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Level 3

"Invisible" helmet for cyclists invented

14th November, 2013

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

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

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

Two Swedish design students have invented a totally new kind of bicycle helmet. People are saying it's invisible because you cannot see it on a cyclist's head. The "invisible" helmet is really a kind of airbag. It is inside a large collar. People wear it around their neck like a scarf. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar quickly fills with gas and an airbag surrounds the head. The two students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, wanted to change the way people cycle. They said: "Bicycle helmets have always been the same. They're so bulky, like a hard mushroom on your head." They called their new invention the Hövding. The pair said it looks so fashionable that "people would be happy to wear it".

The inventors started research and development on the Hövding in 2005. They examined thousands of cycling accidents. They wanted to find out how to make the safest helmet. They then teamed up with a Swedish airbag company called Alva. Today, the Hövding company has a staff of 17 employees. They hope their helmet will change how people all over the world cycle. In their video, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are so yesterday. Bikes are the future." They also said their invention would make them millionaires. People can only buy the Hövding helmet online in Europe. It sells for around \$530. The company did not say when it would be available in the rest of the world.

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

WARM-UPS

1. BICYCLE HELMETS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about bicycle helmets. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

design / bicycle helmet / invisible / airbag / scarf / cyclist / bulky / mushroom / inventors / research / accidents / employees / cars / millionaires / online / available

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

3. TOTALLY NEW: How might inventors change these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Problems with them now	Changes
Mobile phones		
Pens		
Glasses		
Jeans		
Cars		
Mirrors		

4. FASHIONABLE: Students A **strongly** believe the invisible helmet will become more popular than normal helmets; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. INVISIBLE: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best things to be invisible at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- electrical wires
- tanks
- wrinkles
- trash / garbage cans
- insects
- fat
- e-mails sent by mistake
- buildings

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

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

1. TRUE / FALSE:

Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. The two inventors of the helmet are from Norway. | T / F |
| b. The helmet is really a collar with an airbag inside it. | T / F |
| c. When a cyclist falls off his/her bike, he/she quickly fills with air. | T / F |
| d. The new helmet was designed to look like a bulky mushroom. | T / F |
| e. The inventors started work on their helmet more than five years ago. | T / F |
| f. The two women teamed up with a cycling goods company. | T / F |
| g. The women believe they will become millionaires from their helmet. | T / F |
| h. People in Europe can buy the helmet today, but not those in the USA. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. invented | a. collaborated |
| 2. quickly | b. big |
| 3. surrounds | c. on sale |
| 4. bulky | d. created |
| 5. fashionable | e. workers |
| 6. examined | f. stylish |
| 7. teamed up | g. speedily |
| 8. employees | h. looked at |
| 9. buy | i. encircles |
| 10. available | j. purchase |

3. PHRASE MATCH:

(Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. a totally new kind | a. like a scarf |
| 2. it's invisible because | b. rest of the world |
| 3. People wear it around their neck | c. development |
| 4. the collar quickly fills with gas and an | d. of bicycle helmet |
| 5. They're so bulky, | e. accidents |
| 6. research and | f. airbag surrounds the head |
| 7. thousands of cycling | g. for around \$530 |
| 8. Cars are so | h. you cannot see it |
| 9. It sells | i. yesterday |
| 10. available in the | j. like a hard mushroom |

GAP FILL

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

Two Swedish design students have invented a (1) _____ new kind of bicycle helmet. People are saying it's invisible because you cannot (2) _____ it on a cyclist's head. The "invisible" helmet is really a kind of airbag. It is inside a large collar. People wear it around their neck like a (3) _____. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar quickly fills with (4) _____ and an airbag surrounds the head. The two students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, wanted to change the way people (5) _____. They said: "Bicycle helmets have always been the same. They're so (6) _____, like a hard mushroom on your head." They called their new invention the Hövding. The pair said it looks so (7) _____ that "people would be (8) _____ to wear it".

gas
happy
see
bulky
totally
fashionable
scarf
cycle

The inventors started (9) _____ and development on the Hövding in 2005. They examined thousands of cycling (10) _____. They wanted to find out how to make the safest helmet. They then (11) _____ up with a Swedish airbag company called Alva. Today, the Hövding company has a (12) _____ of 17 employees. They hope their helmet will change how people all over the world cycle. In their video, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are so (13) _____. Bikes are the future." They also said their invention would make them (14) _____. People can only buy the Hövding helmet online in Europe. It (15) _____ for around \$530. The company did not say when it would be (16) _____ in the rest of the world.

