

22nd January 2023

The British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has apologised for not wearing his seatbelt in a car. Downing Street said Mr Sunak made a “brief error” and that he should not have removed it when promoting himself in a social media video. As an issue of **safety**, Downing Street said that the Prime Minister believes “everyone should wear a seatbelt”. In the video on Instagram, Mr Sunak is facing the camera without a seatbelt for a short **period** of time. Police motorbikes could be seen following the car with the Prime Minister in the back. People can be punished for not wearing a seatbelt with fines up to £500. **Exceptions** to this include when a car may be used by rescue services. Some leaders say that it must be embarrassing for the Prime Minister to break such a **basic** law. Other groups such as the AA, the Automobile Association, warned about the importance of wearing a seatbelt. The British government might make seatbelt rules stronger so people will take the law more seriously. Mr Sunak is also said to be out of touch with society for recently taking a **private** jet when he could have taken a train. He said that, to make himself as effective as possible, “I travel around so I can do lots of things in one day”. He would add, “I’m not travelling around just for my own enjoyment – although this is very enjoyable, of course”.

Q1. _____

Finish this sentence so that it is true for your beliefs – “Everyone should...”

What types of transport can you list that falls into these categories – *cheap, expensive, safe, dangerous, serious, fun*.

Q2. _____

Which bolded words in the text mean: *special reasons - being careful - simple - personal - length*

Q3. _____

“Mr Sunak made a ‘brief error’”

What does the italicised word above mean: *mistake - exit - pause*

Q4. _____

Comprehension true or false:

1. The Prime Minister removed his seatbelt after dropping his phone.
2. A fine of up to £500 is given for not wearing a seatbelt.
3. The acronym AA stands for *Avoid Accidents*.
4. The government are going to double the £500 fine in the future.
5. The Prime Minister flew by jet instead of by train recently.

Q5. _____

Link the five synonym pairs:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. issue | A. tell |
| 2. brief | B. look at |
| 3. apologise | C. short |
| 4. warn | D. topic |
| 5. face | E. say sorry |

Q6. _____

Spell the words correctly:

as an issue of **f s e t y a**

for a short **i r e d p o** of time

u i n s d p e h for not wearing a seatbelt

taking a **r i v t a p e** jet

Q7. _____

Discussion questions / Writing practice:

What would your dream car be?

How much do you walk or cycle? How much do you take transport?

Does your country have good road safety laws for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles?

Q8. _____

10 B1 revision keywords: underlined in text.