

## I.- READ THE TEXT AND COMPLETE THE ACTIVITIES:



## A better way to get to work

The average time it takes people to get to work around the world ranges from 39 minutes in Japan to 97 minutes in Israel. <sup>1</sup>**That** means many people spend between 3.5 and 8 hours per week on trains, buses, the subway, or in their cars. Some people are finding different and creative ways to get to work in the morning. <sup>2</sup>**These** people decided to use their travel time to do something they love!



### Swim!

Benjamin David found it stressful traveling to work by car, so he swims to work instead. He puts his laptop, suit, and shoes in a waterproof bag to keep <sup>3</sup>**them** dry and swims 2 kilometers (fifteen to thirty minutes) to work down the Isar River in Munich, Germany! He says that <sup>4</sup>**it's** faster and more relaxing than driving and keeps him fit. He wears swimming trunks in summer and a wetsuit in winter, and he always wears special plastic shoes to protect his feet from glass and old bicycles.



### Snowboard!

Lucy Carter is a nanny in Tignes, France. <sup>5</sup>**She** loves snowboarding to work and seeing the sun coming up over the mountains. The trip downhill takes about fifteen minutes. She wears a warm snowboarding jacket, pants, and gloves and, for safety, a helmet. She carries the toys she needs in her bag, but says she lost some of <sup>6</sup>**them** one day when she fell over!

### Paddleboard!

Liu Fucao works in an office in Chongqing, China. He paddleboards across the Yangtze River to get to work. Going by car takes more than an hour, but paddleboarding takes just six minutes. He wears his work shirt and pants on the board, but puts <sup>7</sup>**his** laptop, jacket, socks, and shoes in a special bag to keep them dry. Fucao is training for a career as a paddleboarder. He has won competitions in <sup>8</sup>**this** sport, but he still wears a lifejacket and ties himself and his bag to the board in case he falls in.



### Fly!

František Hadrava works in a factory in Zdíkov, Czech Republic. He decided driving for fourteen minutes to work was too long, so he built a wooden plane and now flies to work! The flight takes seven minutes. He wears his work clothes, goggles, and a helmet, and lands in a field next to his work.

He then pulls the plane across the road and parks <sup>10</sup>**it** at his work. It takes up four car-parking spaces. The plane cost <sup>11</sup>**him** around 3700 euros to build, but he says it's still cheaper than driving.



## II.- COMPLETE THE DEFINITIONS WITH THESE WORDS FROM THE ARTICLE

goggles

helmet

lifejacket

wetsuit

1.-You wear a \_\_\_\_\_ to stay warm in cold water.

2.-You wear a \_\_\_\_\_ to keep your head safe.

3.- You wear \_\_\_\_\_ to keep your eyes safe.

4.- You wear a \_\_\_\_\_ to keep you safe if you fall in the water

## III.- READING SKILL Understanding reference (2): pronouns and determiners

The writer uses pronouns and determiners to avoid repeating the same noun or phrase.

**Subject and object pronouns, (he / him, she / her, they / them, etc.) replace nouns.**

**Determiners (this, these, their, etc.) show what thing you are talking about.**

Look for nouns in the text to help you understand what the pronoun or determiner refers to.

They may be in the same sentence, or in the one before or after.

### CHOOSE THE BEST OPTION TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1.- Why do we use subject and object pronouns in writing?

- A) To make sentences longer
- B) To avoid repeating the same nouns
- C) To make stories more interesting
- D) To confuse the reader

2.- Which is an example of a subject pronoun?

- A) he
- B) book
- C) red
- D) walked

3.- What do determiners like "this" and "these" do in sentences?

- A) They help us talk about our feelings.
- B) They replace nouns or show what we're talking about.
- C) They add action to a sentence.
- D) They introduce new characters.

4.- When using pronouns or determiners, where should you look for the nouns they refer to?

- A) Only in the same sentence
- B) In different books
- C) In the one before or after the current sentence
- D) In the clouds

5.- Why is it important to use pronouns and determiners in writing?

- A) To make writing complicated
- B) To tell a story with many details
- C) To make sentences shorter and easier to read
- D) To show off big words

#### IV.- CRITICAL THINKING SKILL: Choosing the best option

When deciding if something is a good choice, it can help to look closely at all the options and compare them. For example, when choosing how to travel, think about the differences in cost, time, safety, how easy it is, what you need, and how enjoyable and healthy it is.

##### ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1.- Which trip do you think saves the person the most time or money?

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2.- Which trip is the easiest and the most complicated?

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3.- Which trip do you think would be the most (and least) enjoyable?

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4.- Which trip do you think is the healthiest?

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5.- Who do you think has chosen the best option for their daily commute?

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