teamed
available
millionaires
research
sells
accidents
staff
yesterday

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) Two Swedish design students have invented _____ kind of bicycle helmet
 - a. a totally newly
 - b. a total new
 - c. a totally new
 - d. a toe tally new
- 2) People are saying it's invisible because you cannot see it on _____
 - a. a cyclist head
 - b. a cyclist's head
 - c. a cycling head
 - d. a cycling's head
- 3) People wear it around their neck _____
 - a. liken a scarf
 - b. lie car scarf
 - c. like the scarf
 - d. like a scarf
- 4) the collar quickly fills with gas and an airbag _____
 - a. surrounded the head
 - b. surrounds the head
 - c. surroundings the head
 - d. surrenders the head
- 5) Bicycle helmets have always been the same. _____
 - a. They're so ball key
 - b. They're so bulk key
 - c. They're so bulky
 - d. They're so bull key
- 6) They examined thousands of _____
 - a. cycling accident
 - b. cycling accidents
 - c. cycling accidentals
 - d. cycling axe he dents
- 7) They then _____ a Swedish airbag company called Alva
 - a. termed up with
 - b. tuned up with
 - c. teemed up with
 - d. teamed up with
- 8) Today, the Hövding company has a staff _____
 - a. of 17 employers
 - b. of 17 employs
 - c. of 17 employees
 - d. of 17 employ ease
- 9) They also said their invention would make _____
 - a. them millionaires
 - b. they millionaires
 - c. these millionaires
 - d. they're millionaires
- 10) The company did not say when it would be available _____ the world
 - a. in the best of
 - b. in the lest of
 - c. in the rest of
 - d. in the west of

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

Two Swedish design students have invented (1) _____ of bicycle helmet. People are saying it's invisible because you cannot see it on a cyclist's head. The "invisible" helmet (2) _____ airbag. It is inside a large collar. People wear it around their (3) _____. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar quickly fills with gas and an airbag (4) _____. The two students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, wanted to change the way people cycle. They said: "Bicycle helmets have always been the same. They're so bulky, (5) _____ on your head." They called their new invention the Hövding. The pair said it (6) _____ that "people would be happy to wear it".

The inventors started (7) _____ on the Hövding in 2005. They examined thousands of cycling accidents. They wanted to find out how to (8) _____ helmet. They then (9) _____ Swedish airbag company called Alva. Today, the Hövding company has a staff of 17 employees. They hope their helmet will change how people all (10) _____. In their video, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are so yesterday. (11) _____." They also said their invention would make them millionaires. People can only buy the Hövding helmet online in Europe. It sells for around \$530. The company did not say when it would be (12) _____ of the world.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. Where are the two designers from?

2. What is inside the collar?

3. On which part of the body do people wear the helmet?

4. What does the airbag get filled with?

5. What did the women say normal helmets look like?

6. When did the women start R&D on their helmet?

7. How many cycling accidents did the women look at?

8. How many people work for the helmet company?

9. What did the women say about cars?

10. When will the helmet be on sale outside Europe?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

1. Where are the two designers from?
 - a) Norway
 - b) Swaziland
 - c) Sweden
 - d) Japan
2. What is inside the collar?
 - a) an airbag
 - b) a spare tyre
 - c) water
 - d) space for a mobile phone
3. On which part of the body do people wear the helmet?
 - a) down the back
 - b) on the lap
 - c) on top of the head
 - d) around the neck
4. What does the airbag get filled with?
 - a) foam
 - b) gas
 - c) sponge
 - d) rubbish
5. What did the women say normal helmets look like?
 - a) a mess
 - b) a miracle
 - c) a mushroom
 - d) a mudguard
6. When did the women start R&D on their helmet?
 - a) 2004
 - b) 2005
 - c) 2006
 - d) 2007
7. How many cycling accidents did the women look at?
 - a) tens of thousands
 - b) 24,982
 - c) hundreds and hundreds
 - d) thousands
8. How many people work for the helmet company?
 - a) 7
 - b) 17
 - c) 37
 - d) 70
9. What did the women say about cars?
 - a) they are "so yesterday"
 - b) they are dangerous
 - c) drivers need helmets
 - d) they are nicer than bicycles
10. When will the helmet be on sale outside Europe?
 - a) never
 - b) when the international website is ready
 - c) next week
 - d) no one knows

ROLE PLAY

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

Role A – Bicycle helmet

You think bicycle helmets are the best things to make invisible. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these to be invisible (and why): electrical wires, wrinkles or e-mails sent by mistake.

