

**READING EXERCISE**  
**TRUE/FALSE/NOT GIVEN**

**EXERCISE 1: Bike Ride**  
**The start**

The bike ride starts at Clapham Common tube station.

- Your Start Time is indicated by the color of your body number in this pack. It is also printed on the address label of the envelope. Please arrive no earlier than 30 minutes before that time.
- We allocate an equal number of cyclists for each Start Time to ensure a steady flow. Please keep to the time you've been given so we can keep to our schedule and avoid delaying other riders and prevent 'bunching' further down the route.
- An Information Point, toilets and refreshment stands will be open from very early in the day.

**Wear a helmet**

Every year we are delighted to see more riders wearing protective helmets, but we would like to see every cyclist on the ride wearing one. More than half of reported injuries in cycling accidents are to the head, and a helmet gives the best protection when the head hits the ground.

**In case of breakdown**

Refer to your route map and make your way to a Mechanics Point. Mechanical assistance is free when you show your Rider Identity Card; you just pay for the parts.

**Do the following statements agree with the information in the text? Mark them:**

**True** if the statement agrees with the text

**False** if the statement does not agree with the text

**Not Given** if there is no information about this in the text

1. You should not arrive more than half an hour before your allocated starting time.

True

False

Not given

2. Your Rider Identity Card will be sent to you before the event.

True

False

Not given

3. Helmets are compulsory for all participants.

True

False

Not given

### EXERCISE 2: The Mona Lisa

Mona Lisa, also known as La Gioconda, is the wife of Francesco del Giocondo. This painting is painted as oil on wood. The original painting size is 77 x 53 cm (30 x 20 7/8 in) and is owned by the Government of France and is on the wall in the Louvre in Paris, France.

This figure of a woman, dressed in the Florentine fashion of her day and seated in a visionary, mountainous landscape, is a remarkable instance of Leonardo's sfumato technique of soft, heavily shaded modelling. The Mona Lisa's enigmatic expression, which seems both alluring and aloof, has given the portrait universal fame.

The Mona Lisa's famous smile represents the sitter in the same way that the juniper branches represent Ginevra Benci and the ermine represents Cecilia Gallerani in their portraits, in Washington and Krakow respectively. It is a visual representation of the idea of happiness suggested by the word "gioconda" in Italian. Leonardo made this notion of happiness the central motif of the portrait: it is this notion which makes the work such an ideal. The nature of the landscape also plays a role. The middle distance, on the same level as the sitter's chest, is in warm colors. Men live in this space: there are a winding road and a bridge. This space represents the transition between the space of the sitter and the far distance, where the landscape becomes a wild and uninhabited space of rocks and water which stretches to the horizon, which Leonardo has cleverly drawn at the level of the sitter's eyes.

1. Francesco del Giocondo was the wife of Leonardo da Vinci.

True

False

Not given

2. The French government bought the painting in Paris, France.

True

False

Not given

3. The Mona Lisa was painted by an artist named Leonardo.

True

False

Not given

4. The painting is well-known around the world.

True

False

Not given

5. The word "Giacconda" in Italian means "happiness".

True

False

Not given

6. The artist liked to use warm colors in his artistic work.

True

False

Not given

7. The wild and uninhabited space depicted in the landscape refers to the difficult path of life.

True

False

Not given