Unit 6: Exercise 5

Read the newspaper article about cycling in cities. Then complete the exercise on the next screen

Today, many large cities around the world have too many cars on their roads. This is bad for cities, because it takes people a long time to travel to work, and there are many more car accidents. However, the biggest problem with cars is that there is lot of pollution in cities. This is bad for people's health. One way to stop this problem is for people to leave their cars at home and use public transport, for example buses and trains. Many cities like London and Paris now have a new cleaner way for people to travel. They can rent bicycles to travel around the city. It is a healthy and cheap way to travel, and many people now prefer to use bicycles for short journeys.

In London, there are special stations to rent bicycles. People take a bicycle from one station and return it to a different station later in the day. It costs £2.00 to rent a bicycle for 30 minutes, £3.00 for one hour, and £5.00 for two hours. There are many different bicycle stations around the city. Most of the stations are in the city centre, but there are also some stations in areas where people live and near places like parks and museums. The most popular time for people to use these bicycles is at the weekend, but many people also use the bicycles to travel to work in the mornings on weekdays. In Paris, people can rent bicycles in the same way as they can in London, but Paris has more bicycle stations than London.

There are many cities around the world where people can rent bicycles in this way. The first bicycle stations were in Amsterdam in the Netherlands, while Hangzhou is the first city in China to build a set of bicycle stations. Copenhagen in Denmark has the most modern bicycles. The bicycles there have computer screens which give people directions to different places in the city. Copenhagen is a very good city for riding bicycles. There is a lot of space for people to cycle on the roads, and there are even some special traffic lights for bicycles. It is not surprising that more people travel by bicycle in Copenhagen than by car. In the future, it is likely that people will be able to rent bicycles in many more cities around the world. This means that there will be fewer cars and less pollution.

Riding bicycles is not only a good way to stop pollution. Many people say that they also feel happier when they ride a bicycle than they do when they drive a car, or take a bus or train. This is because they feel healthier, have more energy and can also save money. More people now travel to work by bicycle in many cities than before and people are more likely to go shopping in areas of the city that are close to bicycle stations. The areas close to bicycle stations are even becoming popular places for people to live.

Choose the correct answers. Read the newspaper article on the first screen again to help you.

1 The most important problem with cars in cities is [ ] .

2 To rent a bicycle in London for one hour costs [ ] .

3 Most of the bicycle stations in London are [ ] .

4 The most popular time for people to rent bicycles in London is [ ] .

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5 In Paris, the number of bicycle stations is [ ] .

6 The first country to have bicycle stations was [ ] .

7 For people riding bicycles, Copenhagen has a lot of [ ] .

8 Bicycle stations in cities have changed [ ] .

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