Role B – Electrical wires

You think electrical wires are the best things to make invisible. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these to be invisible (and why): bicycle helmets, wrinkles or e-mails sent by mistake.

Role C – Wrinkles

You think wrinkles are the best things to make invisible. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these to be invisible (and why): electrical wires, bicycle helmets or e-mails sent by mistake.

Role D – E-mails sent by mistake

You think e-mails sent by mistake are the best things to make invisible. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these to be invisible (and why): electrical wires, wrinkles or bicycle helmets.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'air' and 'bag'.

air	bag
------------	------------

- 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">• design• really• neck• fills• hard• happy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2005• thousands• up• 17• cars• rest
---	--

BICYCLE HELMETS SURVEY

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

Write five GOOD questions about bicycle helmets 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.

BICYCLE HELMETS DISCUSSION

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

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'helmet'?
- c) How useful are bicycle helmets?
- d) Would you choose to wear a bicycle helmet or not wear one?
- e) How dangerous is cycling and what are the dangers?
- f) What do you think of the "invisible" helmet?
- g) Why does such good design always come out of Sweden?
- h) Would you choose to wear the Hövding helmet or a normal helmet?
- i) Is it important for a helmet to be fashionable?
- j) What changes would you make to a normal bicycle helmet?

"Invisible" helmet for cyclists invented – 14th November, 2013
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BICYCLE HELMETS DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What other things can protect cyclists in an accident?
- c) Do you ever worry about having a cycling accident?
- d) Should the designers now work on an airbag suit for cyclists?
- e) What do you think of the idea of airbag knee pads and elbow pads?
- f) How safe do you think the invisible helmet is?
- g) Do you agree that "cars are so yesterday"?
- h) How will the Hövding helmet change cycling around the world?
- i) Do you want a Hövding helmet?
- j) What questions would you like to ask the designers, Anna and Terese?

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

Two Swedish (1) ____ students have invented a totally new kind of bicycle helmet. People are saying it's invisible because you cannot see it (2) ____ a cyclist's head. The "invisible" helmet is really a kind of airbag. It is inside a large (3) _____. People wear it around their neck like a scarf. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar quickly fills (4) ____ gas and an airbag surrounds the head. The two students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, wanted to change the way people (5) _____. They said: "Bicycle helmets have always been the same. They're so bulky, like a hard mushroom on your head." They called their new invention the Hövding. The pair said it looks so (6) ____ that "people would be happy to wear it".

The inventors started research and (7) ____ on the Hövding in 2005. They examined thousands of cycling (8) _____. They wanted to find out how to make the safest helmet. They then teamed (9) ____ with a Swedish airbag company called Alva. Today, the Hövding company has a staff of 17 employees. They hope their helmet will change how people all over the world cycle. In their video, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are (10) ____ yesterday. Bikes are the future." They also said their invention would (11) ____ them millionaires. People can only buy the Hövding helmet online in Europe. It sells for around \$530. The company did not say when it would be available in the (12) ____ of the world.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) design | (b) designed | (c) designer | (d) designs |
| 2. | (a) in | (b) top | (c) on | (d) at |
| 3. | (a) culler | (b) caller | (c) cellar | (d) collar |
| 4. | (a) up | (b) with | (c) out | (d) in |
| 5. | (a) cyclists | (b) recycle | (c) cycles | (d) cycle |
| 6. | (a) fashionista | (b) fashioning | (c) fashionable | (d) fashioned |
| 7. | (a) building | (b) development | (c) creating | (d) making |
| 8. | (a) accidents | (b) pileups | (c) mishaps | (d) incidents |
| 9. | (a) up | (b) down | (c) on | (d) along |
| 10. | (a) such | (b) as | (c) so | (d) real |
| 11. | (a) give | (b) apply | (c) make | (d) turn |
| 12. | (a) west | (b) rest | (c) best | (d) gest |

SPELLING

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

Paragraph 1

1. Two Swedish niesdg students
2. a altltyo new kind of bicycle helmet
3. It is inside a large aollrc
4. an airbag ndsursour the head
5. They're so ykblu
6. it looks so snhofblaeia

