

**Basic English for**

# *Car Bodywork*

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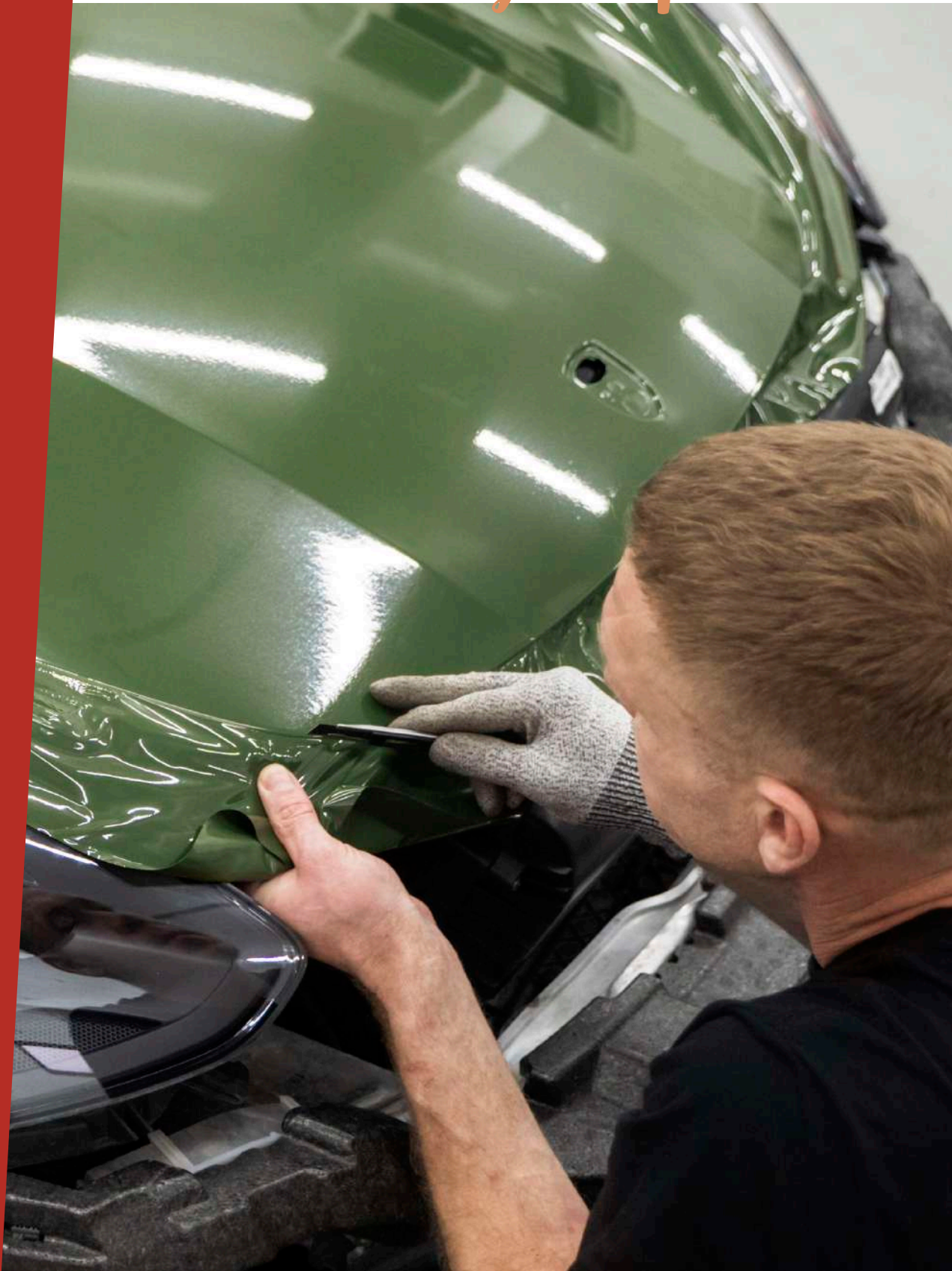
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**UNIT 3**  
*Car body repair*





READING

Car body repair

Car body mechanics are professionals who repair and maintain the body of a car. Their main job is to fix damage to the exterior parts of the vehicle, like the doors, fenders, and bumpers. These mechanics often work in special shops called body shops. When a car is in an accident or gets scratched, body mechanics repair the damage to make the car look new again.

