Cycling is bad for the environment

1 **Before reading the text *Cycling is bad for the environment* match the following synonyms.**

1. Patrol	☐	**a.**	Damage
2. Outline	☐	**b.**	Producing
3. Result in	☐	**c.**	Car drivers
4. Currently	☐	**d.**	Decrease
5. Giving off	☐	**e.**	Watch over
6. Motorists	☐	**f.**	Traffic jams
7. Repairing	☐	**g.**	At present
8. Congestion	☐	**h.**	Summarise
9. Wear and tear	☐	**i.**	Fixing
10. Reduce	☐	**j.**	Bring about

2 **Read the text and say if these sentences are true or false. Correct the false ones.**

An American lawmaker has said cycling is bad for the environment. He also said cyclists should pay a tax to ride their bikes on the roads. Ed Orcutt, a representative from Washington State, sent an e-mail to the owner of a local bike shop to outline his thinking. He wrote: "A cyclist has an increased heart rate and respiration. That means that the act of riding a bike results in greater emissions of carbon dioxide from the rider. Since CO_2 is a greenhouse gas, cyclists are actually polluting when they ride." Mr Orcutt said: "You can't just say that there's no pollution as a result of riding a bicycle. You would be giving off more CO_2 if you are riding a bike than driving in a car."
Mr Orcutt also believes cyclists should be taxed to use the roads. He said it was unfair that motorists have to pay all of the costs of building and repairing roads. He wrote: "Currently motorists are paying to use their cars on the roads. So, if cars pay for the roads they are using, it only makes sense that bicyclists would also be required to pay for the roads they use when they are actually biking on them." Dale Carlson, owner of the Tech Bike Shop said Mr Orcutt's ideas were wrong.
He wrote: "People who choose to ride a bicycle instead of driving a car actively reduce congestion." He added: "They save wear and tear on our roads and bridges and reduce the need for police to patrol our highways."

	T	F
1. An American environmentalist said cycling harms the environment.	☐	☐
2. Ed Orcutt said cyclists should pay a tax to ride on the roads.	☐	☐
3. Ed Orcutt said cycling increases CO_2 in the environment.	☐	☐
4. Mr Orcutt said a cyclist produces more CO_2 than a car driver.	☐	☐
5. Orcutt said it was fair that motorists paid road tax and cyclists didn't.	☐	☐
6. A bike shop owner disagreed with Mr Orcutt's ideas.	☐	☐
7. The bike shop owner said cyclists increase the number of traffic jams.	☐	☐
8. The owner said more cyclists would mean more police cars on the road.	☐	☐

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3 Choose the correct alternative.

1. What is Ed Orcutt's job?

- ☐ **a.** He's a cyclist.
- ☐ **b.** He's a lawmaker.
- ☐ **c.** He's an environmentalist.
- ☐ **d.** He's a bike shop owner.

2. A cyclist has an increased heart rate and … .

- ☐ **a.** respiration
- ☐ **b.** expiration
- ☐ **c.** exhalation
- ☐ **d.** relaxation

3. What did Ed Orcutt say cyclists do when they ride?

- ☐ **a.** Dispute.
- ☐ **b.** Commute.
- ☐ **c.** Pollute.
- ☐ **d.** Compute.

4. What did Ed Orcutt say cyclists give off when they ride?

- ☐ **a.** BO.
- ☐ **b.** CO_2.
- ☐ **c.** NO_2.
- ☐ **d.** C_3PO.



5. Who currently has to pay for building roads?

- ☐ **a.** Car drivers.
- ☐ **b.** The White House.
- ☐ **c.** Taxpayers.
- ☐ **d.** Cyclists.

6. Who is Dale Carlson?

- ☐ **a.** The mayor of a town.
- ☐ **b.** A politician.
- ☐ **c.** A bike shop owner.
- ☐ **d.** A champion cyclist.

7. What did Mr Carlson say cyclists actively reduce?

- ☐ **a.** Traffic problems.
- ☐ **b.** The need for bicycles.
- ☐ **c.** Health problems.
- ☐ **d.** Blisters on the feet.

8. What did Mr Carlson say cyclists save?

- ☐ **a.** Damage to bridges and roads.
- ☐ **b.** Petrol.
- ☐ **c.** Thousands of dollars.
- ☐ **d.** Lives.

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