

Driving U.S. Route 66

Ex. 1 Read the text and watch the movie. Answer the questions below.

It is the most famous highway road in the USA, often called the legendary Mother Road. It originally ran from Chicago, Illinois, through Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona all the way to Los Angeles, California, covering a total of 2,448 miles (3,940 km). It began in 1926 when the first federal highway system was launched, and since then it has been the experience of a lifetime for travelers, adventurers, desperados, and dreamers. Even though it was officially removed from the US Highway System in 1985, the Mother Road lived on. Portions of the road have been designated a National Scenic Byway of the name "Historic Route 66". Driving it is much more fun than speeding on a modern highway system. Americans, and visitors from outside the country, take Route 66 and have the time of their life there. It is like going back in time or a sentimental journey, as on the way you can see numerous old motels, gas stations, shops, old cars or wagons. *

*text written with the use of information found at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Route_66 and <https://www.historic66.com>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZdiM12epbnU>

1. What other name does she use for Route 66?
2. When did Route 66 disappear from the map?
3. What time of the year is the best for taking Route 66?
4. How many days will you need to drive the entire route?
5. What vehicles do they recommend for travelling on the road?
6. Why do people still like travelling on Route 66?

for more information about Route 66: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=or-cjmMuMDs>

Ex. 2 Look at the pictures. Read and complete the sentences using the past simple or the past continuous tense of the verbs in brackets. .



Last summer Tom and Becky 1. (be) on Historic Mother Road 66. They 2. (have) a lot of fun as the trip was quite an adventure.



While they 3. (drive) to Kingman, a severe thunderstorm 4. (begin). Becky 5. (be) really scared but Tom 6. (settle) her down and everything was ok.

One early afternoon, while they 7. (eat) lunch, they 8. (see) three little hummingbirds. They 9. (beat) their wings incredibly fast.



As they 10. (not have) much money, they 11. (decide) to make dinners on their own. At a local market in Santa Fe Becky 12. (buy) a few chilly peppers for their first Mexican dish.

Ex. 3 Continue the story about Tom and Becky's trip on Route 66. Describe at least four pictures with your own ideas.



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Ex 1 suggested answers:

1. Mother Road. 2. In 1985. 3. September and October. 4. Fourteen. 5. Four by four style vehicle or Harley Davidson. 6. It is much more fun than speeding on a modern highway.

Ex 2 answers:

1. were 2. had/were having 3. were driving 4. began 5. was 6. settled 7. were eating 8. saw 9. were beating 10. didn't have 11. decided 12. bought

Ex 3 answers:

Students' own answers