First, the mechanic checks the car to see what is broken or damaged. They use special tools to take out dents, fix scratches, and replace broken parts. Sometimes, they need to paint the car to cover the repair, so it matches the rest of the vehicle. Car body mechanics work with many tools, like hammers, paint sprayers, and sanders.

These mechanics need to have good skills with their hands. They also need to pay attention to details because the car needs to look perfect when the work is done. Some mechanics focus on fixing small dents or scratches, while others may work on bigger repairs, like fixing the frame of the car after a big accident.

To become a car body mechanic, a person needs training. Many mechanics go to a special school to learn the skills needed for the job. Some also learn by working with other experienced mechanics. In this job, it's important to stay updated with new tools and techniques.

In summary, car body mechanics play an important role in keeping vehicles in good condition. Their work helps cars look good and stay safe to drive.



1. Read the text and decide if the sentences are true or false.

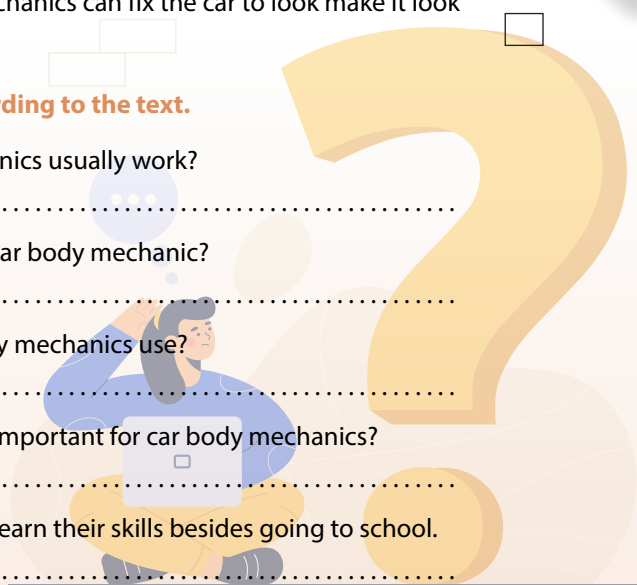
- 1. Car body mechanics only repair the engine of the car.
- 2. One of the tools that car body mechanics use is a paint sprayer.
- 3. Car body mechanics need to go to school to learn their skills.
- 4. Body mechanics mainly work on the interior parts of the car.
- 5. After an accident, body mechanics can fix the car to look make it look new again.

FALSE

TRUE

2. Answer the questions according to the text.

- 1. Where do car body mechanics usually work?  
.....
- 2. What is the main job of a car body mechanic?  
.....
- 3. What kind of tools do body mechanics use?  
.....
- 4. Why is attention to detail important for car body mechanics?  
.....
- 5. How do some mechanics learn their skills besides going to school.  
.....



