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Level 6 – 4th November 2024

Cyclists on mobile phones in Japan could face jail

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

A revision to a traffic law aimed at amending the behaviour of cyclists came into effect in Japan on Friday. The revised Road Traffic Act makes it illegal to use mobile phones or to be under the influence of alcohol while cycling. Those distracted by phones could be punished with a maximum six-month prison sentence or a fine of 100,000 yen (\$654). The penalties are harsher for those under the influence. Intoxicated cyclists with more than 0.15 milligrams of alcohol per litre of breath could get up to three years in jail or be fined 500,000 yen (\$3,270). Furthermore, restaurants that serve alcohol to customers in the knowledge that they will ride a bicycle afterwards may also be punished.

Japan's National Police Agency reported a sharp rise in the number of traffic accidents caused by cyclists using phones. There was a 50 per cent increase in the five-year period to 2023. The BBC reports that over 72,000 bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan last year. This accounted for over 20 per cent of all traffic accidents. Most collisions were caused by people under 20 years of age. Many of these cyclists were watching videos or playing games. One reason for the rise in cycling-related accidents is a greater number of people using bicycles instead of public transport because of the coronavirus pandemic. Authorities say raising public awareness of the revised traffic rules could be a challenge.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cpqqd2e1j132o>
<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20241101/p2g/00m/0na/004000c>
<https://japannews.yomiuri.co.jp/society/general-news/20241102-220103/>

WARM-UPS

1. CYCLING: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about cycling. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

traffic law / cyclists / mobile phones / under the influence / prison / alcohol / be fined
traffic accidents / people under 20 / videos / playing games / public transport / rules

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. MORE CYCLING: Students A **strongly** believe we should all cycle and ditch the car; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. CYCLING DOS AND DON'TS: What are the dos and don'ts of cycling? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	DOS	DON'TS
Helmet		
Smartphone		
Alcohol		
Riding two abreast		
Lights		
Red lights / stop signs		

5. BICYCLE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "bicycle". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. BENEFITS OF CYCLING: Rank these with your partner. Put the most beneficial at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Cardiovascular health
- Help the environment
- Cheap
- Make friends
- Reduces stress
- See the countryside
- Weight control
- Fun

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. revision | a. Fixing or making small changes to something. |
| 2. amending | b. Not able to focus because something else is taking your attention. |
| 3. came into effect | c. To be affected by alcohol or drugs. |
| 4. be under the influence | d. Started to work or become real. |
| 5. distracted | e. Changing something to make it better or more correct. |
| 6. intoxicated | f. Given a consequence or penalty for doing something wrong. |
| 7. punished | g. Having drunk too much alcohol or used drugs. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 8. sharp | h. People or groups that make rules or keep things in order, like the police. |
| 9. accounted for | i. Very clear, strong, or sudden. |
| 10. collisions | j. A time when a disease spreads to many countries or the whole world. |
| 11. upswing | k. Knowing about or noticing something. |
| 12. pandemic | l. Crashes or hits between moving things, like cars. |
| 13. authorities | m. An increase or improvement in something. |
| 14. awareness | n. Supplied or made up a specified amount or proportion. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. New traffic laws for cyclists in Japan have started. **T / F**
2. Cyclists who ride and look at a mobile phone could go to jail for a year. **T / F**
3. Cyclists who have drunk alcohol could be imprisoned for three years. **T / F**
4. Restaurants that serve cyclists alcohol could be punished. **T / F**
5. Accidents caused by phone-watching cyclists doubled in five years. **T / F**
6. Cyclists are responsible for a fifth of all Japan's traffic accidents. **T / F**
7. Most cyclists in Japan who have traffic accidents are over 60. **T / F**
8. Authorities have had great success in raising public awareness. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. revision | a. made up |
| 2. came into effect | b. penalized |
| 3. influence | c. crashes |
| 4. intoxicated | d. started |
| 5. punished | e. officials |
| 6. sharp | f. drunk |
| 7. accounted for | g. difficult task |
| 8. collisions | h. change |
| 9. authorities | i. steep |
| 10. challenge | j. effect |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. aimed at amending the | a. awareness |
| 2. The revised Road Traffic Act | b. alcohol to customers |
| 3. be under the influence | c. related accidents |
| 4. intoxicated | d. rise in the number |
| 5. restaurants that serve | e. makes it illegal |
| 6. a sharp | f. public transport |
| 7. This accounted | g. cyclists |
| 8. the rise in cycling- | h. behaviour of cyclists |
| 9. using bicycles instead of | i. for over 20 per cent |
| 10. raising public | j. of alcohol |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

