3 What are the numbers?

Project planning

1 11 Listen to some people planning a job. Make a list of the things they'll need. What job is it?

will / won't

We use *will* to give and ask for information about the future, and to offer help.
How many boxes will we need? The materials will be $2,400. I'll send you some bubble wrap.

With words like *I, you, we,* etc. use the contracted form, *'ll*. *Will not = won't.*

It'll be $5,400. We'll do the packing. It won't fit into one truck.

2 Turn to page 120 and read the conversation with a partner. Remember to use the contracted forms of *will*.

3 The speakers made a lot of estimates in the conversation. Complete the words below.

1 B How many boxes will we need?
A It's hard to say e.....
B R..... speaking?
A A..... three hundred.

2 A How far is your new office?
B A..... ten miles.

3 A Eight men and two trucks for one day ... You're l..... at s..... l..... three thousand dollars.

4 B So in total, it'll be $5,400?
A Yes, a.....

11 Now listen and check.

4 Practise making some estimates. Roughly speaking:

1 how far is it from your home to your workplace?
2 how long does it take you to get to work?
3 how far will you travel this week?
4 how much will you spend on petrol this month?
5 how much will you spend on travelling this year (cars, petrol, flights, trains, etc.)?

Countable and uncountable nouns

English nouns can be countable or uncountable.
How many ***boxes*** *will we need?*
How much ***bubble wrap*** *will we need?*

Countable nouns have a plural form.
box, ***boxes****, truck,* ***trucks****, man,* ***men***

Uncountable nouns are always singular.
equipment, ~~equipments~~, money, ~~moneys~~

Uncountable nouns take a singular verb form.
The packaging costs a lot.
Some of our equipment is fragile.

5 Are these nouns countable [C] or uncountable [U]?

1 equipment	7 fact	13 defect	19 experiment
2 computer	8 news	14 waste	20 test
3 machine	9 information	15 pollution	21 physics
4 machinery	10 data	16 petrol*	22 money
5 packaging	11 advice	17 gas	23 dollar
6 pack	12 suggestion	18 research	24 time

petrol **BrE** – gas or gasoline **AmE**

6 Tick (✓) the sentences that are correct. Correct the sentences that are wrong.

Example

much
How ~~many~~ time will we need?

1 I need some informations about train times.

2 How many times a year should we replace these filters?

3 There are a lot of datas here that we don't need.

4 How much new machines will you need next year?

5 All our machinery are state of the art.

6 These equipment is very difficult to use.

7 If the tests is successful, we'll start production in about six weeks.

8 Physics is the study of matter and energy.

9 How much dollars do we need?

10 The goal is zero defects and zero wastes.

7 Work in teams. Teams should sit in different parts of the room, if possible, so you can't hear what other teams are saying. Each team will plan a different job.

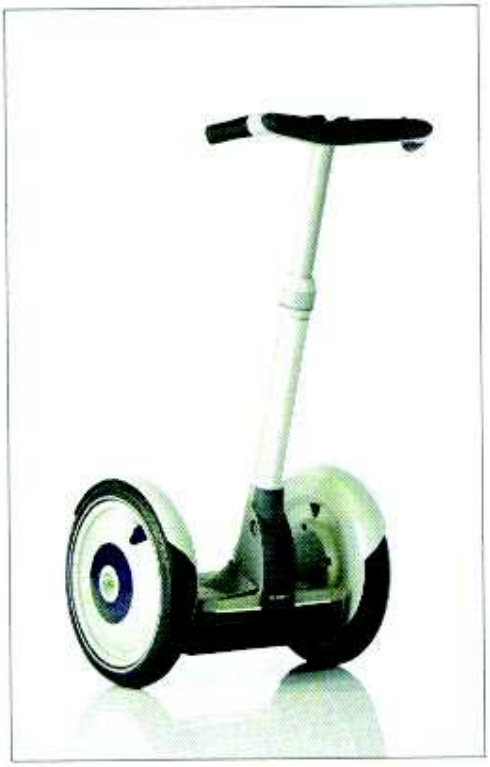
Discuss what you need to do for your job. Write a list of the equipment and manpower you will need, and estimate how long it will take, and how much it will cost. When you have finished, present your lists to the other teams. They will guess what the job is.