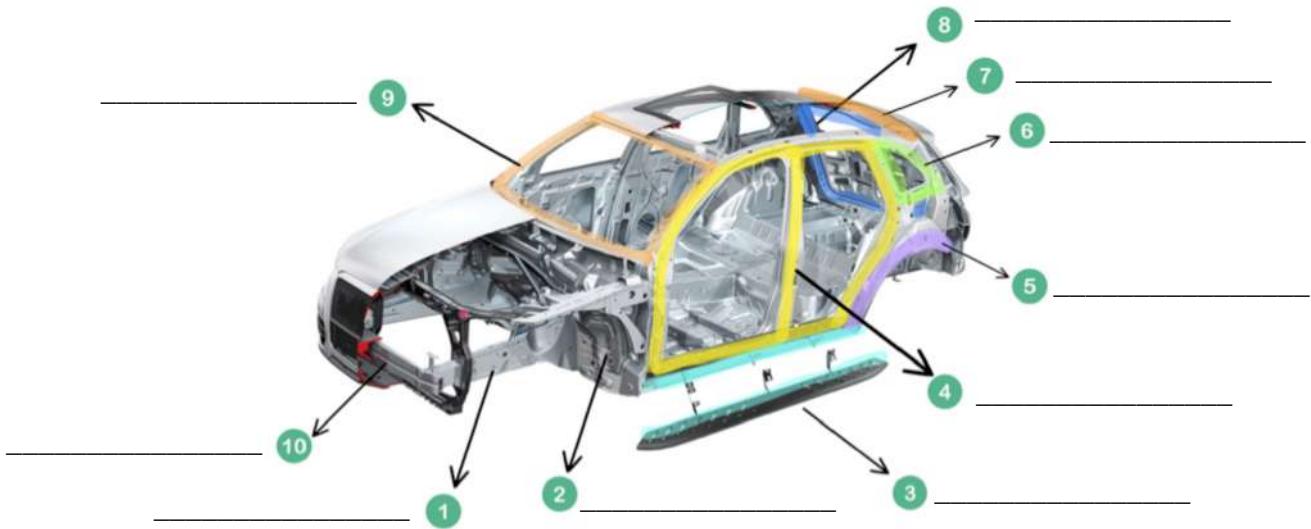


## VOCABULARY

## Body work car exterior

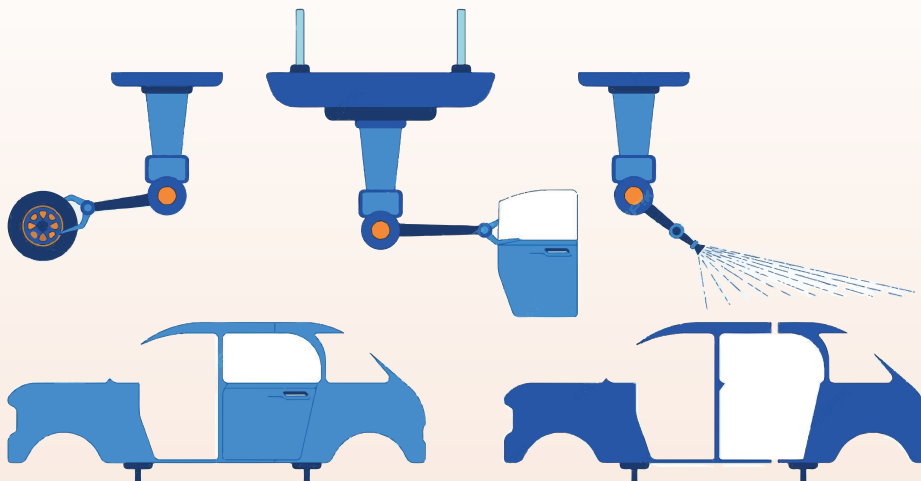
1. Identify the following body body work parts.

- |                  |                    |                      |            |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Side frame       | Windscreen frame   | Quarter window frame | Tailgate   | Side steps         |
| Rear wheel house | Front cross member | Scuttle base         | Front spar | Roof reinforcement |



2. Complete the following definitions with the vocabulary from exercise 1.

- \_\_\_\_\_ is a steel base that provides a car chassis with the structural strength it needs to protect the vehicle. (A car spar)
- \_\_\_\_\_ is a metal trough in the engine compartment underneath the windscreen. It is where you find the windscreen wiper motors and some other electrical controllers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ provide a narrow step that sits under the door of a vehicle to aid in getting in and getting out of a vehicle. They are also called running boards.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the last window on the side of a vehicle. It is above the rear wheel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is a door at the back of a truck or a car that is hinged at the bottom so it opens downwards.





## GRAMMAR

## Present Continuous

**PRESENT CONTINUOUS**

We use Present Continuous when the action is happening the moment we are speaking. It usually appears with expressions such as: *right now, at the moment, now*, or expressions that indicate the action is happening now such as: *Listen! Look!*

*She is reading a book now.*  
*They are repairing the car.*

	Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
I	am repairing	am not repairing	Am I repairing?
You	are repairing	are not repairing (aren't)	Are you repairing?
He	is repairing	is not repairing (isn't)	Is he repairing?
She	is repairing	is not repairing (isn't)	Is she repairing?
It	is repairing	is not repairing (isn't)	Is it repairing?
We	are repairing	are not repairing (aren't)	Are we repairing?
You	are repairing	are not repairing (aren't)	Are we repairing?
They	are repairing	are not repairing (aren't)	Are they repairing?