A revision to a traffic law (1) _____ at amending the behaviour of cyclists came into effect in Japan on Friday. The (2) _____ Road Traffic Act makes it illegal to use mobile phones or to be under the influence of alcohol while cycling. Those (3) _____ by phones could be punished with a maximum six-month prison sentence or a fine of 100,000 yen (\$654). The penalties are (4) _____ for those under the influence. (5) _____ cyclists with more than 0.15 milligrams of alcohol per litre of breath could get up to three years in (6) _____ or be fined 500,000 yen (\$3,270). Furthermore, restaurants that (7) _____ alcohol to customers in the knowledge that they will ride a bicycle afterwards may also be (8) _____.

jail
revised
punished
serve
aimed
harsher
distracted
Intoxicated

Japan's National Police Agency reported a (9) _____ rise in the number of traffic accidents caused by cyclists using phones. There was a 50 per cent increase in the five-year (10) _____ to 2023. The BBC (11) _____ that over 72,000 bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan last year. This (12) _____ for over 20 per cent of all traffic accidents. Most (13) _____ were caused by people under 20 years of age. Many of these cyclists were watching videos or playing games. One reason for the (14) _____ in cycling-related accidents is a greater number of people using bicycles instead of public (15) _____ because of the coronavirus pandemic. Authorities say raising public (16) _____ of the revised traffic rules could be a challenge.

collisions
period
sharp
accounted
transport
rise
awareness
reports

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

- 1) A revision to a traffic law aimed at amending the behaviour of cyclists _____
 - a. came into affect
 - b. came into deflect
 - c. came into effect
 - d. came into reflect
- 2) The revised Road Traffic Act _____
 - a. make it illegal
 - b. makes it illegals
 - c. makes it illegal
 - d. makes it's illegal
- 3) distracted by phones could be punished with a maximum six- _____
 - a. month prison sentence
 - b. month prison paragraph
 - c. month prison thesis
 - d. month prison statement
- 4) The penalties are harsher for those _____
 - a. under an influence
 - b. under that influence
 - c. under the influence
 - d. under their influence
- 5) Intoxicated cyclists with more than 0.15 milligrams of alcohol per _____
 - a. litre of breathe
 - b. litre of breath
 - c. litre of breathlessness
 - d. litre of breathy
- 6) Japan's National Police Agency reported a sharp rise in the number _____
 - a. off traffic accidents
 - b. oft traffic accidents
 - c. over traffic accidents
 - d. of traffic accidents
- 7) The BBC reports that over 72,000 bicycle accidents were _____
 - a. record it in Japan
 - b. record did in Japan
 - c. recorded in Japan
 - d. recording Japan
- 8) One reason for the rise in _____
 - a. cycling-relative accidents
 - b. cycling-related accidents
 - c. cycling-relate it accidents
 - d. cycling-relation accidents
- 9) a greater number of people using bicycles instead _____
 - a. of publics transport
 - b. of pub lick transport
 - c. of pub brick transport
 - d. of public transport
- 10) Authorities say raising public awareness of the revised traffic rules could _____
 - a. be a challenged
 - b. be a challenge
 - c. be a challenges
 - d. be a challenger

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

A revision to a traffic law (1) _____ the behaviour of cyclists came into effect in Japan on Friday. The revised Road Traffic Act (2) _____ to use mobile phones or to be under the (3) _____ while cycling. Those distracted by phones could be punished with a maximum six-month prison sentence or a fine of 100,000 yen (\$654). The (4) _____ for those under the influence. Intoxicated cyclists with more than 0.15 milligrams of alcohol per litre of breath could get up to three years in jail or be fined 500,000 yen (\$3,270). Furthermore, restaurants (5) _____ to customers in the knowledge that they will ride a bicycle afterwards may (6) _____.

