

# Bicycles

### **Pre-Reading**

### A. Warm-Up Questions

- 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

\_ 2 pedal

3 giant

\_\_\_\_ **4** cyclist

\_\_\_\_\_5 similar

**a** very big

**b** almost the same

c a person who rides a bicycle

**d** to turn in a certain direction

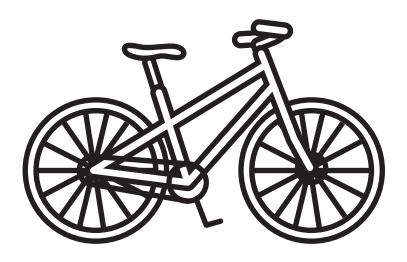
(e) a flat square that you push with your foot



## Reading

### **Bicycles**

- 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."
- 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."
- 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.
- 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 2	inventor 3	alike 4	attached 5	bike
	large	creator	a lot	connected	turn
	glide	either	similar	flew	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 <b>c</b> knian	
2	the negative form of "too"	heri <b>t</b> e	
3	the opposite of "dangerous"	fe <b>s</b> a	
4	has two wheels and two foot pedals	<b>y</b> icbel <b>c</b>	
5	very big	ntga <b>i</b>	
6	you make these go around with your feet	dalpes	

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**

U	Did you know that the first bicy	cles didn't have t	foot
	pedals? h	ad to run down (	a hill and
	jump on the seat. There was no	way to	either
	These bikes were called "hobby		
2	The next bicycles didn't have fo	ot pedals either.	Inventors
	added hand pedals first. When	inventors finally	added foot
	, they also adde	ed	front
	wheels. These early bikes had n		
	very safe. People nicknamed the	em "boneshaker	s."
3	Did you know that riding a bicy	cle is a lot like fly	ing
	an airplane? The way that you b	palance, turn, an	d
	glide is for b		
	machines were made of bicycle		
	Brothers loved bicycles. They have	-	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	In the back of the shop, they inv		ne.
	They attached to		
	This helped them learn about sp	eed and wind.	
4	Can you guess which		
	has the nickname "Bicycle King	dom"?	