

# Coolmove

## Travelling by train

### Teachers' Notes

#### Introduction for pupils

Have you ever wanted to go to the seaside? Visit friends or family in the city or even have an adventure in the countryside?

The easiest, fastest and cleanest way is to travel by train.

Northern has over 400 stations from the borders of Scotland in the north all the way down to Crewe in the south, from Scarborough in the east to Blackpool in the west.

Big and small our stations are used every day, by thousands of people both young and old.

Some stations have staff, whose jobs vary from selling tickets, to porters and station managers, and although these jobs are very different they all have one very important duty to carry out, and that is to ensure that everyone who uses the railway are SAFE.

#### But safety starts with you!

#### Background information

##### Question 1 Answer A

Always look for someone with a railway name badge on. All railway staff not only wear a name badge but they also carry identity (ID) cards that they should always show when asked.

##### Question 2 Answer A

Sometimes trains have to change platforms at the last minute. Because we operate hundreds of trains to various destinations, and with only a limited number of platforms, the people in the control room have to ensure that these trains leave on time. This occasionally means they have to put a train into a different platform than previously advertised on the platform monitors. You should always listen to the station announcements.

##### Question 3 Answer A

If you are not sure if it is your train it is always worth checking with a member of staff who will be able to help. It may be the wrong train arriving late at the time you are expecting your train.

##### Question 4 Answer A

The colour of the train doesn't matter because sometimes the trains are in different colours than normal. Northern has hundreds of trains that come in various shapes and sizes, and colours. If one of our trains is broken, we occasionally borrow a train from another train operating company, to ensure we do not have to cancel a service. This means that it may be a different colour both on the inside and the outside and have another company's name on the side.



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#### Question 5 Answer A

Apart from information on platform information screens, you can check where the train is going by looking at the destination shown at the front of the train.

#### Question 6 Answer A

Always stay away from the edge of the platform and behind the painted line. Many trains such as express trains and ones carrying coal do not stop at all the stations. Although they travel at reduced speeds through stations, they can still suck you towards them as they pass. This is because of the size of the engines located under the train. Just like our cars they suck in all the air to ensure the engine stays cool. This can cause a vacuum that, if you are perched on the edge of a platform, can knock you over or suck you in. IT CAN BE FATAL.

#### Question 7 Answer A

Staff on a station and on a train are there to help. Their first duty, whatever their position, is to ensure passengers are safe.

#### Question 8 Answer B

Be sensible and polite. Join the queue and wait for your turn to get on.

#### Question 9 Answer A

Train doors are very safe as long as you are sensible. However you should never play, with the doors or lean against them.

#### Question 10 Answer B

Obviously train seats are not designed for two people and the tables are not designed to sit on.

#### Question 11 Answer B

The person you will see most of on a train is the conductor or ticket collector who can help if you have a problem. The conductor can get British Transport Police officers to meet the train at a station if there is a serious problem with a passenger that cannot be dealt with.

#### Question 12 Answer A

Conductors are there to help and assist. You should always listen to them as they are in charge of the train and the safety of all passengers - that means you!



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#### Question 13 Answer C

If you have not purchased a ticket or you have lost it, be honest and tell the conductor. Don't become a criminal. If you have lost your money tell the conductor straight away and they can help. They may even allow you to speak to your parents or guardians on their mobile phone to ensure you get home safely.

#### Question 14 Answer A

The conductor can help even if someone has stolen your bag. He or she will contact British Transport Police if the bag is not recovered.

#### Question 15 Answer A

Don't start any trouble. Once again report it to the conductor who will sort out the problem.

#### Question 16 Answer B

You should NEVER disturb a driver whilst the train is moving. Driving a train is a very responsible job and he or she must always be alert and concentrate on the track and signals ahead.

#### Question 17 Answer B

Make sure you have water with you on a long journey. The tap in the toilet is for washing your hands. The water is not suitable for drinking.

#### Question 18 Answer C

The emergency brake button or lever should only be activated in a very serious emergency otherwise report the problem to the conductor. The emergency brake button or lever will automatically release the brakes bringing the train to a stop. If this is activated without good reason you could be prosecuted and receive a £500 fine and a caution.

#### Question 19 Answer B

If you are lost or have boarded the wrong train always speak to a member of staff apart from the driver, as they will ensure you get to the right place.

#### Question 20 Answer C

Sometimes trains have to stop at red signals to wait for other trains to use the track or for a station platform to become available. You must never try and get out of the train before it reaches a platform unless told to do so by a member of staff.



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#### Question 21 Answer A

To open a train door press the button when it lights up or wait for it to open automatically

#### Question 22 Answer C

The door button may not light up straightaway. Be patient as the train staff will activate the button when it is safe to get off.

#### Question 23 Answer A

Sometimes people don't know you want to get off especially if the train is crowded. Don't be rude and push past but ask politely if you can get by to use the door.

#### Question 24 Answer A

Follow the exit signs. Don't follow other people as they might not be going out of the station. Whenever you are in a station, always make sure you read the signs and listen to the announcements. They are to help you to find your way around the station, to stay away from danger and to tell you of any changes or important announcements.

**Happy Travelling!**

