

1. Read Otto's essay and and completed with this linking words and phrases.

The second reason

In conclusión

Finally

First

Should cars be banned from the downtown area?

I live in a beautiful, historic city, but everyone agrees that there is a problem with traffic. Every day, over 60,000 people drive downtown to work or study, and pollution levels are rising. Our local council has suggested banning all cars from the downtown area. Personally, I think this is a very bad idea.

- 1 _____, how would people get to work? Houses in the city are very expensive, and people who live in the suburbs or outside the city already have long trips to work. In my opinion, it is unreasonable that they should have to wait for a bus to get downtown.
- 2 _____ is that I don't believe it's possible for everyone to use public transportation, walk, or ride their bikes to work. For example, people in wheelchairs need special vehicles, and many people have to carry heavy tools or equipment for their work.



- 3 _____, I'm worried that local stores and businesses will suffer. If people can't drive to the stores, they won't go at all. Most people don't want to carry bags full of shopping on a bus.
- 4 _____, I feel that banning cars from downtown is a bad idea. I would say that we should be looking at different ways of reducing pollution—ways that don't involve making life difficult for people! For example, we should develop better electric cars, improve public transportation, and make better bike lanes.

2. Find these phrases in Otto's essay. Then write sentences with your own ideas about whether or not cars should be banned from the downtown area.

- 1 Personally, _____.
- 2 In my opinion _____.
- 3 I don't believe that _____.
- 4 I'm worried that _____.
- 5 I would say that _____.

3. Use the words in the box to complete the arguments against Otto's opinion.

fresh air pollution healthier safe
public transportation permission

- 1 In my opinion, banning cars would reduce _____.
- 2 I don't believe that it's _____ for cars and bicycles to share the streets.
- 3 I think that getting some _____ by walking or riding a bike to work is a good idea.
- 4 People who need to carry heavy equipment could get _____ from the council to drive.
- 5 Personally, I feel that people who can't walk or ride a bike should use _____.
- 6 I wouldn't say that riding a bike is difficult for most people, and it makes them _____.