Travelling Around: French Transport Phrases

1. le train = the train; la voiture = the car; le vélo = the bike. (3 marks)

Working: Matching based on the provided word bank.

1 mark for each correct pair.

2. 1. I like the bus. 2. I do not like the bike. (2 marks)

Working: Translation of 'J'aime' (I like) and 'Je n'aime pas' (I do not like).

1 mark for each correct translation.

3. J'aime le train. (Or any valid transport from the list). (2 marks)

Look for: The student must use 'J'aime' followed by one of the transport nouns from the word bank.

Good: J'aime le bus.

Better: J'aime le train car c'est rapide.

Best: J'aime le train parce que c'est très rapide pour aller à la mer.

What moves an answer up: Adding a reason or descriptive adjective moves the answer from a simple statement to a more complex opinion.

4. Je n'aime pas la voiture. Reason: It is slow (c'est lent) or it makes me feel sick. (2 marks)

Look for: Correct use of 'Je n'aime pas la voiture' and a logical reason in English or simple French.

Good: Je n'aime pas la voiture. It is slow.

Better: Je n'aime pas la voiture parce que c'est lent dans le trafic.

Best: Je n'aime pas la voiture car elle est lente et il y a trop de trafic à Londres.

What moves an answer up: Using 'parce que' (because) or 'car' (for/as) demonstrates a higher level of grammatical understanding.

5. It does not use 'le' or 'la' because it describes an action (walking) rather than a vehicle. (2 marks)

Look for: Recognition that 'à pied' is a prepositional phrase meaning 'on foot' rather than a noun for a vehicle.

Good: It is different because it does not have le or la.

Better: It is different because it means 'on foot' and you don't ride it like a bike or a car.

Best: It is different because it is a phrase describing how you travel, not a noun for a vehicle, so it doesn't need a gendered article.

What moves an answer up: Explaining the grammatical function of the phrase shows a deeper understanding of language structure.

What a secure answer looks like

A secure answer correctly identifies the gendered articles (le/la) and uses the opinion phrases accurately. Students should be encouraged to use 'parce que' to extend their sentences.

If your child is stuck

Remind the child that 'le' is for masculine nouns and 'la' is for feminine nouns. If they are stuck on 'à pied', ask them if they can 'ride' walking like they ride a bike.

Common mistakes to watch for

Confusing 'le' and 'la' articles, or trying to add 'le/la' to 'à pied' (e.g., 'le à pied'), which is grammatically incorrect.