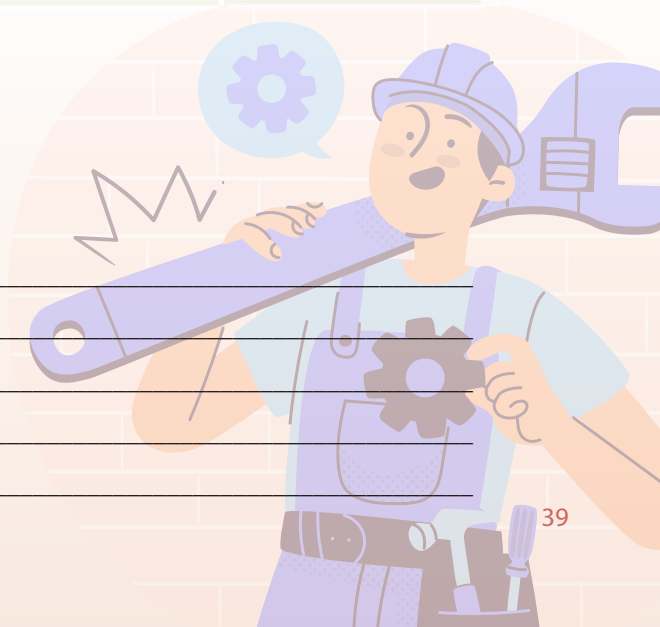
### 1. Complete the following sentences with the Present Continuous.

- The mechanic \_\_\_\_\_ (repair) my car.
- Susan \_\_\_\_\_ (check) the dents.
- They \_\_\_\_\_ (not inspect) the car now.
- \_\_\_\_\_ you/ check) this fender?
- The engineers \_\_\_\_\_ (not test) this car
- \_\_\_\_\_ (she/ study) mechanics?

Short answers	
Yes, I am.	No, I am not.
Yes, he/she/it is.	No, he/she/it isn't.
Yes, we, you, they are.	No, we, you, they aren't.

### 2. Change the following sentences into the negative form.

- My students are doing the homework. \_\_\_\_\_
- Susan is driving her new car. \_\_\_\_\_
- John and Peter are changing the front bumper. \_\_\_\_\_
- I am checking the tyres. \_\_\_\_\_
- The teacher is correcting the exams. \_\_\_\_\_





### 3. Write questions in the Present Continuous using these words.

1. Julie / fix / her car?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Tom / repair / the dent?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Brandon / wash / his car?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Sarah / change / the oil to the car?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. The mechanics / inspect / the car.

\_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Write the answers to the previous questions.

1. Yes, \_\_\_\_\_

2. No, \_\_\_\_\_

3. Yes, \_\_\_\_\_

4. Yes, \_\_\_\_\_

5. No, \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Correct the following sentences with the correct information as in the example:

*I am writing a composition. (story)*

*I am not writing a composition. I am writing a story.*

1. She is reading a book. (comic)

\_\_\_\_\_ .

2. The mechanics are repairing the car (motorbike)

\_\_\_\_\_ .

3. I am having lunch. (dinner)

\_\_\_\_\_ .

4. The school is having a party. (meeting)

\_\_\_\_\_ .

5. I am riding a bike. (motorbike)

\_\_\_\_\_ .

6. They are visiting the garage (work)

\_\_\_\_\_ .



