

Vocabulary: transport 词汇: 交通

If you look around the streets of London, you'll see the many methods people use to move around. Whether it's on a **commute** to work, a trip to the shops, or a **sightseeing excursion**, there are people on buses, **the Tube**, cars, motorbikes, bicycles and even roller skates. The roads are already **congested**; and now there's a new addition: electric, or 'e-scooters'.

This traditional children's vehicle has become more sophisticated over the years. And now, with the addition of a small **electric motor**, it's become a cheap and easy mode of transport. **Scooting** around town can be fun and doesn't involve much effort, so it's no wonder they're becoming increasingly popular in cities around the world. But following what's believed to be the first fatal accident involving an electric scooter in the UK, questions are being asked about their safety and whether **traffic laws** should be changed.

Some scooter **riders** have been seen on **pavements**; others on the road **jumping red traffic lights**, adding to the frustration of **motorists** stuck in **jams**. In the UK, the law states that riding one on the **public highway** or pavement is forbidden. Riders currently face a £300 **fixed-penalty notice** and six points on their driving licence for doing so. But, despite this, it seems the increasing popularity of e-scooters means they can be seen everywhere. And now users are calling on regulations to be changed.

The UK government is looking at how safely they can be used on the road and is 'reviewing' the law. But its transport minister, Michael Ellis, has told the BBC that: "**Micromobility** products are appearing in countries across the globe and are an exciting innovation for which we know there is demand. However, safety must always be our top priority when considering their use on public highways in this country."

There's no doubt there are dangers in riding a **two-wheeled** scooter. Despite the fact that some of them can exceed 30mph, they sometimes only have one **brake** and no lights. They also become unstable if the rider hits a **pothole**, and however confident the rider may be, larger **vehicles** on the road make them vulnerable. So it seems more work needs to be done to give e-scooters a safe and legal space to travel in.

词汇表

commute	上下班，通勤
sightseeing excursion	观光游览
the Tube	伦敦地铁
congested	拥堵的
electric motor	电机
scoot	滑动
traffic laws	交通法规
rider	骑车的人
pavement	人行道
jump red traffic lights	闯红灯
motorist	开车的人
jam	堵车，交通堵塞
public highway	公路
fixed-penalty notice	固定罚单
micromobility	微行动技术
two-wheeled	两轮的
brake	刹车
pothole	坑洼
vehicle	车辆

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What is it that makes an e-scooter easy to ride?
2. How have some e-scooter riders in the UK broken the law?
3. True or false? *The UK government is going to change the law about where e-scooters can be used.*
4. How fast can some e-scooters travel?
5. Which word used in the article means 'not allowed, especially by law'?

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Excuse me, I have to go now. I'm _____ to the shops before they shut.

scoot	scooting	scooter	scootering
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2. The roads in the city have become so _____ that I find it quicker to walk than to drive.

jams	potholes	congested	mode
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3. Because of the accident on the motorway, we've been stuck in a _____ for hours and hours.

jam	jams	jammed	jammer
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4. Now I've started using a bike for my daily _____, I arrive at work feeling fit and healthy.

commute	scoot	micromobility	public highway
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5. According to local _____, you mustn't sound your car horn after 10 o'clock at night.

traffic lights	trafficking laws	traffic lores	traffic laws
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What is it that makes an e-scooter easy to ride?

A small electric motor makes it easy to ride.

2. How have some e-scooter riders in the UK broken the law?

Some scooter riders have been seen riding on pavements; others on the road jumping red traffic lights.

3. True or false? *The UK government is going to change the law about where e-scooters can be used.*

False. The UK government is 'reviewing' the law but not necessarily changing it.

4. How fast can some e-scooters travel?

Some of them can exceed - go faster than - 30mph.

5. Which word used in the article means 'not allowed, especially by law'?

Forbidden. "In the UK, the law states that riding one on the public highway or pavement is forbidden."

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Excuse me, I have to go now. I'm **scooting** to the shops before they shut.

2. The roads in the city have become so **congested** that I find it quicker to walk than to drive.

3. Because of the accident on the motorway, we've been stuck in a **jam** for hours and hours.

4. Now I've started using a bike for my daily **commute**, I arrive at work feeling fit and healthy.

5. According to local **traffic laws**, you mustn't sound your car horn after 10 o'clock at night.