

## Use of English

**Directions:** Read the text below and for each gap circle the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word or phrase that best suits each space.

Until around 1750, most people lived in small villages. They rarely 1. (A watched TV; B travelled; C gossiped; D teamworked) and they knew very little about the world beyond their village - it took weeks and sometimes even 2. (A kilometres, B centuries, C pains, D months) to reach the nearest town. At the dawn of the Industrial Age, the streets were shared spaces which allowed equal 3. (A civil rights; B rights and lefts; C rights of way; D right away) to pedestrians, riders and horse-drawn carts. There was no need 4. (A for; B in; C from; D to) road signs or sophisticated traffic control systems. However, everything changed with the 5. (A descent; B departure; C advent; D drive) of the automobile in the 1880s.

The first automobile arrived in Bulgaria in 1896. It was 6. (A unfolded; B manufactured; C designated; D sophisticated) by the French company De Dion-Bouton and it was rather primitive compared with modern cars. The vehicle had a 7. (A steam; B horse-driven; C coal; D diesel) engine, solid tyres and wheels made of wood. There was no airbag or seat belt, no boot, no headlights - and not even any 8. (A brakes, B doors, C pedals, D gears). The car's first journey was a short one – from the Central Railway Station in Sofia along Lomsko Shose, over Lions' Bridge and along Vitosha Boulevard into the city centre, where it promptly broke down.

As cars became more reliable, more powerful and more affordable, eventually they 9. (A took after, B took to, C took over, D took back) the traditional modes of transport and today they dominate our streets. Currently, there are more than 2.5 million registered vehicles in Bulgaria, and the number of new car owners is growing rapidly. While no one is denying the benefits of automated vehicles, the environmental 10. (A impact, B compact, C catastrophe, D complement) of transport has become a cause

of concern for city authorities around the world. In an attempt to reduce pollution, traffic 11. (A digestion, B congestion, C suggestion, D practice) and road accidents, cities are considering alternative transport solutions, such as car-free zones, car-free-days, car-sharing and cycling schemes.

### **Car-free zones**

A number of towns and cities in Europe 12. (A would, B have, C had, D were) never allowed motor vehicles on their streets, including Venice in Italy, Zermatt in Switzerland and Mdina in Malta. To this day, cars and lorries are not 13. (A rescued; B permitted; C forgiven; D repaired) on Mount Athos in Greece. The central part of the Belgian city of Ghent, which is often called the cycling capital of Europe, is essentially car free. There are car-free zones in Bulgaria, too. Plovdiv contains one of the largest pedestrianised streets in Europe - neither cars nor cyclists are allowed on Glavnata. Similarly, Vitosha Boulevard in Sofia is now a pedestrian-only zone. There are also pedestrianised areas in Blagoevgrad, Burgas, Ruse, Pazardzhik and many other Bulgarian towns and cities.

### **Car-free days**

On 22 September, many cities celebrate World Car Free Day - an initiative which encourages motorists to give up their cars for a day and try out other 14. (A hinges, B modes, C packets, D demonstrations) of transport. In town, without my car! (ITWMC) is an EU campaign which has similar aims and also takes 15. (A interest, B part, C place, D a look) in autumn. The organisers of these events are hoping to 16. (A increase benefits, B get rid, C cast aside, D raise awareness) of the problems associated with increased traffic and to improve road safety. About 90 Bulgarian towns and cities have taken part in car-free events since 1998, when the first campaigns were 17. (A launched, B failed, C cancelled, D pedestrianised) in the country.

Human-powered 18. (A vehicles; B vessels; C cylinders; D slippers)

Using human-powered modes of transportation such as bicycles, kick scooters and skateboards is not really a new idea. The ancestors of the modern bicycle were in use by the early 1800s. The frame and wheels were usually made of 19 (cotton, plastics, wood, white lilies) and there was no steering or pedals, but some models had adjustable 20 (A vehicles, B gears, C engines, D saddles). In 1816, the German inventor Karl Drais 21. (A hinged, B licensed, C unsettled, D forgot) the front wheel and the handlebars to allow steering. The Scottish blacksmith Kirkpatrick Macmillan added the pedals in 1839. Modern technology has allowed machines to enhance human 22. (A power, B happiness, C glory, D honour) and today, we have e-bikes, velomobiles and half-bikes. The half-bike was the brainchild of Bulgarian entrepreneurs Martin Angelov and Mihail Klenov. This hybrid of a three-wheeled scooter and a miniature rolling machine is notable 23. (A with, B about, C like, D for) its ingenious minimalistic design and the standing position of the rider. 'It's fun to ride, provides great exercise and is very light and compact,' Martin Angelov says.

### **Hiring and sharing**

Many Bulgarian cities have designated areas for cyclists, but Burgas was the first to launch a bike hire and bike sharing scheme. The scheme is being 24.(A implanted, B implemented, C imitated, D immersed) in several phases and although the initial interest was low, city authorities are thinking of expanding it. They are expecting more people to start using the bikes in future. 25. (A While, B Unless, C Sometimes, D However) we still have to come up with a model for sustainable development that is not dependent on cars, it seems shared usage combined with road space management and human-powered vehicles might prove to be a viable solution to most traffic problems in big cities.

## Sentences

**Directions: Read the sentences below and for each gap circle the letter (A, B, C or D) of the word that best suits each space.**

1. Teenagers are often \_\_\_\_\_ with their phones.

A. passionate C. excited      B. obsessed      D. attached

2. The experts of the company are trying to \_\_\_\_\_ up with a solution to the problem, but it's very difficult.

A. think      B. find      C. come      D. make

3. It's not easy for young parents to \_\_\_\_\_ their children and make them good people.

A. bring up      B. grow up      C. look for      D. care of

4. There was nothing original in the film the plot was highly \_\_\_\_\_

A. moving      B. innovative      C. artistic      D. predictable

5. Susan's mother is an artist, but her dad works \_\_\_\_\_ office hours.

A. usual      C. regular      B. common      D. everyday

\_\_\_\_\_ /30 pt