



VAN LIFE



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:
1CTA-M1LF-TVVG



1 Warm up

Look at the pictures and answer the questions.



tent



caravan



motorhome



camper van

1. Do you like camping?
2. Have you ever camped in one of these?
3. What are some advantages and disadvantages of each type of camping accommodation?



2 Listening

Fern is at a music festival. Listen to her conversation with Steve and decide if the information in the sentences is true, false or not given.



1. Steve and Fern planned to meet up at the festival.
2. Steve's camper van has a name.
3. The kitchen has three appliances.
4. Steve sleeps in the back of the van.
5. Steve paid over £3,000 for his camper van.
6. Fern is jealous.

Listen again and write the missing words in the gaps.

1. We wanted her to be easily _____, so we could find her, even in the dark.
2. And the table is _____, so we only get it out when we want to eat.
3. The roof is _____. It pops up to make a sleeping area.
4. The basic van is _____, so you can choose the features and layout that you want.
5. It's true that some classic models of the VW Transporter are very _____, which pushes the price up.
6. But Ronnie was more _____ than you'd think.

Answer these questions:

1. What's the same about all of these words?
2. How do we use this ending and what does it mean?

Think of more examples for each of these things.

1. situations where people need to be **adaptable**
2. items of clothing which are **adjustable**
3. things that are not **affordable** for you right now
4. small things that are highly **collectable**
5. people who are instantly **recognisable** (and why)
6. more features of a camper van which could be **removable**



3 Reading

Steve's camper van Ronnie is a VW Transporter. What do you know about this type of vehicle?

Read the article about this design classic and then finish the sentences below with one or three words from the text.

1. Being collectable is one thing that makes the VW camper van _____¹.
2. The Transporter was so adaptable that _____² vehicles could be produced from the same basic design.
3. The _____³, _____⁴ and _____⁵ are three things which made the original Transporters instantly recognisable.
4. _____⁶, the Transporter camper van became very popular because it was so affordable.
5. The newest VW camper van retains classic features like adjustable seats, but also uses modern technology, like a removable tablet computer to _____⁷.

Read the text again and match the words/phrases with these meanings.

1. (Paragraph 2) using an engine to move around _____
2. (Paragraph 2) quickly drew a picture of something _____
3. (Paragraph 2) made something as large as possible _____
4. (Paragraph 2) goods that are carried in a van, truck, plane or ship _____
5. (Paragraph 2) the system attached to the wheels of a vehicle that makes it more comfortable to travel in _____
6. (Paragraph 4) happened at the same time as another event _____
7. (Paragraph 4) changed or added something to make it relate strongly to one person or their needs _____
8. (Paragraph 4) very famous and easily recognisable, representing a particular time or place _____
9. (Paragraph 7) easily seen or noticed _____

Now answer these questions:

1. What ending do three of the words share?
2. What does this ending mean?
3. How are these forms normally spelled in American English?

Can you think of any other words with this ending?



The VW Transporter camper van

A design classic

The Fender Stratocaster guitar, the Coca-Cola bottle and the VW Transporter - what do these things have in common? Each one is a design classic, which means they share certain features. We recognise them immediately, they've been around for ages, their design is innovative and functional, they reflect popular culture and they're even collectable. Let's take a closer look at the VW Transporter.

The VW Transporter was developed just after the Second World War. The story has it that Dutch businessman Ben Pons was visiting the Volkswagen factory when he saw some little motorised trolleys being used to transport items around. He had a Eureka moment, and sketched an idea for a transport vehicle. His clever flat-front design maximised cargo space and was easy to steer around the small crowded streets of European cities. The air-cooled engine was at the back, so the driver had more space and less noise and heat at the front. In addition, each of the four wheels had independent suspension, which produced a smoother ride than other vehicles at the time.

The Transporter was designed to be adaptable and the company was soon producing a range of vehicles including delivery vans, buses, pick-ups, ambulances, fire engines and, of course, the well-loved camper van. These vehicles were instantly recognisable by the split front windscreen, the two-tone paint and the famous VW logo badge at the front. By 1968, two million vehicles had been sold.

The popularity of the Transporter camper van coincided with the development of the counter-cultural movement in the 1960s. The vehicles were affordable to run and could be customised and adapted for many uses including full-time homes. They quickly became iconic of the freedom-loving independent-thinking hippie lifestyle.

The Transporter has been through many design changes over the years, but the original vehicles hold a special place in people's hearts ... and wallets. An original vehicle in excellent condition could be worth almost £100,000 to a collector.

Today, all sorts of people from young families to older couples enjoy touring and camping in VW vans. A van is often like a family member – people even give them names! If you don't want to buy your own, you can rent a vehicle and take off to explore the countryside. Having your own space to cook and sleep makes this type of holiday more Covid secure as well.

Volkswagen continues to innovate. Their latest design, the ID Buzz Microbus is an electric self-driving vehicle with wrap-around LED lights, adjustable seats and a removable tablet computer which can control the car. However, the exterior design refers back to the 1950s with its flat front, two-tone paint and prominent VW badge.

Sources: [theconversation.com](https://www.theconversation.com), [autoexpress.co.uk](https://www.autoexpress.co.uk), [ggsptd.com](https://www.ggsptd.com)

4

Talking point

Discuss these questions in pairs or small groups.

1. What information in the article was new or surprising to you?
2. Describe a holiday you'd like to have in a camper van. Where would you go and who would go with you?
3. The new VW camper van is electric and driverless. Do you think it's possible to feel really free and independent in this type of vehicle? Why/not?
4. These days, some people are living full-time in a motorhome or camper van. Why would someone do this? What problems would they face?



5 Project

Imagine that you've got a basic small vehicle and an unlimited budget to adapt and customise your own camper van.

Think about what features you'd like to include from the list below and get ready to explain your ideas to a classmate. You can sketch your ideas if you like. Will you give your camper van a name?

inside colours	driving	cooking
relaxing	eating	paint colour
sleeping	security	toilet and shower facilities
storage	head room	other decorations

