

NAME: _____ 2º BACH A/B

OPTION 1

Read the text and the instructions to the questions very carefully. Answer all the questions in English.

A cyclist who was knocked down by a car on a zebra crossing sent a message to other riders after the police said they would not prosecute the driver: "Learn the Highway Code!" The retired underground worker, Peter Fernandes, 76, suffered bruising on his left side and an injured shoulder when he was sent sprawling by a car that failed to stop at a crossing in west London. The driver was not arrested. Police investigated but later informed Mr Fernandes they would not pursue a criminal case. They said that Mr Fernandes had breached rules 64 and 79 of the Highway Code, which prohibit cycling on a pavement and demand that riders dismount on a zebra or pelican crossing. He claimed they threatened to send him a "warning letter".

In a message to other cyclists, Mr Fernandes said: "Don't make the same mistake I did. I might be in the wrong, but I was not aware that cycling on a crossing is not allowed. I'm disappointed that the driver has not been prosecuted." Mr Fernandes, who has been cycling around west London for more than 30 years, said he did not take risks. He accepted that he had indeed breached the code, but added that this did not excuse the driver for not stopping. He said: "I don't think justice has been served; I received a personal injury and I'm worried about the message this sends out to other drivers." The Metropolitan Police said: "A breach of the Highway Code, although not an offence in itself, may be used as evidence of a road user's liability. Prosecutors will take a number of factors into consideration in their decision on whether or not to prosecute."

Questions

- Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points using your own words (approximately 50 words; 1 point).
- Mark the following sentences true or false (T/F) according to the text. Then write the part (and ONLY that part) of the text which justifies your answer. (1 point; 0.25 each)
 - Peter Fernandes had his leg broken.*
 - The driver did not go to prison after the accident.*
 - The cyclist admitted he had made a mistake.*
 - According to the Highway Code, riders are not allowed to cycle on a pelican crossing.*
- Find words and phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here. (1 point; 0.25 each)
 - hit and caused to fall*
 - notified*
 - forbid*
 - conscious*
- Pronunciation. (1 point. 0.25 each)
 - Which of the following words adds a syllable when pronounced in the plural? send – use – factor – receive.*
 - Write the word whose underlined letters are pronounced differently: worried – code – suffered – London.*
 - Write the word in which the underlined letters are pronounced /ɪd/ the same as "-ed" in "parted": added – watched – puzzled – listened*
 - Which one of the following words includes the sound /z/ like the "s" in "bruising": crossing – bends – disappointed – cyclists.*
- Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning. Use the word in brackets and/or the expression given, making the necessary changes. (1.5 points; 0.5 points each)
 - A breach of the Highway Code, although not an offence, may be used as evidence.*
Although a ...
 - Riding a bicycle on a crossing is not allowed.*
You...
 - The retired underground worker, Peter Fernandes, suffered bruising on his left side.*
Peter Fernandes, who...
 - Driving a car may be dangerous.*
It may ...
 - We decided to walk even though it was raining.*
In spite ...
 - That's the stupidest thing I've ever heard.*
I've ...
- Write a composition entitled: "Cycling, advantages and disadvantages." (Approximately 120 words, 3 points)

OPTION 2

Read the text and the instructions to the questions very carefully. Answer all the questions in English.

The Second Amendment of the US Constitution serves as the legal basis for the "right of the people to keep and bear arms." Gun control is one of the most divisive issues in American politics. With each mass shooting — defined as four or more victims having been killed indiscriminately — antagonism grows between both sides of the gun control argument.

Proponents of stricter gun regulations fear for their safety in a country where there is an average of 88 guns per 100 people. The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence estimates that around 114,994 people are shot each year in the US. This includes murders, accidents, police intervention, suicide attempts and suicides. Opponents of regulatory control, however, also fear for their safety. They argue that restricting the right to bear arms would leave citizens unable to protect themselves against other individuals or the government.

Though regulations vary from state to state, there are some conditions for obtaining guns in the US. The Gun Control Act of 1968 requires that citizens must be at least 18 years old to purchase shotguns or rifles. All other firearms — handguns, for example — can only be sold to people 21 and older. State or local officials may implement higher age restrictions but are not allowed to lower the federal minimum.

Fugitives, people deemed a danger to society and patients committed to mental institutions are among those who cannot purchase firearms. People with previous convictions that include a prison sentence exceeding one year are also prohibited from purchasing firearms.

Federal law also blocks the sale of guns to people who have been found guilty of unlawfully possessing controlled substances within the past year. This includes marijuana, which, though legalized in many US states, remains illegal under federal law.

Only a dozen states require purchase permits for handguns, and only three require permits for the purchase of rifles and shotguns.

Questions

- Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points using your own words (approximately 50 words; 1 point).
- Mark the following sentences true or false (T/F) according to the text. Then write the part (and ONLY that part) of the text which justifies your answer. (1 point; 0.25 each)
 - The text says that most people agree that there should be more gun control.*
 - A person over 18 years old and without previous convictions can buy some types of firearm in the US.*
 - In some states, the age for purchasing weapons can be under 18.*
 - People who have consumed marijuana can never buy a gun.*
- Find words and phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here. (1 point; 0.25 each)
 - controversial*
 - more severe*
 - put into practice*
 - illegally*
- Pronunciation. (1 point. 0.25 each)
 - In which one of these words is the vowel sound different from the /eɪ/ in "say"? basis – safety – danger – average*
 - In which one of these words is the vowel sound the same as the "i" in "right"? legalized – guilty – year – sale*
 - In which one of the following words is the "s" pronounced like the "z" in "zoo"? substance – prison – patients – society*
 - In which one of the following words is the stress on the second syllable, as in "important"? attempts – purchase – regulations – individuals*
- Rewrite the following sentences without changing the original meaning. Use the word in brackets and / or the expression given, making the necessary changes. (1.5 points; 0.5 points each)
 - Restricting the right to bear arms would leave citizens unable to protect themselves.*
Citizens would be...
 - Firearms can only be sold to people 21 and older.*
Only people 21 and older...
 - A dozen states require purchase permits for handguns, but only three require permits for the purchase of rifles.*
While...
 - If he doesn't apologize we will never invite him here again.*
Unless ...
 - She didn't tell anyone about the phone call.*
No one ...
 - Jennifer started teaching English six years ago.*
Jennifer has ...
- Should people be allowed to carry guns in this country? Why / why not? (Approximately 120 words: 3 points)