Paragraph 2

7. The vosreintn started research and development
8. thousands of cycling ictdncae
9. find out how to make the efasts helmet
10. a staff of 17 ymelsoeep
11. their invention would make them mianrilesoil
12. iealaalbv in the rest of the world

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () future." They also said their invention would make them millionaires. People can
- () saying it's invisible because you cannot see it on a cyclist's head. The "invisible" helmet is really a kind
- () change the way people cycle. They said: "Bicycle helmets have always been the same. They're so
- () how people all over the world cycle. In their video, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are so yesterday. Bikes are the
- () bulky, like a hard mushroom on your head." They called their new invention
- () company called Alva. Today, the Hövding company has a staff of 17 employees. They hope their helmet will change
- () did not say when it would be available in the rest of the world.
- () the Hövding. The pair said it looks so fashionable that "people would be happy to wear it".
- () fills with gas and an airbag surrounds the head. The two students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, wanted to
- (**1**) Two Swedish design students have invented a totally new kind of bicycle helmet. People are
- () The inventors started research and development on the Hövding in 2005. They examined thousands of cycling
- () of airbag. It is inside a large collar. People wear it around their neck like a scarf. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar quickly
- () accidents. They wanted to find out how to make the safest helmet. They then teamed up with a Swedish airbag
- () only buy the Hövding helmet online in Europe. It sells for around \$530. The company

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. kind Invented of a bicycle totally helmet new.

2. . it It's invisible because you cannot see

3. airbag of kind a really is helmet "invisible" The.

4. always have helmets Bicycle same the been.

5. happy to wear it So fashionable that people would be.

6. cycling of . thousands examined accidents They

7. wanted They helmet safest the make to how out find to.

8. has of company staff employees Hövding a 17 The.

9. would them invention make millionaires Their.

10. in the rest of the world It would be available.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

Two Swedish design students have invented a *total / totally* new kind of bicycle helmet. People are saying it's invisible because you cannot see it *in / on* a cyclist's head. The "invisible" helmet is *really / real* a kind of airbag. It is inside a large collar. People wear it around their neck *like / similar* a scarf. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar *quick / quickly* fills with gas and an airbag surrounds *the / a* head. The two students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, wanted to *change / chance* the way people *cyclist / cycle*. They said: "Bicycle helmets have always been the same. They're so bulky, like a *hard / hardy* mushroom on your head." They called their new invention the Hövding. The pair said it looks *so / such* fashionable that "people would be happy to wear it".

The inventors started research and *develops / development* on the Hövding in 2005. They *examined / examining* thousands of cycling accidents. They wanted to find out *what / how* to make the safest helmet. They then *teamed / tuned* up with a Swedish airbag company called Alva. Today, the Hövding company has a staff of 17 *employers / employees*. They hope their helmet will change how people all over the world *cycling / cycle*. In their video, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are *so / no* yesterday. Bikes are the future." They also said their invention would *make / give* them millionaires. People can only buy the Hövding helmet online in Europe. It *sells / buys* for around \$530. The company did not say when it would be available in the *west / rest* of the world.

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

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

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

Tw_ Sw_d_sh d_s_gn st_d_nts h_v_ _nv_nt_d _t_t_lly
n_w k_nd _f b_cycl_ h_lm_t. P__pl_ _r_ s_y_ng _t's
_nv_s_bl_ b_c__s_y__ c_nn_t s__ _t_n__ cycl_st's
h__d. Th_ "_nv_s_bl_" h_lm_t _s_r__lly _k_nd _f
__rb_g. _t_s _ns_d_ _l_rg_ c_ll_r. P__pl_ w__r_t
_r__nd th__r n_ck l_k_ _sc_rf. Wh_n th_ cycl_st f_lls
_ff h_s/h_r b_k_, th_ c_ll_r q__ckly f_lls w_th g_s _nd
_n __rb_g s_rr__nds th_ h__d. Th_ tw_ st_d_nts, _nn_
H__pt _nd T_r_s_ _lst_n, w_nt_d t_ ch_ng_ th_ w_y
p__pl_ cycl_. Th_y s__d: "B_cycl_ h_lm_ts h_v_ _lw_ys
b__n th_ s_m_. Th_y'r_ s_ b_lky, l_k_ _h_rd
m_shr__m _n y__r h__d." Th_y c_ll_d th__r n_w
_nv_nt__n th_ Hövd_ng. Th_ p__r s__d _t l__ks s_
f_sh__n_bl_ th_t "p__pl_ w__ld b_ h_ppy t_ w__r_t".

