**BICYCLE**

**Can you guess the meaning of the following words?**

wheel

tire

rim

spoke

pedal

stand

chain

gears

frame

brake

saddle

water bottle

fork

handlebars

Why is a bicycle called a bicycle?

What do you know about the invention of the bike? Why was the invention so important?

How useful are bicycles?

Can you ride a bike? If so, when did you learn? Was it easy? What are your memories of learning to ride a bicycle?

Have you got a bike? If so, how often do you use it? Where do you keep it? How much maintenance does it need? What sort of bike is it? How many gears does it have?

What are the advantages of a bicycle over a car?

Do you think bicycles will be used more or less in the future?

Is our country a bicycle-friendly country?

Have you injured yourself falling off of a bicycle?

Have you had any bicycle adventures?

Have you ever had your bicycle stolen? How did you feel? Was it securely locked?

Do you need a bicycle?

What extra features or functions would be helpful for a bicycle?

Do you think people will ever stop using bicycles?

Have you ever ridden racing bikes, mountain bikes, bmx bikes or other recreational bikes?

What do you think about electric bikes?

Do you think other cyclists are dangerous?

Do you think governments should require people to pass a cycling proficiency test before being allowed to ride a bicycle on roads?

Should cyclists always wear protective gear?

What are the disadvantages of bicycles?

How dangerous do you think cycling is? Why?

Where you live, do many people cycle to school/work or is cycling mainly a weekend leisure activity?

How many kilometres of cycle lanes are there where you live?

Have you ever gone on a cycling tour/holiday? Where did you go? How long for? How many kilometres did you do a day? In total? Who did you go with? Where did you stay? Would you do it again? Why/why not?

How quickly can you repair a puncture/replace the inner tube?

**Video – Cycling**

1. What are the two main points Randall explains in the video about cycling?

A. cost savings and healthy lifestyle
B. proper attire and shoes
C. riding gear and safety

2. A key point Randall mentions is that you should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. know how to use your equipment before you ride
B. buy the proper bike for your particular riding needs
C. wear a safety vest while riding your bike

3. What does Randall suggest about having lights for your bike?

A. Buy red lights so people can see you better.
B. Put lights on the front and back of your bike.
C. Get blinking lights that attract drivers' attention.

**Read these statements about cycling. Do you agree or disagree? Try to explain your reasons.**

• Cycle helmets should be compulsory.

• All towns and cities should have cycle paths.

• Car drivers should be encouraged to start cycling.

• Cyclists are really annoying for car drivers!

• Cyclists should have to pass an exam before they use the roads.

• Cars should be banned!

• Bicycles should be banned!

• Bicycles should be cheaper or even free.

**Reading:**

*result rate tax off emissions lawmaker polluting owner*

An American (1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has said cycling is bad for the environment. He also said cyclists should pay a (2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to ride their bikes on the roads. Ed Orcutt, a representative from Washington State, sent an e-mail to the (3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a local bike shop to outline his thinking. He wrote: "A cyclist has an increased heart (4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and respiration. That means that the act of riding a bike results in greater (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of carbon dioxide from the rider. Since CO2 is…a greenhouse gas…cyclists are actually (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when they ride." Mr Orcutt said: "You can't just say that there's no pollution as a (7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of riding a bicycle….You would be giving (8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more CO2 if you are riding a bike than driving in a car."

*wrong wear repairing patrol using taxed reduce required*

Mr Orcutt also believes cyclists should be (9) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to use the roads. He said it was unfair that motorists have to pay all of the costs of building and (10) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ roads. He wrote: "Currently motorists are paying to use their cars on the roads…so if cars pay for the roads they are (11) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, it only makes sense that bicyclists would also be (12) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to pay for the roads they use when they are actually biking on them." Dale Carlson, owner of the Tech Bike Shop said Mr Orcutt's ideas were (13) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He wrote: "People who choose to ride a bicycle instead of driving a car actively (14) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ congestion." He added: "They save (15) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and tear on our roads and bridges, and reduce the [need for police] to (16) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our highways."

Do you agree with Ed Orcutt that cycling is bad for the environment?

Should cyclists cycle less to reduce CO2 emissions?

What do you think cyclists think of Mr Orcutt's comments?

Do you think there should be a cycling tax to help pay for roads?

Is it unfair that motorists pay for the building and repair of roads?

What problems would be reduced if people cycled instead of drove?

Could you / your family survive without a car?

How would your life / health change if you cycled everywhere?