

# READING COMPREHENSION



English Department

Unit 6\_ 2nd ESO

## 1 Read the text.

“Patna was one of India’s most polluted cities. In 1988, a group of young volunteers decided to do something about it. They wanted to improve the quality of life for everybody, so they cleaned up the city and planted hundreds of trees.

The volunteers formed a group and they called it Tarumitra (Friends of Trees). Four secondary-school students organised a bicycle ride in the north of the country to tell people about our planet’s ecological crisis. The boys rode from Patna to New Delhi – a distance of more than 1,045 kilometres. They went from place to place talking to people about protecting and planting trees.



Tarumitra is doing many other things to protect the environment. One of its best achievements is a 10-acre nature reserve in the centre of Patna. They planted hundreds of different types of trees there. Tarumitra is also trying to change the way people in India celebrate the Holi Festival. Every spring, people celebrate this festival by lighting big fires with branches from trees. In Patna, they burn rubbish instead of trees and now in other areas,

too. If Tarumitra’s success continues, people all over India will do the same.

Tarumitra started more than 25 years ago and today it has got members in over 1,000 schools and colleges all over India. These hard-working young people won’t stop fighting to protect their environment. If these volunteers didn’t do such good work, Patna wouldn’t be a model for other cities in India.”.



## Show What You Know

1. Read again and tick (✓) the sentences true (T) or false (F).

1. Today, the quality of life in Patna is as bad as it was before 1988.
2. The purpose of the cycling trip was to plant trees in the north of India.
3. Tarumitra convinced people in different areas not to burn trees during the Holi Festival.
4. The writer believes the volunteers' work made a big difference.

2. Complete the sentences.

1. The volunteers ..... and ..... to improve life in Patna.
2. The volunteers called their organisation Tarumitra because .....
3. The four students travelled over ..... from .....
4. The volunteers planted ..... and created a nature reserve in Patna.
5. Thanks to Tarumitra, people started to ..... instead of trees to celebrate the Holi Festival.
6. Tarumitra started as a small organisation, but now .....