Japan's National Police Agency reported a (7) _____ the number of traffic accidents (8) _____ using phones. There was a 50 per cent increase in the five-year period to 2023. The BBC reports that over 72,000 bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan last year. This (9) _____ 20 per cent of all traffic accidents. Most collisions were caused by people under 20 years of age. Many of these cyclists were (10) _____ playing games. One reason for the rise in cycling-related accidents is a greater number of people using bicycles instead (11) _____ because of the coronavirus pandemic. Authorities say raising public awareness of the (12) _____ could be a challenge.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

1. What was the law introduced to amend?
2. What is the maximum fine for using a mobile phone while cycling?
3. How much alcohol in a cyclist's breath get them in trouble?
4. What is the maximum fine for cycling under the influence?
5. Who could be punished for serving drinks to cyclists?
6. Who said there was a rise in accidents caused by cyclists using phones?
7. How many bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan last year?
8. What age group is most responsible for accidents involving bikes?
9. What is one reason for more people in Japan cycling?
10. What did authorities say about raising public awareness of the rules?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

- 1) What was the law introduced to amend?
 - a) motorists' awareness
 - b) road traffic rules
 - c) police response times
 - d) the behaviour of cyclists
- 2) What is the maximum fine for using a mobile phone while cycling?
 - a) 80,000 yen
 - b) 100,000 yen
 - c) 120,000 yen
 - d) 200,000 yen
- 3) How much alcohol in a cyclist's breath get them in trouble?
 - a) 0.18 milligrams per litre of breath
 - b) 1.15 milligrams per litre of breath
 - c) 1.5 milligrams per litre of breath
 - d) 0.15 milligrams per litre of breath
- 4) What is the maximum fine for cycling under the influence?
 - a) 300,000 yen
 - b) 400,000 yen
 - c) 500,000 yen
 - d) 600,000 yen
- 5) Who could be punished for serving drinks to cyclists?
 - a) other cyclists
 - b) café owners
 - c) pedestrians
 - d) restaurants
- 6) Who said there was a rise in accidents caused by cyclists using phones?
 - a) journalists
 - b) a cycling organization
 - c) Japan's National Police Agency
 - d) a road safety organization
- 7) How many bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan last year?
 - a) over 72,000
 - b) exactly 72,000
 - c) just fewer than 72,000
 - d) about 72,000
- 8) What age group is most responsible for accidents involving bikes?
 - a) the under-30s
 - b) the over-40s
 - c) the under-20s
 - d) the over-60s
- 9) What is one reason for more people in Japan cycling?
 - a) a fitness craze
 - b) the coronavirus pandemic
 - c) the subways are too crowded
 - d) depopulation
- 10) What did authorities say about raising public awareness of the rules?
 - a) It could be a challenge.
 - b) It was necessary.
 - c) It would save lives.
 - d) It was unnecessary.

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

Role A – Cardiovascular Health

You think cardiovascular health is the best reason to cycle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their reasons. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): helping the environment, weight control or stress reduction.

Role B – Helps the Environment

You think helping the environment is the best reason to cycle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their reasons. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): cardiovascular health, weight control or stress reduction.

Role C – Weight Control

You think weight control is the best reason to cycle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their reasons. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): helping the environment, cardiovascular health or stress reduction.

Role D – Stress Reduction

You think stress reduction is the best reason to cycle. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their reasons. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): helping the environment, weight control or cardiovascular health.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'bicycles' and 'smartphones'.

bicycles	smartphones

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• amending• revised• punished• six• 0.15• afterwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sharp• increase• reports• collisions• greater• public
---	--

CYCLING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

Write five GOOD questions about cycling in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

CYCLING DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'cyclist'?
3. What do you think of cycling?
4. What laws should there be for cyclists?
5. What do you think of using phones while cycling?
6. What do you think of going to prison for using phones while cycling?
7. What are the dangers of using phones while cycling?
8. Is being under the influence while cycling the same as drunk driving?
9. How important are bicycles to you?
10. Should restaurants be fined for serving alcohol to cyclists?