## SPEAKING



### 6. Look at these pictures. What are these people doing?



A



B



C



D



Abc

VOCABULARY

Body work car exterior

1. Complete the following picture with the correct names on the left.

Rear inner panel

Front cross member

Back panel

Upper radiator support

Floor panel

Boot floor

Front inner panel

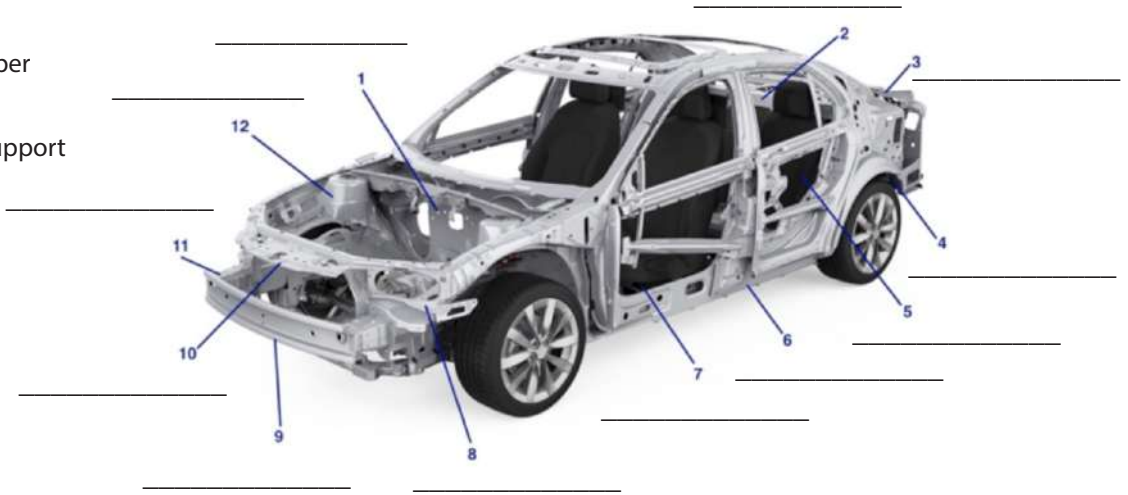
Side sill

Front frame

Baffle

Dash panel

Rear shelf panel



Do you know what a hinge is?

A hinge is a part that lets two objects move together. In a car, hinges are used on doors, the hood, and the trunk. They allow these parts to open and close smoothly. A hinge usually has two metal pieces connected by a pin. This pin lets the parts move without falling apart. There are different types: door hinges, tailgate hinges and hood hinges.

2. Can you identify the following hinges mentioned above?



A)



B)



C)





## GRAMMAR

### 4. Complete the following sentences using the Present Continuous.

- Marta and Tom \_\_\_\_\_ (do) the English homework.
- Susan \_\_\_\_\_ (prepare) the presentation of the new car.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (the teachers/ attend) the presentation?
- The school \_\_\_\_\_ (enrol) a new exchange program this year.
- Peter \_\_\_\_\_ (not come) to school today. He is ill.
- Our students \_\_\_\_\_ (design) a new electric car prototype.

### 5. Write sentences using the Present Continuous.

- Susan / check / the dents.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Paul and Tom / repair / the scratches.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- John / not replace / the windscreen.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The teacher / show / the students how to change a tyre.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The students / listen / to the teacher.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- This garage/ offer / a special sale today.  
\_\_\_\_\_

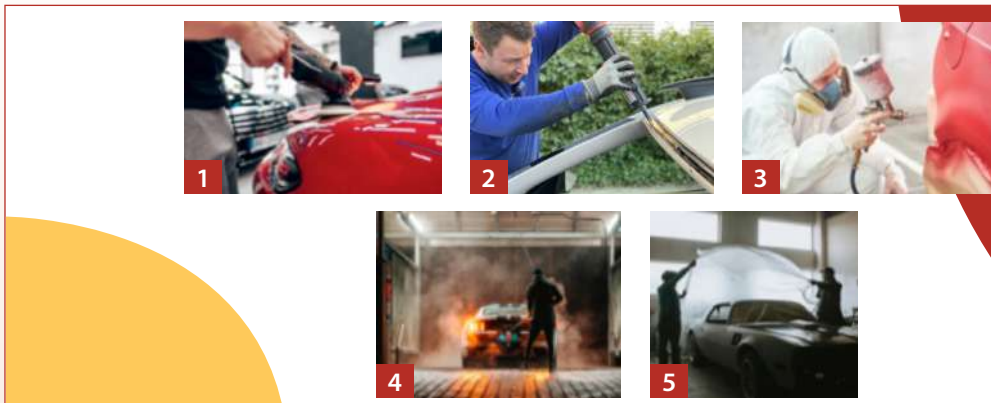
### 6. Write questions in the Present Continuous with the following information.

- Susan / ride / her motorbike?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Paul and Tom / study / English?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Jenny / read / a book about engines?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Sara / listen / to music?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The teacher / explain / the lesson?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The car / work / properly?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The mechanics / change / front bumpers?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The senior mechanic / work?  
\_\_\_\_\_



## SPEAKING

### 7. What are the people in these pictures doing?





## READING

### Car body in the UK.



In the UK, students who want to become car body mechanics can study at colleges and technical schools. These places offer special courses for young people interested in car body repair. Students learn how to fix the outside parts of cars, like doors, bumpers, and fenders. They also learn how to paint cars and use special tools to make cars look new again.

In recent years, about 5% of students in technical schools choose to study car body repair. It is not the most popular course, but it is an important one. The students who pick this profession are usually very interested in working with their hands and learning practical skills. Many students also choose this course because they like cars and want to work in the automotive industry.

The courses in car body repair are designed to teach both theory and practice. Students spend time in the classroom learning about the structure of cars and safety rules. Then, they spend time in workshops practicing their skills. They learn how to fix dents, replace car parts, and paint the body of the car. Most courses also offer work experience, where students can work in real car body shops.

