

Go on two wheels

1. TRUE or FALSE

- a. False. Evidence: "It is absurd to give dog-like obedience to a red light when your eyes and ears tell you it is safe to go."
- b. False. Evidence: "The car is no longer a symbol of freedom, so if you want to feel free, go on two wheels"

2. In your own words.

- a. In 1926 Londoners decided to drive the trains themselves substituting the drivers on strike, while in 2014 most citizens began to use their bikes to go to their jobs instead of using public transport.
- b. Cycling was a way of escape from their constrictions since they were only devoted to their home and family. Moreover, they found a cause for getting rid of their tight dresses which were fashionable at that time yet too uncomfortable to ride a bike.

3. Find the words in the text that mean:

- a. Just
- b. Timetables
- c. Founded
- d. Throw off

4. Complete the following sentences:

- a. Biking/where
- b. Was founded/than
- c. Must/to do
- d. Going for a walk the following day if the weather were fine.

5. Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of cycling in big cities?

Nowadays it can be observed an increasing tendency in the use of bikes as a means of transport in many big cities since many citizens are aware of the several advantages cycling in a big city may suppose. However, it depends on the city as some places have such steep slopes that it is difficult to ride a bike along its roads.

We must also take into account that using a bike in a city without a cycling culture may be hard for cyclists. They must remain very alert to traffic signs and the behaviour of the other vehicles while cycling in order to avoid possible accidents, whose impact would be received entirely on their body.

On the other hand, if we compare riding a bike in big cities with using public transport or cars, we may easily find that they can be quicker and less stressful. Cars are not only polluting but they may also force us to spend hours stuck in traffic jams and buses or trains are usually very crowded during rush hours. In conclusion, cycling is increasing because more and more people see it as a better way of travelling: it is cheaper, healthier, greener, and you can feel fresh air on your face.

Use or abuse of technology

1. TRUE or FALSE

- a. False. Evidence: "He warned that we are becoming more and more anti-social and we are moving away from face-to-face conversations because of technology."
- b. False. Evidence: "Dr. Cassidy linked the increasing cases of Internet and social media addiction among youngsters with problems in mental and physical development."

2. In your own words.

- a. Given that surfing the internet is nowadays possible from nearly any place thanks to the creation of Wi-Fi devices people use technology, such as computers, mobile phones or video games, to get online more often and for longer.
- b. The research results show that children of six can reach an understanding of technological devices as if they were forty-five. Moreover, fourteen or fifteen has been proved to be the best age to understand digital technology.

3. Find the words in the text that mean:

- a. Almost
- b. Finding
- c. Because of
- d. Linked

4. Complete the following sentences:

- a. Which/in
- b. Wouldn't communicate/ didn't exist
- c. Getting/ had been using
- d. Shouldn't have been sent off for printing yet.

5. Write about 100 to 150 words on the following topic.

What differences do you find between the use of technology by teenagers and by adults?

The increasing development of technologies has led to a huge change in communication. Nowadays technology has a strong impact on the members of society regardless their group of age. However, this impact may be different in terms of speed of learning and purposes of use.

Teenagers are born acquiring the abilities for using digital devices just by being surrounded by them, while most adults have to learn how these new gadgets work. Teenagers also learn new applications on mobile phones faster than adults.

Most adults use technology for work as well as for recreational purposes such as keeping in touch with their friends and relatives, while teenagers mostly use it for these latter purposes. They are mainly focused on social media and instant messaging services. Due to the characteristics inherent to their age, they are much highly worried about connection with others. Although that need to be in touch at any time is spreading among adults too.

In short, the differences we find are normal given our different stages in life and the interests deriving from them.