

Most of this passage is nonsense text. Look at the parts in English and then go on to the next page.

Riding Bikes




Βετωεεν 15 ανδ 20 μιλλιον νεω βιχψηλεσ αρε σολδ ιν τηισ χουντρψ εαχη ψεαρ. Δο ψου ηαπε α βιχψηλε? Ιφ ψου δο, ωηερε δο ψου γο? Do you know how other people use their bikes?

Business or Pleasure?

Τηε *National Bicycling and Walking Study*, δονε βψ τηε Υ.Σ. Δεπαρτμεντ οφ Τρανσπορτατιον, λοοκεδ ατ ηοω ωε υσε βιχψηλεσ. Αβουτ 2.8 μιλλιον πεοπλε αγεδ 17 ανδ οπωρ ρεγυλαρλιψ γο το ωορκ, ορ **commute**, βψ βικε. Φαρ μορε πεοπλε, αβουτ 27.5 μιλλιον αδυλτσ, ριδε φορ φυν.

Αβουτ 15 μιλλιον ρεγυλαρ βιχψηλιστωσ αρε αγεδ 16 ανδ υνδερ.

Average Distance Ridden Per Year

Adults Who Commute	
Adults Who Ride for Fun	
Riders 16 and Under	

One  stands for about 200 miles.

Why Bikes?

Βιχψηλεσ χαν βε χονωπεινεντ ανδ **cost effective**. Ωε δον τ ηαπε τηε πριχε οφ γασολινε το ωορρηψ αβουτ, ονε ριδερ σαιδ. Τηεψ αλσο απωιδ βιγ τραφφιχ φαμσ.

Getting in Gear

Μορε πεοπλε βιχψηλε ιν γοοδ ωεατηερ τηαν βαδ ωεατηερ. Ριδινγ ιν ραιν ορ σνοω ισ νοτ φορ εωερψονε, βυτ σομε ριδερσ δο ιτ. Σπεχιαλ χλοτηεσ, λικε φαχκετσ, γλοωεσ, ανδ τιγητσ χαν ηελπ κεεπ ουτ ωινδ ανδ ραιν.

Πεοπλε ριδινγ ιν τραφφιχ μοψ ωαντ το υσε α σπεχιαλ μιρρορ. Αν ινεξπενσιβε ηελμετ χαν χοστ ασ λιττλε ασ Ξ10, βυτ ιτ χαν σαπε ψουρ βραιν ανδ ψουρ λιφε.



The most important equipment.

Notes

Titles are clues about the topic or the main idea.

Introductory and concluding sentences may tell you more about the main idea.

Emphasis in italics or bold highlights key words.

Graphs and charts show a lot of information at once. *Keys* show us how to understand them.

Subheads tell you the main idea of a certain part of the text.

Labels or captions are titles for pictures.

1 Skim Ahead

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If you go to a hobby shop, you'll probably look for your favorite toys and models. You might look for airplanes. You might look for boats. You probably won't try to find out how many models there are or where each model came from. At first, you look at the "big picture." This is more important than the little details.

It is the same with reading something new. Don't just start reading. Look around first. **Skim ahead.** When you skim ahead, you look for clues about what you are going to read.

Skim All reading has a purpose. It might be for entertainment or to find a piece of information. It might be to decide what you think about the subject. Know your purpose before you begin. That will help you pay attention in the right places.

The *callout boxes* explained *what key information these features show.*

When you looked at "Riding Bikes" on the previous page, you couldn't just start reading. Most of the words were nonsense. The words you *could* read called for attention in different ways. They were given special treatment because they help organize and highlight important information.

There are many other common organizers. For example:

- The **table of contents** shows how and where the material is divided into sections.
- The **index** helps you locate key topics.
- The **glossary** defines important words and concepts.
- **Footnotes** tell you more about part of the text, like where it came from.



Connections Look at this page without trying to read specific words. What parts call for your attention? Write your answer on the lines below.

Skim When you are reading during a test or for homework, don't just skim the reading passage. Skim the questions, too! Note what they ask about so that you know what to look for as you read.

Example

Look again at "Riding Bikes" on page 5. Look at the title, subheads, picture, caption, chart, and any highlighted words. Use what you have learned to *Skim Ahead*, then come back to answer the question below.

What is "Riding Bikes" mostly about?

Keisha's Answer

"Riding Bikes" is about what people do with their bikes. It also gives the results of a study of bicycling, and talks about equipment.

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Keisha figured out what the passage is mostly about. She didn't need to read the whole passage. She looked for the clues left by the author. The title told her the subject is bikes. The last sentence of the first paragraph told her the main idea.

Keisha also tells you more than the main idea. She uses the information from emphasized text, pictures, and captions to add more details about the study and bicycle equipment.

Example

Look again at "Riding Bikes" on page 5. Look at the title, subheads, picture, caption, chart, and any highlighted words. Use what you have learned to *Skim Ahead*, then come back to answer the question below.

What is the MOST important thing that the "Average Distance" chart shows?

- (A) Bicyclists should always use helmets.
- (B) Many people do not use bikes at all.
- (C) Commuters go much farther than other kinds of riders.
- (D) Commuters are people who ride their bicycles to work.

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(A) Based on the caption to the helmet picture, this may be true. But it is not what the chart is about.

(B) There is no way to conclude this from the information in the chart.

(C) The chart shows this very clearly, using the number of bicycles to show distance.

(D) This may be true. But there is nothing in the chart to define what "commuter" means.