

The great traffic jam in China

Have you ever been to China?

Vocabulary

1. stranded
2. taken advantage of
3. stretching
4. automotive
5. congestion
6. massive

True Story

In August 2010, China experienced a _____ traffic jam on the Beijing-Tibet Expressway, lasting for 12 days and _____ over 62 miles. This jam, mainly caused by trucks carrying coal and construction materials to Beijing, was worsened by ongoing roadworks.

The number of vehicles in China has been rising due to the country's growing _____ market, leading to frequent traffic _____. Despite attempts to encourage the use of public transport to reduce pollution and ease traffic, these efforts have had limited success.

During the traffic jam, local residents saw an opportunity to earn money by selling food and water at high prices to _____ drivers. While some drivers were grateful, others were unhappy at being _____.

Quiz

1. What caused the traffic jam on the Beijing-Tibet Expressway in August 2010?
2. How long did the traffic jam last?
3. What did local residents do during the traffic jam?

True or False

1. There was a massive jam sandwich on the Beijing-Tibet Expressway. True | False
2. There are more traffic jams because of the country's growing automotive market. True | False
3. Drivers in the traffic jam sold food and water at high prices to local residents. True | False

Conversation

- A: I can't believe this traffic jam!
- B: Yeah, it's been days now. I'm starving!
- A: Look! There's someone selling food over there.
- B: Ugh... looks expensive. Guess we have no choice.
- A: Yeah, but wow, look at the menu.
- B: Bird's nest soup! I never expected to see that here!

Discussion

1. Have you ever been stuck in a long traffic jam?
2. What emergency supplies should you keep in a car?
3. How can we solve the issue of traffic congestion in cities?
4. How do you imagine the future of traffic?