

The 7 Steps -
December



Autonomous Vehicles

1. CONTEXT

Mindmap anything you know about the topic, including vocabulary. Do some research online to help.

2. QUESTIONS

Read the listening questions to check your understanding. Look up any new vocabulary.

3. LISTEN

Listen and answer the questions using full sentences. Circle the number of times and % you understood.

Listening Questions 1

- Name three companies associated with self-driving vehicles.
_____.
- How many levels are used to classify autonomous vehicles?
_____.
- What kind of functionality do Level 1 vehicles include?
_____.
- What makes Level 2 vehicles unique?
_____.
- What are 3 benefits of autonomous vehicles?
_____.

Listening Questions 2

- What will likely happen to truck and taxi drivers in the future?
_____.
- Who else will be impacted by the rise of driverless vehicles?
_____.
- If an autonomous vehicle is hacked, what is one risk?
_____.
- Which car manufacturer was scheduled to run their vehicles at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics?
_____.
- What are their vehicles called and what were they going to be used for?
_____.

Discussion Questions

- What would be some of your concerns surrounding buying an autonomous car?
- What other forms of automation would you like to see in the future?

Listening 1				
1	2	3	4	5
%	%	%	%	%

Listening 2				
1	2	3	4	5
%	%	%	%	%

4. CHECK ANSWERS

Read through the transcript and underline the answers. Check them against your own answers.

TRANSCRIPT 1

One day it will be **commonplace** to see driverless vehicles around our cities and towns.

Some **prominent** companies that have invested money in developing autonomous vehicles are Toyota, General Motors, Ford, and Waymo. Waymo is Google's parent company's vehicle division that was created in 2009.

Autonomous vehicles are **classified** into 6 levels or categories, ranging from 0 to 5, in other words no automation to full automation. Level 1 vehicles can include functionality like steering, lane-keeping, or braking assistance but can't do two things at the same time, while Level 2 vehicles are able to do multiple autonomous tasks such as steering and braking or accelerating **simultaneously**.

Supporters of self-driving technology see many benefits, one being additional mobility options for the elderly. Other benefits could include more time to enjoy what you love doing while getting to work such as watching your favorite show or reading a book on your tablet, a reduction in traffic accidents and fatalities, fewer parking spaces, and less need for people to actually own a car.

5. CHECK VOCABULARY

Read the transcript and circle any new vocabulary you find. Look them up and add them to your list.

MATCH THE SYNONYMS BY DRAWING LINES BELOW:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Commonplace | Confusion |
| Simultaneously | Divide |
| Prominent | Ordinary / unremarkable |
| Classify | Recognize |
| Perceive | Noticeable |
| Havoc | At the same time |

6. READ ALOUD

Read the transcript aloud at least 5 times, focusing on intonation and pronunciation.

TRANSCRIPT 2

While there are many **perceived** benefits to a future populated with autonomous vehicles, concerns have been raised.

One of the most often cited is the impact self-driving vehicles will have on hundreds of thousands of people who earn a living from driving, such as truck and taxi drivers, in terms of threatening their jobs. Others along the supply chain that could also be affected include people who work in gas stations, parking attendants, and employees in offices that issue and renew driver licenses.

Another concern is hacking. Apart from the obvious potential threat to drivers' and passengers' safety, hackers could wreak **havoc** by causing traffic jams in our cities.

Although there are many challenges that will need to be overcome, it seems that it is just a matter of time before a very different reality becomes the new normal. One example of this future was supposed to be on display at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics where Toyota was scheduled to showcase their e-Palette, autonomous vehicles that would take athletes around the Olympic Village.

7. SHADOWING

Say the transcript aloud at the same time as the audio without reading it. Circle how many times below.

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5