

CARS & DRIVING

BUYING A USED CAR



INSTRUCTION SHEET

BUYING A USED CAR

In small groups or as a whole class field trip to a dealership, students are to find out what kinds of cars are available to buy second-hand. Begin with the dealership, as the students will need to know about inspections and lien searches. They can then check private listings of cars for sale. For looking up listings in the Yellow Pages or classifieds, see also the Alphabetizing activity in the General Strategies chapter.

REQUIRED STRUCTURES: Information questions, "what kind of..."

REQUIRED VOCABULARY: *dealership, mileage, best value, inspection, guarantee, lien search, privately, classifieds, make, consider*

GROUP SIZE: individual, pairs, small groups, or whole class as a field trip

HANDOUTS: Buying a Used Car worksheet

OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED: Yellow Pages for dealership listings, classifieds for private vehicle sale listings

RELATED GRAMMAR: comparatives and superlatives

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES:

Discuss where students bought their cars (and the cultural stigma of discussing prices)

Discuss where to have an inspection and lien search done before buying a car privately

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WORKSHEET

AT A DEALERSHIP...

What's the oldest car? _____

What's the biggest car? _____

What's the cheapest car? _____

What car has the lowest mileage? What is it? _____

What car has the highest mileage? What is it? _____

In your opinion, what car is the best value? Why? _____

What kind of inspection(s) do(es) the dealership do? _____

What kind of guarantees does the dealer offer? _____

Will the dealer do a lien search? _____

NOW CALL OR VISIT SOMEONE WHO HAS A USED CAR FOR SALE PRIVATELY (YOU WILL PROBABLY FIND LISTINGS IN YOUR LOCAL PAPER'S CLASSIFIEDS SECTION)

How old is the car? _____

What make (name) is it? _____

What's the mileage? _____

What's the price? _____

Anything else to ask about? _____

Is there a used car for sale you would consider buying? Would you buy a car privately or through a dealership? Why? _____