Car body repair courses are available at colleges across the UK, including in cities like London, Manchester, and Birmingham. Some students also choose to do an apprenticeship, where they work in a garage and study at the same time.

After finishing the course, students can start working in a body shop or continue their education to specialize in advanced car body repair. This profession offers good job opportunities, as there is always a need for skilled car body mechanics in the UK.

#### 1. Read the text and decide if the following sentences are True or False.

1. Less than 10% of students in technical schools choose to study car body repair.
2. Car body repair students spend time both in the classroom and in workshops.
3. In car body repair courses, students only learn about fixing engines.
4. Some students in the UK do an apprenticeship while studying car body repair.
5. After finishing the course, students can only work in car dealerships.

#### 2. Answer the following questions according to the text.

1. What percentage of students in technical schools choose to study car body repair?
2. Why do many students choose to study car body repair?
3. Where do car body repair students get hands-on experience?
4. Which cities in the UK offer car body repair courses?
5. What can students do after finishing the car body repair course?

#### 3. Can you identify the following British cities mentioned in the text?



A



B



C





## LISTENING

## Body repair workers (Track 8)

## 1. Complete the following text according to the listening.

Body repair workers, also known as panel beaters or car body technicians, have an important job. They fix the 1. \_\_\_\_\_ parts of cars after accidents or damage. When a car has 2. \_\_\_\_\_, scratches, or broken parts, these workers make it look new again. This job requires attention to detail and skill with 3. \_\_\_\_\_.

The first step is to check the car and see what needs to be 4. \_\_\_\_\_. The technician looks for damage to the doors, 5. \_\_\_\_\_, or other parts of the car's body. Then, they decide how to repair it.

Sometimes, they need to 6. \_\_\_\_\_ parts and replace them with new ones. Other times, they can fix the damaged parts by 7. \_\_\_\_\_ and smoothing the metal.

Car body repair workers use different tools. For example, they use 8. \_\_\_\_\_, sanders, and welding machines. These tools help them remove dents, paint the car, and make the 9 \_\_\_\_\_ smooth again. Some parts of the job can be noisy and require 10. \_\_\_\_\_, like gloves and goggles.

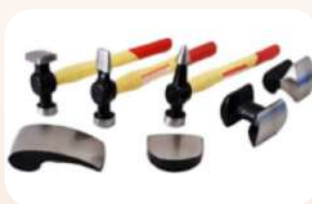
After fixing the car, they 11. \_\_\_\_\_ it to match the original color. This part of the job is very important because the car must look perfect when it's finished. The paint also 12. \_\_\_\_\_ the car from rust and other damage.

Working as a car body repair worker requires patience, 13 \_\_\_\_\_, and good hand skills. It is a physical job, but it is also very rewarding because the workers help people get their cars back to looking 14. \_\_\_\_\_ and driving safely.

In conclusion, car body repair workers play a key role in keeping cars 15. \_\_\_\_\_ and looking good.

Their work is essential after an 16. \_\_\_\_\_, and their skills make a big difference for drivers.

## 2. Find the name of the following pictures in the text.





GRAMMAR

Present Continuous/ Present Simple

Present Simple	Present Continuous
Habitual actions. Routines. Universal truths	Actions happening at the moment of speaking.
Adverbs of frequency	Now
Everyday. Every year	Right now
Once a ... / Twice a	At the moment
With verbs such as love, like, hate	Listen!, Look!

1. Complete the following exercise with the correct form of the Present Simple or the Present Continuous.

- The garage \_\_\_\_\_ (open) at 9 am every day.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (look) for a new car at the moment.
- John \_\_\_\_\_ (not like) diesel cars.
- Peter and Susan \_\_\_\_\_ (work) in that garage.
- Look! Those guys \_\_\_\_\_ (steal) that car.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (they / work) in a new project now?
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (check) the oil level in this car at the moment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (she / live) in London?
- My teacher \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the garage twice a week.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (that garage / look) for a new mechanic?

2. Arrange these words to write sentences in the Present Simple or Present Continuous.

- The / are/ the / tyres / changing / mechanics.
- not / Pam / live / does / Manchester / in.
- parents / got / a / car / classic / have / my.
- garage /our / month / is / this / offering / special prices.
- you / with / working / are / car / that / now/ ?
- usually / break / lunch / for / we / a / at / 2pm /have.