Cyclists on mobile phones in Japan could face jail – 4th November 2024
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CYCLING DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'mobile home'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How safe are roads for cyclists in your country?
15. Should there be more cycle lanes on your country's roads?
16. How can roads be made safer for cyclists?
17. What are the benefits of cycling?
18. Should we all be encourage to use bicycles instead of cars?
19. How can countries raise awareness of road safety for cyclists?
20. What questions would you like to ask road safety experts?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

A revision to a traffic law aimed (1) _____ amending the behaviour of cyclists came into effect in Japan on Friday. The revised Road Traffic Act makes it illegal to use mobile phones or to be under (2) _____ influence of alcohol while cycling. Those distracted by phones could be punished with a maximum six-month prison sentence or a fine of 100,000 yen (\$654). The penalties are (3) _____ for those under the influence. Intoxicated cyclists with more than 0.15 milligrams of alcohol per litre of (4) _____ could get up to three years in jail or be fined 500,000 yen (\$3,270). Furthermore, restaurants that (5) _____ alcohol to customers in the knowledge that they will ride a bicycle (6) _____ may also be punished.

Japan's National Police Agency reported a sharp (7) _____ in the number of traffic accidents caused by cyclists using phones. There was a 50 per cent increase (8) _____ the five-year period to 2023. The BBC reports that over 72,000 bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan last year. This accounted (9) _____ over 20 per cent of all traffic accidents. Most collisions were caused by people under 20 years of age. Many of these cyclists were watching videos or playing games. (10) _____ reason for the rise in cycling-(11) _____ accidents is a greater number of people using bicycles instead of public transport because of the coronavirus pandemic. Authorities say raising (12) _____ awareness of the revised traffic rules could be a challenge.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) of | (b) by | (c) at | (d) on |
| 2. | (a) the | (b) a | (c) an | (d) at |
| 3. | (a) harsher | (b) mushier | (c) pushier | (d) cashier |
| 4. | (a) breath | (b) breathe | (c) breathy | (d) breathing |
| 5. | (a) reserve | (b) serve | (c) service | (d) servile |
| 6. | (a) upwards | (b) backwards | (c) forwards | (d) afterwards |
| 7. | (a) raise | (b) arise | (c) rise | (d) riser |
| 8. | (a) of | (b) at | (c) on | (d) in |
| 9. | (a) for | (b) at | (c) of | (d) by |
| 10. | (a) One | (b) Only | (c) Once | (d) Ones |
| 11. | (a) relative | (b) related | (c) relation | (d) relating |
| 12. | (a) publicly | (b) publicity | (c) public | (d) publican |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

Paragraph 1

1. A eirivnos to a traffic law
2. aimed at mdinaneg the behaviour
3. under the nneucife of alcohol
4. sdettdcira by phones
5. iecodxtitna cyclists
6. 0.15 ialglmism of alcohol

Paragraph 2

7. airfftc accidents
8. This duaocntce for over 20 per cent
9. Most snisoilcol were caused by people
10. public rstroanpt
11. the coronavirus ainpcedm
12. tahurioiets say raising public awareness

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () six-month prison sentence or a fine of 100,000 yen (\$654). The penalties are
- () effect in Japan on Friday. The revised Road Traffic Act makes it illegal to use mobile phones or to be under the
- () by cyclists using phones. There was a 50 per cent increase in the five-year period to 2023. The BBC reports that
- () accidents. Most collisions were caused by people under 20 years of age. Many of these cyclists were watching videos
- () harsher for those under the influence. Intoxicated cyclists with more than 0.15 milligrams of alcohol per litre of
- () over 72,000 bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan last year. This accounted for over 20 per cent of all traffic
- () serve alcohol to customers in the knowledge that they will ride a bicycle afterwards may also be punished.
- () or playing games. One reason for the rise in cycling-related accidents is a greater
- () breath could get up to three years in jail or be fined 500,000 yen (\$3,270). Furthermore, restaurants that
- (**1**) A revision to a traffic law aimed at amending the behaviour of cyclists came into
- () influence of alcohol while cycling. Those distracted by phones could be punished with a maximum
- () number of people using bicycles instead of public transport because of the
- () coronavirus pandemic. Authorities say raising public awareness of the revised traffic rules could be a challenge.
- () Japan's National Police Agency reported a sharp rise in the number of traffic accidents caused