Team 1 – look at file 6 on page 103.
Team 2 – look at file 12 on page 105.
Team 3 – look at file 17 on page 107.
Team 4 – look at file 30 on page 112.

Making comparisons

1 32 What's special about these three vehicles? What unusual things do you think they can do? Listen to an advertisement for a radio programme about them and find out if you're right.

THE CARVER
Price: €42,000
Top speed: 180 km/h
Dimensions: 340 x 130 x 140 cm (L,W,H)*
Weight: 620 kg
Engine output: kW/hp 48.5/65
Max range: 630 km



THE SEGWAY HT™
Price: €5,500
Top speed: 20 km/h
Dimensions: 48 x 64 x variable (L,W,H)*
Weight: 43 kg
Engine output: kW/hp 1.5/2.0
Max range: 19 km

THE SKYCAR
Price: approx €2m
Top speed: 630 km/h
Dimensions: 5.5 x 2.7 x 1.8 m (L,W,H)*
Weight: 1,000 kg
Engine output: kW/hp 716/960
Max range: 1,450 km

*(L, W, H) = Length, Width, Height

2 32 Listen again and answer the questions.

1 What's the subject of tonight's *Car Chat* show?
2 Why does Peter think the Segway HT is 'the coolest thing'?
3 How does it compare to a car and a bike?
4 What happens to the Carver when it goes round a bend?
5 How does it compare to a normal car?
6 What's the worst thing about driving?
7 How does a Skycar compare to a normal car?

Comparing two things

With short adjectives, use *-er (+ than)*.
*It's faster **than** a normal car.*
With long adjectives, use *more / less (+ than)*.
*It's **more** exciting **than** a car and it's **less** noisy.*
Irregular forms: *good* — *It's **better**.*
bad — *It's **worse**.*
far — *It goes **further**.*
Or use *as ... as*.
*It isn't **as** cheap **as** a car.*

3 Look at the specifications for the vehicles in **1**. How do they compare to other vehicles like cars, bicycles, and motorbikes? Make more sentences using the patterns in the box above.

Example
The Segway HT isn't as expensive as a car but it's slower.
It's taller than a bicycle and it's much heavier.

Comparing three or more things

With short adjectives, use *(the) -est*.
With long adjectives, use *(the) most / least*.
*The Skycar is **the fastest** vehicle and it's also **the most** expensive.*
Irregular forms: *good* — *It's **the best**.*
bad — *It's **the worst**.*
far — *It goes **the furthest**.*

4 Now compare the three vehicles. In your opinion, which one is:

1 the most useful in a city?
2 the easiest to use?
3 the most difficult to maintain?
4 the safest?
5 the least comfortable to travel in or on?
6 the most fun*?
7 the most exciting?
8 the best vehicle for you to use to get to work?

Compare your answers with some other students and see if you agree.

Fun means enjoyable. For example, The boat trip was fun.
Funny describes something strange or something that makes you laugh. For example, The machine is making a funny noise. It was the funniest movie I've ever seen. We all laughed.

5 Hold a competition with the class.

1 Brainstorm twelve different things you can use to get from one place to another. Write them on the board.

Example
bicycle, hot air balloon, donkey

2 Take turns choosing two different things and comparing them.

Example
car / bicycle – A car is noisier than a bicycle.

Write the adjectives you use on the board too. Nobody can use the same adjective twice. The person who makes the last sentence is the winner.

3 Look at the list of adjectives and make more sentences about the vehicles. Say which is the *fastest, slowest, noisiest*, etc.

Example *A plane is the fastest.*

6 Work in groups. You need to go to a conference in New York. What is:

1 the fastest way to get there?
2 the cheapest way to get there?
3 the best way to get there?

Compare your answers with the class.