

Absurdities Activities - *Transport*

Introduction

An absurdity is a thing that is *unreasonable* or *impossible*. An absurdity is considered either very foolish or not to be taken seriously. This program is designed for young children to recognise absurdities from simple scenarios. The scenarios feature strange situations or oddities about transport that do not exist in the real world. The child's task is to recognise the impossible or silly situation and comment on what's wrong with the scenario. Each scenario comes with prompts which can be used to further explore each situation.

By targeting one language difficulty you often indirectly target multiple language systems. The program is at core a **vocabulary builder**, but targets other language skills such as listening to instructions. It also promotes **inference** and **thinking skills**.

Absurdities Activities - Transport

Transport

Car in the Water

Dad parked in the supermarket carpark. He cast the anchor out the window so the car wouldn't drift away on the water.

What's silly about this story?

What type of transport might need an anchor?

Do we drive cars in the water or on the road?

Transport

Water in the Tank

My dad filled the car's petrol tank with water.

What's silly about this sentence?

Does a car's engine run on water?

What might happen if we put water into a car's fuel tank?

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Sub out of water

The captain drove his submarine down the main street of the city.

What's silly about this sentence?

Where does a submarine go?

Why can't a submarine drive through city streets?

Transport

moon balloon

The astronauts began the long journey to the moon in their hot air balloon.

What's silly about this sentence?

Can a hot air balloon go to the moon?

Why would astronauts not use a hot air balloon to travel in space?

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Flying scuba diver

The scuba diver put on his flippers and then dived out of the airplane and flew through the air.

What's silly about this sentence?

What do people wear on their backs when they dive out of airplanes?

What does a scuba diver normally dive into?

Transport

The Helicopter

The pilot guided the helicopter to the bottom of the ocean to search for missing treasure.

What's silly about this sentence?

What sort of craft can search the bottom of the ocean?

Can we fly helicopters underwater?

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Space parachute

The astronauts jumped out of the rocket ship and parachuted down to the moon.

What's silly about this sentence?

Would a parachute work in outer space?

Would an astronaut use a parachute to land on the moon?

Transport

Holiday in a canoe

I paddled my canoe across the ocean from Australia to the United States.

What's silly about this sentence?

Can people go across the ocean in a canoe?

Why would it be hard to cross the ocean in a canoe?

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Dad's wooden car

Dad built a new family car out of wood and nails.

What's silly about this sentence?

Are cars made of wood?

*What would happen to a steering
wheel that was stuck on with
glue?*

Transport

Mum's helicopter

Mum took me to school in the family helicopter.

What's silly about this sentence?

*Do children get dropped off at
school by helicopters?*

*What are 2 ways children travel to
school?*

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Santa Clause's bus

Santa's reindeer were tired this Christmas, so Santa travelled around the world on a bus.

What's silly about this sentence?

What does Santa Clause usually travel in?

Why would Santa probably not use a bus to deliver presents at Christmas time?

Transport

A trip to France

Mark needed to get to France. He Climbed into a big Cannon and got blasted there.

What's silly about this story?

What type of transport lands at an airport?

Why is being blasted out of a cannon not a good way to travel?

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Passenger jet

The passenger jet landed on the airport's river. The passengers then swam to the airport lounge.

What's silly about this story?

Do jet airplanes land on rivers?

Why do passengers not have to swim at airports?

Transport

The police bikes

The bank robbers sped away in their car. The police pedaled after them on their pushbikes.

What's silly about this story?

What type of vehicle would police use to chase criminals?

Why would it be difficult to chase a car on a pushbike?

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The flying bike

The cyclist pedaled his bike over the edge of the mountain cliff. His bike spread its wings and flew high into the sky.

What's wrong with this story?

Does a bike have wings?

What would happen if a cyclist was to ride his bike off the edge of a cliff?

Transport

The Jet Pilot

The pilot waited for the lights to turn green before he drove the jet plane across the street.

What's silly about this sentence?

What type of transports wait for traffic lights to turn green?

Does a jet plane drive in the city?

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The truck driver

The truck broke down, so the driver tied the truck's freight trailer to his bike and started pedaling.

What's silly about this sentence?

Can a push bike pull a truck's trailer load?

Why would a truck driver not use a bike to cart a load of freight?

Transport

Piano on a bike

I carried the grand piano home on my bike.

What's silly about this sentence?

Why would a piano be difficult to carry on a bike?

What is a small musical instrument that is easy to carry?

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The firemen

The firemen arrived just in time to *light* the fire.

What's silly about this
sentence?

What do firemen normally
do with fires?

What colour are fire trucks?

Transport

Ocean parachute

The scuba diver wore his new
parachute when he dived into the
ocean.

What's silly about this sentence?

When would you wear a
parachute?

Why wouldn't you wear a
parachute in the water?