

EPISODE 27
LEVEL A1.2/A2.1

READING COMPREHENSION



IN THE STREET



Do you know what are the names of places in the street? Well, you will, after reading this text.

In Warsaw, there are many **crossroads** (= where two streets cross) and **roundabouts** (= a place where three or more roads join and traffic must go around a circle in the middle). Some roads have a few **lanes** in each direction (= part of a road separated by painted lines). There are **traffic lights** (= lights which show you when to stop and when to drive) on every crossroad. **Pedestrians** (= people on foot) should stay on the **pavement** (= a path beside one or both sides of a road, that people walk on) and cross the streets on the **pedestrian crossings** (= zebra crossing). Also, they often use the **bicycle lanes** (= small roads for bikes). If you want to get somewhere without any problems, you should look at **signs** (= pictures which show what to do on the road). If you park illegally, your car can get **clamped** (= a piece of metal is put on your wheel to stop you from moving). If you are from another city and you have little time, you don't have to go through the city centre, you can use a **by-pass** (= a road built around the city, town or village).

More contexts for the new words:

- The cars wait until the traffic lights **turn** to green.
(= they wait until the lights change to green)
- Don't drive too fast, there is a **traffic warden** over there.
(= someone who checks if people leave their cars in illegal places)



EXERCISE 1

Decide if these sentences are true or false.

1. A by-pass goes through the city centre.
2. A traffic warden is a type of policeman.
3. A pedestrian should walk on the pavement.
4. A roundabout is a place where two roads cross.
5. A pedestrian crossing looks like a zebra.
6. Signs show you what to do on the road.



EXERCISE 2

Complete the questions with the key words from the text. Then answer them.

1. Do you always use a p..... crossing when you cross the street?
2. Have you ever had problems with a t..... warden?
3. Do you know the meaning of all road s.....?

ENGLISH IN USE



In the previous two lessons, we learnt that we can use **few/ a few** with countable nouns, Today let's look at uncountable nouns. Look at this sentence:

*If you are from another city and you have **little** time, you don't have to go through the city centre.*

We use "**little**" only with uncountable nouns. It means that we think it is not much, not enough.

*I have **little** sugar.*

(= I would like to have more, I don't have enough sugar)

*I have **little** money.*

(= I would like to have more, I don't have enough money)

IDIOM CLOSE-UP



A/ Simon has to decide what studies to start, and what job he wants to have in the future.
B/ It's not easy being **AT A CROSSROADS**.

If you are **at a crossroads**, you are at a point when you have to make an important decision about what to do next.

PHRASAL VERBS CLOSE-UP



1. If something **LIGHTS UP**, it becomes brighter.

*There was a flash of lightning and the sky **lit up**.
Fireworks were **lighting up** the night sky.*

2. If you **CROSS OVER**, you stop supporting one group and start supporting another.

*Another member of the government has **crossed over** to the opposition.*



EXERCISE 3

Match the sentence halves.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Her face lit up | a. to a competing one. |
| 2. The leader of the band crossed over | b. when she got the present. |
| 3. I am at a crossroads | c. in my career |

NEWS



JAYWALKING

Yesterday another person died hit by a car at a pedestrian crossing. As the ten people before, the man was **jaywalking**. The police have started a social advertising campaign in order to **discourage** people from crossing the street when the red light is on. But, as we can see, the effects are **miserable**. Psychologists say that a powerful psychological mechanism **forces** people to **act** against the rules and regulations, and there is nothing that can prevent them from this dangerous behavior. How many more people will have to die before the public understand that the red light can save lives?

GLOSSARY

- **jaywalking** – a dangerous or illegal way of crossing a street at a place where cars do not usually stop
- **to discourage sb from sth** – to try to prevent something from happening
- **miserable** – very bad
- **to force sb to do sth** – to make sb do sth
- **to act** – to behave

KEY TO EXERCISES

Ex.1

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. F
5. T
6. T

Ex.2

1. pedestrian
2. traffic
3. signs

Ex.3

1. b
2. a
3. c