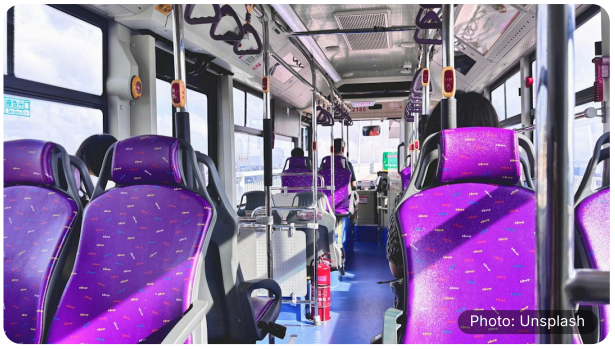
Singapore tightens bus behaviour rules

LEVEL A2/B1


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I. WARM-UP

1. How do you usually travel in your city?
2. What makes a bus or train ride pleasant for you?
3. Do you listen to music in public? How do you keep it quiet?

II. KEY VOCABULARY

fine
Money you must pay as a punishment for breaking a rule or law.

offence
An action that breaks a rule or law.

commuter
A person who travels to work or school, often by public transport.

litter
To drop rubbish in a public place.

authorised
Having official permission to do something.

alight
To get off a bus, train, or other vehicle.

terminal
A place where buses or trains start or finish their routes.

soiling
Making something dirty with a mark, liquid, or waste.

III. READING

Singapore has introduced new rules for bus travel. Passengers can get a fine of up to S$500 for playing loud audio, putting feet on seats, eating, drinking, or littering on board. Heavier offences include causing danger or obstruction at a bus terminal.

The soiling of any part of a public bus, bus interchange, or terminal can also lead to fines up to S$5,000. Authorised ticket inspectors and interchange staff can issue official notices to suspected offenders. Bus drivers, called captains, do not have this authority.

They can tell commuters to stop and may ask them to alight. In serious cases, police can step in. Other places are acting too. The Polish city of Kraków fines people for disturbing the peace with noisy phones. In the UK, trains already ban anti-social behaviour and sound-producing equipment without permission.

Reading text adapted from reporting by **BBC News***: "Playing loud music on the bus? That will cost...". Original article linked at theenglishwire.com.*

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the maximum fine for loud audio or eating on Singapore buses?
2. What actions can lead to the higher fine of up to S$5,000?
3. Who is authorised to issue official notices on buses?
4. What can bus drivers do if someone will not stop bad behaviour?
5. Name one other place that is acting on noisy behaviour.

V. DISCUSSION

1. Should buses be quiet places? Why or why not?
2. Which behaviour on transport annoys you the most?
3. Who should give fines on buses: drivers or inspectors? Why?
4. What rule would you like to add in your city?

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Would like vs like

Use like for general preferences (things you usually enjoy). Use would like for a polite request or something someone wants now.

*"Some commuters **would like a seat** near the door."*
*"Many people **like quiet buses**."*

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

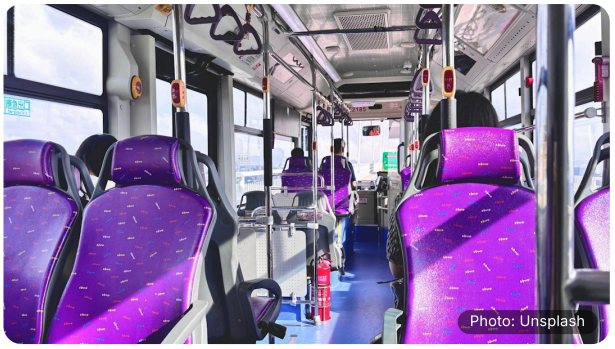
Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. Usually parents (like) ___ to sit with their children. _____
2. Right now a passenger (like) ___ a quieter seat by the window. _____
3. At the counter now, a tourist (like) ___ information about fines. _____
4. Usually drivers (like) ___ commuters to follow signs. _____
5. This evening staff (like) ___ passengers to turn off loud phones. _____

Teacher's Notes

TEACHERS ONLY

These notes are designed to help you get the most out of this lesson. Please do not share this page with students.


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I. LESSON GUIDE

- Timing: 8 minutes warm-up, 8–10 minutes vocabulary, 10 minutes reading and comprehension, 8 minutes grammar, 10 minutes discussion.
- Pre-teach or check key items: fine, offence, commuter, authorised, alight, terminal, soiling. Use quick examples from local transport.
- Run the reading in two passes: gist first (what changed and why), then scan for numbers and who can issue notices. Pair-check answers before whole-class feedback.
- Start discussion in pairs to lower pressure and model short answers. Keep focus on public behaviour, not personal stories; allow students to refer to the article if they prefer.

II. DISCUSSION FACILITATION TIPS

1. Poll the room first, then ask for reasons and examples beyond noise (cleanliness, safety).
2. Have students give a short story from experience, then suggest a simple fix for it.
3. Do a quick debate: split the class and swap sides after two minutes.
4. Collect ideas on the board and vote for the most useful, realistic new rule.

III. EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Survey: In pairs, design five yes/no questions about bus behaviour and survey classmates; present results in 2 minutes.

Writing: Write a 70-word public notice for a bus about the new rules and fines; swap and peer-correct.

IV. ANSWER KEY OVERVIEW

Comprehension questions: short factual answers from the text.

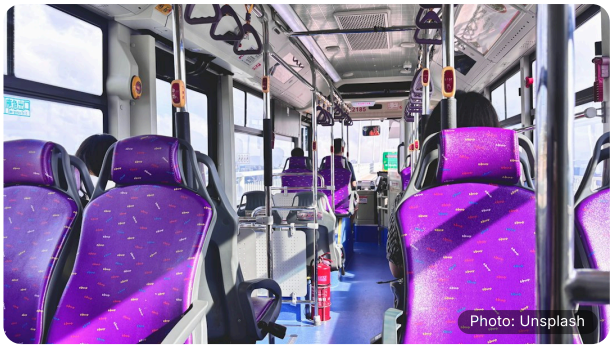
Grammar exercise: Would like vs like

Discussion: open-ended. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

Answer Key

TEACHERS ONLY

These answers are for teachers only. Please do not share this page with students.


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IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the maximum fine for loud audio or eating on Singapore buses?
   Up to S$500.
2. What actions can lead to the higher fine of up to S$5,000?
   Causing danger or obstruction, or the soiling of a bus or terminal.
3. Who is authorised to issue official notices on buses?
   Authorised ticket inspectors and interchange staff.
4. What can bus drivers do if someone will not stop bad behaviour?
   They can tell the person to stop and ask them to alight; in serious cases, police can step in.
5. Name one other place that is acting on noisy behaviour.
   Kraków or the UK.

V. DISCUSSION

Open answers. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Key point: Use like for general preferences (things you usually enjoy). Use would like for a polite request or something someone wants now. (Examples constructed.)

"Some commuters **would like a seat** *near the door."*
"Many people **like quiet buses**.*"*

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. Usually parents ___ to sit with their children. **like**
2. Right now a passenger ___ a quieter seat by the window. **would like**
3. At the counter now, a tourist ___ information about fines. **would like**
4. Usually drivers ___ commuters to follow signs. **like**
5. This evening staff ___ passengers to turn off loud phones. **would like**