



High Speed 2 (HS2)



Instant Lessons

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Lesson Plan: HS2 EXAMPLE

Lessons: Introduction, reading, listening, speaking (seminar) and writing.

Time: 1-1.5 hours + homework task

Level: *****[B1/ B2/C1].

Lesson Aim:

To focus on one key topic and develop a range of key academic skills based on this topic.

Introduction [5 minutes]

- Introduce the topic 'HS2'.
- Give out the '**Reading Text Worksheet**' and discuss the lead in questions.

Reading: Test-Type Questions [20-30 minutes + feedback]

- Students read the text. Check words & meanings with a dictionary.
- Answer the questions.
- Feedback: distribute or project **ANSWERS**.

Listening: Lecture & Test Questions [30-40 minutes + feedback]

Video: Available in paid download

MP3: Available in paid download

- Give out the '**Listening: Mini Lecture Worksheet**'.
- Students check key vocabulary.

Option 1

- Students look at the questions.
- Students listen & answer the questions.
- Give 2 minutes to tidy answers.
- Students listen again. Check answers & answer missed questions.
- Feedback: distribute or project **ANSWERS**.

Option 2 (harder)

- Students listen & take notes (Use paper or the PPT slides in the Appendix).
- Students listen again & add to their notes.
- Students use their notes to answer the questions.
- Feedback: distribute or project **ANSWERS**.

Speaking: Seminar [10-15 minutes]

- Give out the '**Speaking Worksheet**'.
- Students revise content from the reading & lecture texts.
- Students hold a seminar discussion using the question prompts.
How to run a seminar: <https://www.academic-englishuk.com/seminars>

Writing: Summary [20 minutes + tutor feedback]

- This can be a homework task if limited time.
- Students use the two texts (reading and listening) to write a 150-word paragraph on 'the [REDACTED]'.
- Tutor to error correct & return - <https://www.academic-englishuk.com/error-correction>

Reading Text Worksheet

Task 1: Lead In

1. What do you know about high-speed rail in the UK?
2. Why do [redacted] UK Government?
3. Look at the title of the reading text – what do you think it is about?

Task 2: Reading Text **HS2: better connections, more capacity and zero emissions**

By H. Kennedy (2022)

High Speed 2, or HS2 as it is more commonly known, is the second of two high speed railways systems in the UK. [redacted], is known as the Channel Tunnel Rail Link and connects London to mainland Europe. Two years later, the [redacted] [redacted] between London and the UK's other large cities more quickly.

HS2 has been designed in three phases and includes [redacted] underground tunnels. It will pass through more than 25 stations, four of which are new, and trains will reach [redacted] to and from London and 12 to and from Birmingham will run per hour and could carry as many as 300,000 passengers daily (Department for Transport, 2016). According to HS2 Ltd (2020), [redacted] 2033, will connect London to Birmingham, and then Birmingham to Crewe. Phase 2b, which links [redacted] is expected to be finalised by 2040. Not only will these routes provide more direct links with other main [redacted] to halve. For instance, the Department for Transport (2016) state that London to Manchester would take [redacted] is currently, and the time from Birmingham to Leeds would be roughly 50 minutes, which is also [redacted].

In addition to the increase in capacity and better connections, another objective of HS2 is to further [redacted]. This is not only through its operation but also the construction of HS2 has been designed with decarbonisation [redacted] "hydrogen fuel [redacted] and hybrid excavators [...] can reduce fuel consumption by as much as 40% [and the electric-powered trains [redacted] per [redacted] HS2 could also help to lower carbon emissions from other transportation. For instance, Logistics UK (2020) [redacted] potentially reduce the number of lorries on the roads by 76, CO2 emissions would also decrease by [redacted] a rise in freight transport is predicted within the next decade.

References

Department for Transport., (2016). *High Speed Two Phase 2b Strategic Outline Business Case Strategic Case* [pdf]. London: Department for Transport. Available at: [redacted] [Viewed 10.06.2021].

[redacted] [online]. Available at: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/phase-one-london-west-midlands/>, <https://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/phase-2a-west-midlands-crewe/>, <https://www.hs2.org.uk/what-is-hs2/phase-2b/> [Viewed 10.06.2021].

Logistics UK., (2020). *High Speed 2: [redacted]* [pdf]. Kent: Logistics UK. Available at: <https://logistics.org.uk/CMSPages/GetFile.aspx?guid=26280145-1894-452e-8f18-7193fc0a5646&lang=en-GB> [Viewed 10.06.2021].

Smyth, R., (2019). *HS2—towards a zero carbon future* [pdf]. London: [redacted]: <https://www.rail-leaders.com/publications/hs2-towards-a-zero-carbon-future/> [Viewed 10.06.2021].

Reading Text Questions

Task 3: Headings

Choose a subheading for each paragraph. One title is not needed.

1		A	The cities that will benefit most
2		B	
3		C	When and how it began
		D	

___ / 3

Task 4: True, False or Not Given

Decide if these statements are true (T), false (F) or not given (NG). **Highlight** the answer in the text.

