

Reading Part 2 Gapped text (2)

You are going to read an article about cycling in France. Seven sentences have been taken out from the article.

Choose the most appropriate sentences from **A-H** below the text for each gap. Remember that one of these sentences is unnecessary.

CYCLING LONDON BORDEAUX

France is made for cycling. **[9]** ____ Anyone who fancies the idea of a peaceful cycling holiday would be mad not to make use of France's cycling delights.

There is nothing more rewarding than arriving at your destination in a beautiful city after having pedaled for hundreds of miles. The London to Bordeaux route offers the best of France for cycling fans who can do without the headaches involved in planning a trip. First-time rookies, however, might need some guidance. Here are a few little tips that more experienced cyclists learned along the way that will help your journey run as smoothly as possible.

[10] ____ . Another solid piece of advice for novice cyclists is to follow the 'Voie Verte' [Green Route] which will avoid you getting lost and keep you away from traffic, whilst taking you through some beautiful (and mostly flat) landscapes. However, they can get busy, especially in summer time, **[11]** ____ Cycling on roads is a very different experience to that in the UK. **[12]** ____ . The benefit of the roads is you can pick up some speed, so if you want to make some distance then roads may be a more suitable choice.

The 'Voie Verte' is a large network of off road cycle lanes all over France offering cyclists over 2,600 kms of relaxing riding away from any traffic. **[13]** ____ . This network runs pretty much all the way down the west coast and offers a flat terrain, which makes for relaxing and fatigue-free riding, enabling cyclists to enjoy some beautiful countryside and coastlines.

Obviously, you will need to find a place to stay on your adventure. The advantage of campsites is that there are loads of them, they allow more flexibility and you will never be stuck for a bed! **[14]** ____ The French Tourist Board are great when it comes to helping you find accommodation, so you can be pretty confident that they will find something for you, whether it be a bed and some breakfast in a local family's house, a hostel or a local hotel room. If you don't want to risk it, then pop into a tourist information centre along the way and they are often happy to arrange it for you. **[15]** ____ .

A Traffic is a whole new story in France, even in bigger towns, drivers are very respectful towards cyclists, and the roads are generally very well surfaced.

B With its long stretches of cycle ways far from dangerous traffic, beautiful countryside and charming towns and villages, you can't go wrong.

C The easiest way to cross the channel is by ferry or train. Remember to book your tickets in advance during peak season to avoid disappointment.

D This may be more suited to novice cyclists who don't want to worry about cycling on the wrong side of the road and traffic and they are always well signposted.

E It does, however, require an extra load and is less comfortable than other options after a hard day's exercise.

F Many cyclists choose to avoid the crowds by taking roads to pick up some speed, still allowing them to travel through some wonderful villages.

G But it wasn't a serious problem. They all had a great time and got on really well with the locals.

H Many cyclists swear their best night's rest was in an old lady's front room!

ANSWERS AND HELP

9 B 'Its' refers to France.

10 C Advice is given here.

11 F It's an alternative when it's busy.

12 A It refers to the safer French roads compared to the U.K.

13 D 'This' refers to the Green Route.

14 E This extract refers to carrying camping equipment.

15 H It refers to staying with a local family.

G is an irrelevant load of rubbish!