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

1. the A aimed amending behaviour . traffic law at
2. the influence under Be of while cycling . alcohol
3. Those phones mobile be distracted could punished . by
4. more of Intoxicated cyclists 0.15 mg than with alcohol .
5. they the a In will ride bicycle . knowledge
6. of rises traffic the Sharp number in accidents .
7. were collisions people caused by Most 20 . under
8. in One the accidents . rise reason cycling-related for
9. bicycles . greater of using A people number
10. could be traffic revised a rules The challenge .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

A *revision / derision* to a traffic law aimed at *demanding / amending* the behaviour of cyclists came *into / onto* effect in Japan on Friday. The revised Road Traffic Act makes it illegal to use mobile phones or to be *over / under* the influence of alcohol while cycling. Those distracted by phones could be punished with a maximum six-month prison sentence or a *fund / fine* of 100,000 yen (\$654). The penalties are harsher for *those / them* under the influence. Intoxicated cyclists with more than 0.15 milligrams of alcohol per litre of *breath / breathe* could get up to three years in jail or be fined 500,000 yen (\$3,270). Furthermore, restaurants that *serve / service* alcohol to customers *on / in* the knowledge that they will ride a bicycle *forwards / afterwards* may also be punished.

Japan's National Police Agency reported a sharp *raise / rise* in the number of traffic accidents caused by cyclists *using / usage* phones. There was a 50 per cent increase in the five-year *periods / period* to 2023. The BBC reports that over 72,000 bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan *past / last* year. This *accounted / accounting* for over 20 per cent of all traffic *accidents / jams*. Most *collides / collisions* were caused by people under 20 years of age. Many of these cyclists were watching videos or playing games. One reason for the rise in cycling-related accidents is a greater *numeral / number* of people using bicycles instead of public transport because of the coronavirus pandemic. Authorities say *raising / rising* public awareness of the revised traffic rules could *be / being* a challenge.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

_ r_v_s__n t_ _ tr_ff_c l_w __m_d _t _m_nd_ng th_
b_h_v__r _f cycl_sts c_m_ _nt_ _ff_ct _n J_p_n _n
Fr_d_y. Th_ r_v_s_d R__d Tr_ff_c _ct m_k_s _t _ll_g_l
t_ _s_ m_b_l_ ph_n_s _r t_ b_ _nd_r th_ _nfl__nc_ _f
_lc_h_l wh_l_ cycl_ng. Th_s_ d_str_ct_d by ph_n_s
c__ld b_ p_n_sh_d w_th _ m_x_m_m s_x-m_nth pr_s_n
s_nt_nc_ _r _ f_n_ _f 100,000 y_n (\$654). Th_
p_n_lt__s _r_ h_rsh_r f_r th_s_ _nd_r th_ _nfl__nc_.
_nt_x_c_t_d cycl_sts w_th m_r_ th_n 0.15 m_ll_gr_ms
_f _lc_h_l p_r l_tr_ _f br__th c__ld g_t _p t_ thr__
y__rs _n j__l _r b_ f_n_d 500,000 y_n (\$3,270).
F_rth_rm_r_, r_st__r_nts th_t s_rv_ _lc_h_l t_
c_st_m_rs _n th_ kn_wl_dg_ th_t th_y w_ll r_d_ _
b_cycl_ _ft_rw_rds m_y _ls_ b_ p_n_sh_d.

J_p_n's N_t__n_l P_l_c_ _g_ncy r_p_r_t_d _ sh_rp r_s_
n th n_mb_r _f tr_ff_c _cc_d_nts c__s_d by cycl_sts
_s_ng ph_n_s. Th_r_ w_s _ 50 p_r c_nt _ncr__s_ _n
th_ f_v_-y__r p_r__d t_ 2023. Th_ BBC r_p_r_ts th_t
_v_r 72,000 b_cycl_ _cc_d_nts w_r_ r_c_r_d_d _n J_p_n
l_st y__r. Th_s_ _cc__nt_d f_r _v_r 20 p_r c_nt _f _ll
tr_ff_c _cc_d_nts. M_st c_ll_s__ns w_r_ c__s_d by
p__pl_ _nd_r 20 y__rs _f _g_. M_ny _f th_s_ cycl_sts
w_r_ w_tch_ng v_d__s _r pl_y_ng g_m_s. _n_ r__s_n
f_r th_ r_s_ _n cycl_ng-r_l_t_d _cc_d_nts _s_ _gr__tr
n_mb_r _f p__pl_ _s_ng b_cycl_s _nst__d _f p_bl_c
tr_nsp_r_t b_c__s_ _f th_ c_r_n_v_r_s p_nd_m_c.
__th_r_t__s s_y r__s_ng p_bl_c _w_r_n_ss _f th_
r_v_s_d tr_ff_c r_l_s c__ld b_ _ ch_ll_ng_.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