		T / F / NG
1	In 2009, construction of Phase 1 HS2 began.	
2		
3	More services run per hour to and from London than to and from Birmingham.	
4		
5	Journey times from London to Manchester and Birmingham to Leeds will both be under 1 hour.	
6	Smyth states	
7	Electric-powered trains operate at 8gCO2e per passenger,	
8	1 HS2 freight train can carry goods	

___ / 8

Task 5: Vocabulary

Key language – search for the word(s) in the text that mean(s):

Paragraph		Word(s)
2	Steps or stages in a process.	
2		
2	Approximately; estimated.	
3		
3	A machine used to dig up ground.	
3		
3	When	

___ / 7

Total Score ___ / 18

Listening: Mini Lecture Worksheet

Task 1: Key Vocabulary

Check these words and phrases before listening:

		compensation		delay	plague	reinforcement
petition			adversely	expenditure		hybrid

Task 2: Lecture Listening

Listen to the lecture on HS2 and answer the following questions:



2.1 Gap Fill

Complete the timeline of events. Add the three missing dates.

Since the government's _____ in _____ that HS2 would be built, construction of the _____ not begin until _____, and is not _____ until _____.	___ / 3
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2.2 Name TWO of the 3 main problems the construction of HS2 has had so far.

_____	_____	___ / 2
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2.3 Open Questions

Answer these questions about the delays to the project and the rising costs.

i.	How much is the HS2 project delayed by?	
ii.	What _____ delays?	
iii.	What _____ ?	
iv.	What are the two estimated budgets now?	
v.	What was _____ costs?	

___ / 5

2.4 Multiple Choice

Answer these questions about the issues and solutions. Select ONE answer only per question.

i.	Which particular habitats are affected by the introduction of HS2?	A. Wildlife sites.
		B. _____
		C. Several areas including wildlife sites.
ii.	Will _____ budget?	A. Yes
		B. _____
		C. It's unknown
iii.	How do the people in the northern _____ of the HS2 link to Leeds?	A. _____
		B. Angry
		C. Cheated

___ / 3

2.5 Gap Fill

What will be a _____ HS2 link to Leeds?

_____	___ / 1
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Total Score ___ / 14

Speaking Worksheet

Discussion

Use the two texts (reading and listening) to discuss these questions:

Key Sources:

Reading: **Kennedy (2022)**

██████████ / Department for Transport (2016) /
Smyth (2020).

Lecture: **Watts (2022)**

Berkeley (2021) / Institute for Government (2020) /
██████████

Seminar Questions

- 1) What is HS2 and where does it go?
- 2) What ██████████ transportation?
- 3) How does HS2 help to contribute to lowering carbon emissions?
- 4) What ██████████ faced?
- 5) Summarise your discussion.
(Each person summarises one main interesting point discussed).

Writing Task

Summary

Use the two texts (reading and listening) to write a paragraph on 'the ██████████
██████████ HS2'.

Write 150 words:

Reading ANSWERS

Task 3: Headings

Choose a subheading for each paragraph. One title is not needed.

1	C	A	The cities that will benefit most
2	D	B	HS2's net zero contribution

ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...

Listening: ANSWERS

Task 2: Lecture Listening

Listen to the lecture on HS2 and answer the following questions:

2.1 Gap Fill

Complete the timeline of events. The first letter is already given.

Since the government's announcement in **2007** that HS2 would be built, construction of the High Speed train did not begin until **2017**, and is not expected to be in operation until **2033**.

ALL ANSWERS ARE INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...



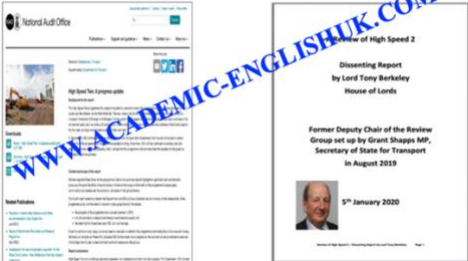
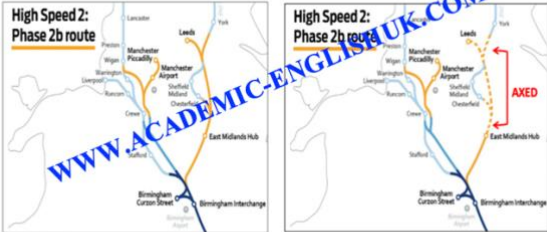
Lecture: HS2: over-promised and under-delivered

Hello and welcome to this short lecture on the problems HS2 has faced so far and their potential solutions. Since the government's announcement of a second high speed rail link connecting London to cities such as Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds in 2009, the project has been met with severe delays. Construction of HS2 did not actually begin until 2017, as several consultations and reviews took place before two hybrid bills could be passed. One of the main reasons for these delays was due to route changes. The original design had included

THE FULL TRANSCRIPT IS INCLUDED IN THE PAID VERSION...

Appendix: PowerPoint Slides

Listen to the lecture and take notes using the PPT slides

<h3>High Speed 2</h3>  <p>Key — HS2 Phase 1 — HS2 Phase 2</p> <p>Academic English UK</p>	
<h3>Environmental Impacts</h3>  <p>Academic English UK</p>	
<h3>Cost</h3>  <p>National Audit Office Report (2020)</p> <p>Berkeley (2020)</p> <p>Academic English UK</p>	
<h3>Overcome Financial Problems</h3>  <p>Source: https://www.compleatimes.co.uk/</p> <p>Academic English UK</p>	