark nearby. It costs 1,800 pounds for a year's ticket. Why don't you park there?*

3. *You have already paid a lot of money to the Council. Are you going to pay the 16,000 pounds you still owe?*

4. *You are one of the world's worst parking offenders. How do you feel?*

Think about how you would answer the questions. Then work in pairs and take turns to be the reporter and the woman. Use the questions and your own answers.

TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

Pre-Reading Activities

A: Discussion - Notes

You may like to do this as a lead-in class discussion.

B: Vocabulary - Answers

1. e, 2. d, 3. c, 4. b, 5. a, 6. h, 7. g, 8. f.

Reading Activities

A: Predicting - Notes

1. Make sure students understand what they have to do before they begin (i.e. predict the amount that the woman has paid in parking fines and write this amount in the gap.) Let them compare answers. Do not tell them the answer at this stage but go straight on to 2.

2. Read aloud the text below. You may like to convert the figure into local currency so students can better understand its significance.

A: Predicting - Text to be Read Aloud to Students

2. A woman in Glasgow, Scotland is one of the world's worst parking offenders. The driver has paid US\$19,300 in fines over the past three years.

A: Predicting - Answer

US\$19,300

B: Vocabulary - Notes

1. The aim of this activity is to relate the vocabulary studied in **Pre-Reading Activity B** to the newspaper article. By quickly underlining the vocabulary already studied, the students are having further practice at identifying the words and also reading them in context.

2. & 3. Often at lower levels vocabulary causes a lot of stress to the students. This activity allows students to explore new words more collaboratively and to stop them from relying too heavily on their dictionaries. Students could work in pairs or small groups to share the new words they have chosen.

C: Headlines - Notes

You may like to bring in a newspaper to give examples of headlines.

C: Headlines - Answer

Answers will vary. Here are some examples of suitable headlines:

Driver Has Huge Parking Bill

Scottish Woman is One of World's Worst Parking Offenders

Woman Ignores Penalty Notices, Pays Thousands in Fines

Driver Gets Fines for Parking in Square

D: Questions - Answers

1. **Who** is one of the world's worst parking offenders?
2. **How much** has the woman paid in fines?
3. **Where** does she still leave her car?
4. **How much** does a year's ticket to a nearby car park cost?
5. **How much** money does she owe for her two family cars?

1. A woman in Scotland.
2. US\$19,300.
3. In the city's main square.
4. 1,800 pounds.
5. 8,000 pounds.

Post-Reading Activities

A: Language - Notes

You may like to talk briefly with students about why the different tenses are used in the article.

A: Language - Answers

the present perfect simple - has paid,

the superlative - the worst,

the present simple - is, leaves, costs, owes, says, doesn't go, gets, ignores.