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Level 4 – 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-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling-4.html>

New traffic laws in Japan make it illegal for cyclists to use mobile phones or be under the influence of alcohol when they are on their bikes. Cyclists using phones could get a six-month prison sentence or a fine of \$650. The penalties are heavier for those who drink alcohol and ride. They could get three years in jail or be fined \$3,270. Moreover, restaurants that serve alcohol to cyclists could also be punished.

Japan's police reported a big rise in traffic accidents caused by phone-using cyclists. There was a 50 per cent increase in the five years to 2023. There were 72,000 bicycle accidents in Japan last year. This was 20 per cent of all traffic accidents. Most were caused by people under 20 years old. People are using bicycles instead of public transport because of coronavirus. Authorities say raising public awareness of the new rules could be a challenge.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cpqd2e1j132o>
<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20241101/p2g/00m/0na/004000c>
<https://japannews.yomiuri.co.jp/society/general-news/20241102-220103/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. New traffic | a. in jail |
| 2. be under the influence | b. month prison sentence |
| 3. when they are on | c. of \$650 |
| 4. get a six- | d. alcohol to cyclists |
| 5. a fine | e. their bikes |
| 6. The penalties are heavier | f. laws in Japan |
| 7. They could get three years | g. for those who drink |
| 8. restaurants that serve | h. of alcohol |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Japan's police | a. the five years to 2023 |
| 2. traffic accidents caused | b. transport |
| 3. a 50 per cent increase in | c. by phone-using cyclists |
| 4. There were 72,000 bicycle | d. people under 20 |
| 5. This was 20 per cent of all | e. of the new rules |
| 6. Most were caused by | f. reported a big rise |
| 7. public | g. traffic accidents |
| 8. raising public awareness | h. accidents |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling-4.html>

New (1) _____ Japan make it illegal for cyclists to use mobile phones or be (2) _____ of alcohol when they are (3) _____. Cyclists using phones could get a six-month (4) _____ a fine of \$650. The penalties are heavier for those who drink alcohol and ride. They could get three years (5) _____ be fined \$3,270. Moreover, restaurants that serve alcohol to cyclists could (6) _____.

Japan's police reported a big rise (7) _____ caused by phone-using cyclists. There was a 50 per cent increase in the five years to 2023. There were 72,000 (8) _____ Japan last year. This was 20 per cent of all traffic accidents. Most were (9) _____ under 20 years old. People are using bicycles instead (10) _____ because of coronavirus. Authorities (11) _____ awareness of the new rules could (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling-4.html>

New traffic laws in Japan make it illegal for cyclists to use mobile phones or be under the influence of alcohol when they are on their bikes. Cyclists using phones could get a six-month prison sentence or a fine of \$650. The penalties are heavier for those who drink alcohol and ride. They could get three years in jail or be fined \$3,270. Moreover, restaurants that serve alcohol to cyclists could also be punished. Japan's police reported a big rise in traffic accidents caused by phone-using cyclists. There was a 50 percent increase in the five years to 2023. There were 72,000 bicycle accidents in Japan last year. This was 20 percent of all traffic accidents. Most were caused by people under 20 years old. People are using bicycles instead of public transport because of coronavirus. Authorities say raising public awareness of the new rules could be a challenge.

CYCLING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling-4.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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241104-road-traffic-laws-cycling-4.html>

Write about **cycling** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