Th_ _nv_nt_rs st_rt_d r_s__rch _nd d_v_l_pm_nt _n
th_ Hövd_ng _n 2005. Th_y _x_m_n_d th__s_nds _f
cycl_ng _cc_d_nts. Th_y w_nt_d t_ f_nd __t h_w t_
m_k_ th_ s_f_st h_lm_t. Th_y th_n t__m_d _p_w_th _
Sw_d_sh __rb_g c_m_p_ny c_ll_d _lv_. T_d_y, th_
Hövd_ng c_m_p_ny h_s _st_ff _f 17 _mpl_y__s. Th_y
h_p_ th__r h_lm_t w_ll ch_ng_ h_w p__pl_ _ll_v_r th_
w_rld cycl_. _n th__r v_d__, H__pt _nd _lst_n s__d:
"C_rs _r_ s_y_st_rd_y. B_k_s _r_ th_ f_t_r_." Th_y
ls s__d th__r _nv_nt__n w__ld m_k_ th_m
m_ll__n__r_s. P__pl_ c_n_nly b_y th_ Hövd_ng h_lm_t
_nl_n_ _n __r_p_. _t_s_lls f_r _r__nd \$530. Th_
c_m_p_ny d_d_n_t_s_y wh_n _t_w__ld b_ _v__l__bl_ _n
th_r_st_f th_w_rld.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

two swedish design students have invented a totally new kind of bicycle helmet people are saying it's invisible because you cannot see it on a cyclist's head the "invisible" helmet is really a kind of airbag it is inside a large collar people wear it around their neck like a scarf when the cyclist falls off his/her bike the collar quickly fills with gas and an airbag surrounds the head the two students anna haupt and terese alstin wanted to change the way people cycle they said "bicycle helmets have always been the same they're so bulky like a hard mushroom on your head" they called their new invention the hövding the pair said it looks so fashionable that "people would be happy to wear it"

the inventors started research and development on the hövding in 2005 they examined thousands of cycling accidents they wanted to find out how to make the safest helmet they then teamed up with a swedish airbag company called alva today the hövding company has a staff of 17 employees they hope their helmet will change how people all over the world cycle in their video haupt and alstin said "cars are so yesterday bikes are the future" they also said their invention would make them millionaires people can only buy the hövding helmet online in europe it sells for around \$530 the company did not say when it would be available in the rest of the world

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

Two Swedish design students have invented a totally new kind of bicycle helmet. People are saying it's invisible because you cannot see it on a cyclist's head. The "invisible" helmet is really a kind of air bag. It is inside a large collar. People wear it around their neck like a scarf. When the cyclist falls off his/her bike, the collar quickly fills with gas and an air bag surrounds the head. The two students, Anna Haupt and Terese Alstin, wanted to change the way people cycle. They said: "Bicycle helmets have always been the same. They're so bulky, like a hard mushroom on your head." They called their new invention the Hövding. The pair said it looks so fashionable that "people would be happy to wear it". The inventors started research and development on the Hövding in 2005. They examined thousands of cycling accidents. They wanted to find out how to make the safest helmet. They then teamed up with a Swedish air bag company called Alva. Today, the Hövding company has a staff of 17 employees. They hope their helmet will change how people all over the world cycle. In their video, Haupt and Alstin said: "Cars are so yesterday. Bikes are the future." They also said their invention would make them millionaires. People can only buy the Hövding helmet online in Europe. It sells for around \$530. The company did not say when it would be available in the rest of the world.

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 the "invisible" bicycle helmet. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. BICYCLE HELMETS: Make a poster about bicycle helmets. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. HÖVDING: Write a magazine article about the Hövding helmet. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

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 a bicycle safety expert. Ask him/her three questions about bicycle helmets. Give him/her three ideas on how to make them better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b T c F d F e T f F g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. invented | a. created |
| 2. quickly | b. speedily |
| 3. surrounds | c. encircles |
| 4. bulky | d. big |
| 5. fashionable | e. stylish |
| 6. examined | f. looked at |
| 7. teamed up | g. collaborated |
| 8. employees | h. workers |
| 9. buy | i. purchase |
| 10. available | j. on sale |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Sweden
2. An airbag
3. On their neck
4. Gas
5. A mushroom
6. 2005
7. Thousands
8. 17
9. They are "so yesterday"
10. No one knows

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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