a revision to a traffic law aimed at amending the behaviour of cyclists came into effect in japan on friday the revised road traffic act makes it illegal to use mobile phones or to be under the influence of alcohol while cycling those distracted by phones could be punished with a maximum sixmonth prison sentence or a fine of 100000 yen 654 the penalties are harsher for those under the influence intoxicated cyclists with more than 015 milligrams of alcohol per litre of breath could get up to three years in jail or be fined 500000 yen 3270 furthermore restaurants that serve alcohol to customers in the knowledge that they will ride a bicycle afterwards may also be punished japans national police agency reported a sharp rise in the number of traffic accidents caused by cyclists using phones there was a 50 per cent increase in the fiveyear period to 2023 the bbc reports that over 72000 bicycle accidents were recorded in japan last year this accounted for over 20 per cent of all traffic accidents most collisions were caused by people under 20 years of age many of these cyclists were watching videos or playing games one reason for the rise in cyclingrelated accidents is a greater number of people using bicycles instead of public transport because of the coronavirus pandemic authorities say raising public awareness of the revised traffic rules could be a challenge

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

A revision to a traffic law aimed at mending the behaviour of cyclists came into effect in Japan on Friday. The revised Road Traffic Act makes it illegal to use mobile phones or to be under the influence of alcohol while cycling. Those distracted by phones could be punished with a maximum six-month prison sentence or a fine of 100,000 yen (\$654). The penalties are harsher for those under the influence. Intoxicated cyclists with more than 0.15 milligrams of alcohol per litre of breath could get up to three years in jail or be fined 500,000 yen (\$3,270). Furthermore, restaurants that serve alcohol to customers in the knowledge that they will ride a bicycle afterwards may also be punished. Japan's National Police Agency reported a sharp rise in the number of traffic accidents caused by cyclists using phones. There was a 50 percent increase in the five-year period to 2023. The BBC reports that over 72,000 bicycle accidents were recorded in Japan last year. This accounted for over 20 percent of all traffic accidents. Most collisions were caused by people under 20 years of age. Many of these cyclists were watching videos or playing games. One reason for the rise in cycling-related accidents is a greater number of people using bicycles instead of public transport because of the coronavirus pandemic. Authorities say raising public awareness of the revised traffic rules could be a challenge.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling.html>

People should be encouraged to cycle instead of drive. Discuss.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CYCLING: Make a poster about cycling. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. PENALTIES: Write a magazine article about increasing penalties for cyclists who violate traffic laws. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on cycling. Ask him/her three questions about cycling. Give him/her three of your ideas. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 T 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 F 6 T 7 F 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. d	3. j	4. f	5. b
6. i	7. a	8. c	9. e	10. g

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- The behaviour of cyclists
- 100,000 yen (\$654)
- 0.15 milligrams per litre of breath
- 500,000 yen (\$3,270)
- Restaurants
- Japan's National Police Agency
- Over 72,000
- The under-20s
- The coronavirus pandemic
- It could be a challenge.

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- A traffic law aimed at amending the behaviour.
- Be under the influence of alcohol while cycling.
- Those distracted by mobile phones could be punished.
- Intoxicated cyclists with more than 0.15 mg of alcohol.
- In the knowledge they will ride a bicycle.
- Sharp rises in the number of traffic accidents.
- Most collisions were caused by people under 20.
- One reason for the rise in cycling-related accidents.
- A greater number of people using bicycles.
- The revised traffic rules could be a challenge.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. c 7. a 8. c 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)