

Bicycles

Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

- 1 What do you think the first bicycles looked like?
- 2 How are bikes like airplanes?
- 3 Are bicycles popular in your country?



B. Vocabulary Preview

Match up as many words and meanings as you can.
 Check this exercise again after seeing the words in context on page 2.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| _____ 1 steer | Ⓐ very big |
| _____ 2 pedal | Ⓑ almost the same |
| _____ 3 giant | Ⓒ a person who rides a bicycle |
| _____ 4 cyclist | Ⓓ to turn in a certain direction |
| _____ 5 similar | Ⓔ a flat square that you push with your foot |

Reading

Bicycles

- 1 Did you know that the first bicycles didn't have foot **pedals**? **Cyclists** had to run down a hill and jump on the seat. There was no way to **steer** either. These bikes were called "hobbyhorses."
- 2 The next bicycles didn't have foot pedals either. Inventors added hand pedals first. When inventors finally added foot pedals, they also added a **giant** front wheel. These early bikes had metal tires and weren't very safe. People nicknamed them "boneshakers."
- 3 Did you know that riding a bicycle is a lot like flying an airplane? The way that you balance, turn, and glide is **similar** for both. The first flying machines were made of bicycle parts. The Wright Brothers loved bicycles. They had a bicycle shop. In the back of the shop, they invented the airplane. They attached wings to their bicycles. This helped them learn about speed and wind.
- 4 Can you guess which country has the nickname "Bicycle Kingdom"?



Comprehension

Discuss these questions in pairs, and write the answers below.

1 What was the first type of bike pedals?

2 What was funny about the first bikes with foot pedals?

3 Why do you think people called these bikes "boneshakers"?

4 What is riding a bicycle similar to?

5 Who used bicycle parts to invent a flying machine?

Bonus Question

Can you guess which country has the nickname "Bicycle Kingdom"?

- The United States
- England
- China
- The Netherlands

Practice

A. Odd One Out

Look at the three words in each list. Two words in each list are related. Circle the one that doesn't belong.

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 giant
large
glide | 2 inventor
creator
either | 3 alike
a lot
similar | 4 attached
connected
flew | 5 bike
turn
steer |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|

B. Word Jumble

Read the clues and try to unscramble the words. Then gather up all of the **bold** letters. Can you unscramble the mystery word to complete the sentence?

#	Clue	Scrambled	Unscrambled
1	give a different name to a person or object	me ck nian	
2	the negative form of "too"	he ri te	
3	the opposite of "dangerous"	fe s a	
4	has two wheels and two foot pedals	yi cb elc	
5	very big	nt g ai	
6	you make these go around with your feet	da lp es	

A person who rides a bike is a _____ .

Listening

Listen to a recording of this reading.

Fill in the gaps. Listen again and check your answers.

Bicycles

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- 4** Can you guess which _____ has the nickname "Bicycle Kingdom"?