

**UNIT 2**

**FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION**

**Pre-Activity**

Match the picture of transport and handling equipment (a-f) with the words (1-6)



a \_\_\_\_\_



b \_\_\_\_\_



c \_\_\_\_\_



d \_\_\_\_\_



e \_\_\_\_\_



f \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 swap-body
- 2 container ship
- 3 grapple lift
- 4 road-railer trailer
- 5 river barge
- 6 LGV (large goods vehicle)

**Main Activity**

Listen to two employees of a forwarding company who are comparing transport modes for a shipment from Western China to Shanghai. After that, correct the information in the table.

	inland waterways	road	rail (express service)
speed in days	7	4	2
cost	low	compared with barge: 60% higher	compared with road: 40% higher
flexibility	high	very high	low



Match the pictures (a-d) with the names (1-4)



a \_\_\_\_\_



b \_\_\_\_\_



c \_\_\_\_\_



d \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 gantry crane
- 2 ISO container
- 3 reach stacker
- 4 transtainer

## Listening

An employee of a transport company presents some container options to a potential customer. Listen and complete the table with the missing information.

Type of container	suitable for transport of
1	
2	
3 tanktainer	
4	
5 flat-rack	

## Reading

Discuss and answer the following questions with your group based on the text given.

### Air Freight: Connecting the Skies to Your Doorstep

In the world of freight transportation, air travel takes the lead when speed is essential. Airplanes become the swift carriers of goods, soaring through the skies to connect manufacturers with consumers.

Air freight is the go-to option for items that need to reach their destination in the shortest possible time. From urgent documents to high-value goods, airplanes can cover vast distances in a matter of hours.

The efficiency of air transport lies in its direct routes and quick turnarounds. It's the preferred choice for businesses engaged in international trade, ensuring that time-sensitive products arrive promptly.

Air transport facilitates global connectivity, making it possible for products to traverse continents effortlessly. This mode of freight transportation has become integral to the fast-paced world of e-commerce and global supply chains.

In conclusion, air freight plays a crucial role in the dynamic landscape of global trade. Its speed, efficiency, and global reach make it a key player in connecting manufacturers, suppliers, and consumers across the world.

1. What does "swift" mean in the context of the text?
  - A. Quick and efficient
  - B. Large and heavy
  - C. Slow and deliberate
  - D. Complex and challenging
2. In the phrase "time-sensitive products," what does "time-sensitive" imply?
  - A. Products that are always available

- B. Products that have a specific shelf life
  - C. Products that are resistant to time
  - D. Products that are very large in size
3. What is emphasized by the term "direct routes" in relation to air transport?
- A. Routes with multiple stops
  - B. Routes with scenic views
  - C. Routes with the shortest distance
  - D. Routes with complex navigation
4. How does air transport contribute to "global connectivity" in the context of the text?
- A. By slowing down international connections
  - B. By facilitating communication between pilots
  - C. By making it difficult for products to move across borders
  - D. By enabling seamless connections between different parts of the world

### **Rail Transport: Tracks of Efficiency in Freight Movement**

In the intricate web of freight transportation, rail transport emerges as a stalwart, efficiently moving goods across vast distances. Railways, with their iron tracks, play a crucial role in shaping the logistics landscape.

Rail transport is synonymous with efficiency, especially when it comes to moving large quantities of goods over extended distances. Trains, powered by locomotives, provide a reliable and cost-effective means of freight movement, making them a preferred choice for bulk cargo.

The extensive network of railroads connects regions and nations, creating a seamless pathway for goods to travel. Rail transport becomes particularly instrumental in linking production centers with distribution hubs, ensuring a smooth flow in the supply chain.

Rail transport boasts environmental advantages, emitting fewer pollutants per ton-mile compared to some other modes. The focus on sustainability makes trains a compelling choice for businesses aiming to reduce their carbon footprint in freight movement.

In conclusion, rail transport stands as a robust force in the realm of freight transportation. Its efficiency, connectivity, and eco-friendly attributes make it a vital player in the movement of goods, carving tracks of reliability and sustainability across the global logistics landscape.

1. What does the term "stalwart" mean in the context of the text?
- A. Fast and efficient
  - B. Reliable and strong
  - C. Expensive and intricate
  - D. Flexible and adaptable

2. What is the significance of rail transport being "synonymous with efficiency" in the text?
  - A. It is always the fastest mode of transport.
  - B. It is consistently efficient in moving large quantities of goods.
  - C. It is the least expensive mode of freight transportation.
  - D. It is the most environmentally friendly mode.
3. How does rail transport contribute to "creating a seamless pathway for goods to travel" in the context of the text?
  - A. By building physical barriers
  - B. By connecting regions and nations
  - C. By limiting the types of goods transported
  - D. By avoiding extended distances
4. What does "carbon footprint" refer to in the sentence "reduce their carbon footprint in freight movement"?
  - A. The physical impact of trains on the tracks
  - B. The environmental impact of freight transportation
  - C. The cost of transporting goods by rail
  - D. The efficiency of freight movement

### **Role-Play: Choosing the Best Transport Options**

Make a dialogue based on the following scenario.

Participants:

- Casey (Shipping Manager)
- Riley (Transportation Coordinator)

Scenario:

Casey, the Shipping Manager, is tasked with choosing the best transport options for a diverse shipment of goods, including fragile electronics and perishable items. Riley, the Transportation Coordinator, is responsible for providing recommendations based on the specific characteristics of the products.