SPEAKING

6. What are the people in these pictures doing?





## LISTENING

## What is a chassis? (Track 9)

## 1. Can you identify the different types of chassis?



## 2. Complete the following text according to the listening.

The chassis is the frame that supports the weight of all the vehicle's components, including the engine, transmission, body, passengers, and cargo. It is designed to be 1. \_\_\_\_\_ enough to handle the forces generated during driving and different terrain conditions. The chassis design varies based on the type of vehicle, such as passenger cars, electric vehicles, hybrids, or off-road vehicles.

The chassis serves several essential functions:

- 2. \_\_\_\_\_: It provides the base on which the vehicle is built.
- Safety: The chassis absorbs energy during a collision, protecting occupants.
- Maneuverability: It contributes to the vehicle's 3. \_\_\_\_\_, improving the driving experience.
- Comfort: It helps reduce 4. \_\_\_\_\_ and vibrations, making the ride smoother.

There are different types of chassis, each with specific characteristics and advantages:

**Monocoque or unibody chassis:** This self-supporting chassis 5 \_\_\_\_\_ as part of the load-bearing structure and is the most common in modern cars.

**Ladder frame chassis:** Traditionally used in heavy-duty vehicles, it consists of two parallel beams connected by cross members.

**Ladder chassis:** Similar to the ladder frame but simpler and more robust, it is common in 6. \_\_\_\_\_.

The materials used in chassis construction are critical for performance and safety. 7. \_\_\_\_\_ has traditionally been the preferred material due to its strength and cost-effectiveness. However, lightweight materials like 8 \_\_\_\_\_ are gaining popularity because they reduce vehicle weight, improve fuel efficiency, and lower emissions.

Safety is a priority in chassis design, with crumple zones and strategic reinforcements to protect occupants during accidents. Regular 9. \_\_\_\_\_ is crucial to prolong the chassis' lifespan, including checking for corrosion and structural damage.

In summary, the chassis plays a vital role in vehicle safety, 10. \_\_\_\_\_, and comfort, making proper maintenance essential for optimal functioning.



Lamborghini Aventador LP 700-4 monocoque chassis.



3. Can you identify the materials mentioned in the text?



A



B



C

4. These are some of the characteristics of the monocoque chassis. Classify them in advantages or disadvantages.

- a. Lighter car weight
- b. Vulnerable structure with the body
- c. Expensive production costs
- d. More spacious cabin
- e. Better handling
- f. Limited off-road performance
- g. It absorbs impact better
- h. More fuel efficiency
- i. Limited weight-bearing capacity



Advantages	Disadvantages

5. Which type of chassis do you think these sports cars have?



Maserati MC20 IAA 2021



Lamborghini Countach LPI 800-4



Porsche Carrera GT



## WRITING

## My car needs to be serviced

1. Read the following conversation between a mechanic and a customer. What's the problem with the car? When is the mechanic fixing it?

**Mechanic:** Welcome to our garage, Sir. How can I help you?

**Customer:** Hello. My car is making a weird noise.

**Mechanic:** Where is it coming from?

**Customer:** Well, I am not sure. When I am in the car, it sounds like it's coming from the engine.

**Mechanic:** Let me take a look. Can you start the car and pop the hood?

**Customer:** Sure.

**Mechanic:** Well, I can't hear the noise but there is a coolant leak and your carburetor needs adjusting.

**Customer:** So, can you fix it today?

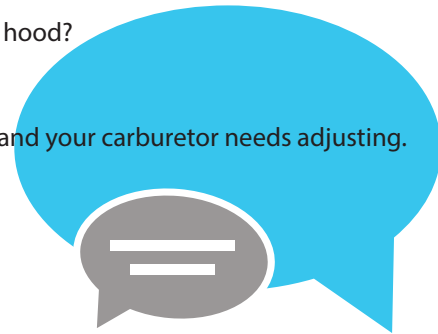
**Mechanic:** Not today, but can you bring it tomorrow morning?

**Customer:** Ok. What time?

**Mechanic:** We open at 9am so anytime. I will check the noise and fix the coolant leak.

**Customer:** Ok. See you tomorrow.

**Mechanic:** See you!



2. Write your own conversation between a mechanic and a customer. Here you have some vocabulary that you can use about problems in a car.

It does not start

a flat tyre

the windscreen needs to be replaced

It has an oil leak

It has a dent

the fender is scratched

