



**2.44** Natalie Trudeau is at the Federal-U.S.A. car rental office at the hotel.

**Natalie:** Hi, I have a car reserved for three days. Natalie Trudeau?  
**Clerk:** Ms. Trudeau. Yes, I have your reservation here. Do you have the voucher from your travel agent?  
**Natalie:** There you go. It's pre-paid.  
**Clerk:** Thanks. So it's a Grade C. A compact?  
**Natalie:** That's right.  
**Clerk:** We're going to offer you a free upgrade to a Grade F today. That's full-size.  
**Natalie:** I'd prefer a compact.  
**Clerk:** Uh, well, we actually don't have a compact, right now.  
**Natalie:** I don't like large cars.  
**Clerk:** I can offer you a Grade S, Sports Coupe. That's a smaller vehicle.  
**Natalie:** For the same price as a compact?  
**Clerk:** Sure.  
**Natalie:** OK.



**Clerk:** May I see your driver's license?  
**Natalie:** I have a French one, and an International one.  
**Clerk:** The French one's fine if it has a photo ... yes, that's OK. Will you be taking C.D.W. and P.A.I.?  
**Natalie:** I don't understand. What's C.D.W. and P.A.I.?  
**Clerk:** Collision Damage Waiver and Personal Accident Insurance. There's an extra charge per day, of ten dollars for each.  
**Natalie:** I'll take both.  
**Clerk:** Great. Can you check these two boxes, put your initials here ... and there ... and sign at the bottom. And may I swipe your credit card for the additional charges?  
**Natalie:** There you go.  
**Clerk:** Here are the keys. It's the metallic blue coupe in bay 27. It has a full tank of gas.  
**Natalie:** Thanks for your help.

## Federal-U.S.A.

### Federal-U.S.A. Car Rental Daily rates

| Grade E<br>Economy          | Grade C<br>Compact                     | Grade M<br>Mid-size                      | Grade F<br>Full-size | Grade V<br>Minivan                   | Grade S<br>Sports coupé |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 adults<br>(+ small child) | 2 adults +<br>2 children /<br>3 adults | 4 adults /<br>2 adults +<br>2/3 children | 5 adults             | 5/6 adults<br>(7 without<br>baggage) | 2 adults                |
| Daily \$45                  | Daily \$52                             | Daily \$64                               | Daily \$72           | Daily \$95                           | Daily \$70              |

All Federal-U.S.A. vehicles are automatic with air conditioning and radio / CD  
 Rates are for 400 miles per day (thereafter 50 cents per mile applies)

- ◆ We strongly recommend C.D.W. (collision damage waiver) at \$10 per day
- ◆ Personal accident insurance (P.A.I.) is \$10 per day per vehicle (Grade V: \$15)
- ◆ Supplement of \$5 per day June 20th thru September 1st
- ◆ State taxes will apply, including state car rental surcharges

**1** **Role-play the conversation. Talk about different grades of car.**

**2** **2.45 Keiko Ishida has just rented a car. Listen, then say if these statements are true or false.**

- She prefers automatic cars.
- She's never driven an automatic before.
- Her father has an automatic.
- In the U.S.A. traffic drives on the left.

**3** **Ask and answer:**

Do you prefer large cars or small cars?  
 Would you rather drive an automatic or a manual?  
 On which side does traffic drive in your country?  
 Have you ever driven on the 'other side'?  
 Have you ever rented a car?  
 If so, where? When?

**Culture File 45 Renting a car**