

Reading Task 2: Cycling Fun

Read the following article from a magazine. Answer all the questions in the Answers Booklet.



Cycling Fun

With spring finally here, there is only one way to spend the weekends: on your bike! Here's a reminder of how fun cycling is. Read on to learn some interesting facts about bicycles.



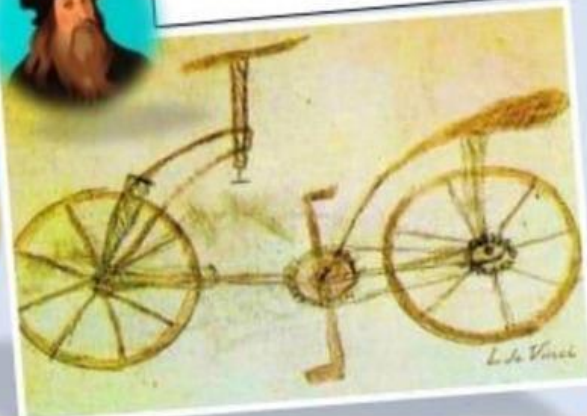
1. _____

When you ride a bike, a hormone called endorphin is released into our brain. Endorphins are responsible for making us happy. So, riding a bike is guaranteed good times!

Riding a bike is not only good exercise but makes you feel cheerful, too!

2. _____

The first bicycle-type vehicle was built in 1790. Back then it was called a hobbyhorse. Years later, sketches were found that suggested Italian artist Leonardo da Vinci had drawn a bicycle 300 years before it was invented.



Today, bikes are made of materials such as aluminium and titanium that make them sturdy but also light enough to go fast. Back in the old days they were made of wood and didn't even have pedals! Riders sat on a saddle and pushed themselves along using their feet, a bit like a small child on a balancing bike.



One of the strangest bikes from the past must be the penny farthing. It had one small wheel at the back and another huge one at the front! It was easy to ride on rough surfaces and quite fast. But it was also dangerous if you fell while riding it, as it was quite tall. Getting on and off couldn't have been that easy, either.



3. _____

If you want to share a cycling adventure with a friend, how about using a tandem, which is a two-seated bike? Or if you have 34 friends, you could go on the longest tandem ever built, a 35-seater, measuring more than 20 metres long.

4. _____

The Tour de France is the oldest cycling competition in the world. First raced in 1903, it has always taken place in the month of July but was stopped during World War 1 and World War II. Every year, hundreds of professional cyclists ride around France for 23 days, covering more than 3,000 km.



Reading Task 2

(20 marks)

Read the article '**Cycling Fun**' in the Extracts Booklet and answer ALL the questions below.

1. Underline the correct answer.

6 marks

a) Who do you think should read this article?

1 mark

- i) People who enjoy running.
- ii) People who like to go on walking hikes.
- iii) People who are interested in bicycles.

b) In what month do you think this article appeared in the magazine? 1 mark

- i) December
- ii) August
- iii) April

c) In the past, bicycles were made of

1 mark

- i) aluminium.
- ii) wood.
- iii) plastic.

d) The main reason for this article is to

1 mark

- i) convince people to buy a new bike.
- ii) inform people about the different types of bikes available today.
- iii) entertain people with interesting facts about bicycles.

e) Which bicycle is compared to a balancing bike?

1 mark

- i) The penny farthing
- ii) The tandem bike
- iii) The hobbyhorse

2. '...that make them sturdy but also light enough to go fast.'

Which word most closely matches the meaning of the word **sturdy**? Tick one.

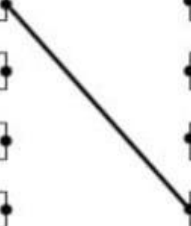
1 mark

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| strong | ☐ |
| muscular | ☐ |
| safe | ☐ |

3. Look at the Extracts Booklet. Some paragraphs have a number. Match each paragraph number with its subtitle.

The first one is done for you.

3 marks

PARAGRAPH		SUBTITLE
1		Tour de France
2		Tandem Bikes
3		History of Bikes
4		Did you know?

4. Match the photos in the text with the captions.

The first one is done for you.

3 marks

a) 		1 The hobbyhorse. This early bicycle had no pedals.
b) 		2 A sketch of a bicycle drawn by renowned artist Leonardo da Vinci, dating back to the year 1490.
c) 		3 The tandem bike – Family biking made easy.
d) 		4 1880s man riding a penny farthing.

(18 marks)

1. You are going to the park with your family. Write an email to your friend so he/she can join you. In your email, you may include:

- Use the map below when giving directions.

(18 marks)

[illegible]