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Level 2

"Invisible" helmet for cyclists invented

14th November, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131114-hovding-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131114-hovding-2.html>

Swedish design students have invented a new bicycle helmet. It's invisible because you cannot see it. The "invisible" helmet is really a kind of airbag inside a collar. People wear it around their neck like a scarf. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar fills with gas and an airbag goes around the head. The students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, want to change how people cycle. They think normal helmets are too big and bulky. They said they are "like a hard mushroom on your head." They called their helmet the Hövding. They said it is fashionable, so "people would be happy to wear it".

The women started research on the Hövding in 2005. They looked at thousands of cycling accidents. They wanted to make the safest helmet and change how people cycle. They teamed up with a Swedish airbag company. Today, their company employs 17 people. In the company's video, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are so yesterday. Bikes are the future." They also said their helmet would make them millionaires. People can only buy the helmet online in Europe, for around \$530. The company did not say when people in the rest of the world could buy it.

Source: <http://www.hovding.com/en/>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131114-hovding-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. design | a. happy to wear it |
| 2. It's invisible because | b. airbag |
| 3. a kind of | c. like a scarf |
| 4. inside | d. students |
| 5. wear it around their neck | e. and bulky |
| 6. When the cyclist | f. a collar |
| 7. normal helmets are too big | g. you cannot see it |
| 8. people would be | h. falls off |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. The women started | a. of cycling accidents |
| 2. They looked at thousands | b. buy the helmet online |
| 3. make the | c. yesterday |
| 4. change how | d. research on the Hövding |
| 5. Cars are so | e. safest helmet |
| 6. their helmet would make | f. of the world |
| 7. People can only | g. them millionaires |
| 8. people in the rest | h. people cycle |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131114-hovding-2.html>

Swedish design (1) _____ a new bicycle helmet. It's invisible because you (2) _____. The "invisible" helmet is really a kind of airbag inside a collar. People wear it around their (3) _____. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar fills with gas (4) _____ goes around the head. The students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, want to change how people cycle. They think normal helmets are too (5) _____. They said they are "like a hard mushroom on your head." They called their helmet the Hövding. They said it is fashionable, so "people (6) _____ wear it".

The women (7) _____ the Hövding in 2005. They looked at thousands of cycling accidents. They wanted to make the safest helmet and change (8) _____. They teamed up with a Swedish airbag company. Today, their company employs 17 people. In (9) _____, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are so yesterday. Bikes (10) _____." They also said their helmet would (11) _____. People can only buy the helmet online in Europe, for around \$530. The company did not say when people in (12) _____ world could buy it.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131114-hovding-2.html>

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)
