

Name & Date:

Objective: IELTS Reading

A) Please read the texts below. When you are finished, answer questions 1-14.

Welcome to Australia!

Essential Information for Travellers

The Great Outdoors

Australia is the world's oldest continent and indigenous Australians have one of the world's oldest cultures.

In Australia you will see unique plants and animals and some of the most beautiful scenery in the world. Many parks have information centres offering advice on where to go, what to see and how to see it – for both your personal safety and to protect our sensitive, natural environment.

Banks and money matters

Banks are generally open between 9.30 and 4.00pm on Monday to Thursday and 9.30 and 5.00pm on Friday.

Foreign currency or traveller's cheques can be changed at all banks and some of the larger hotels. There are currency exchange facilities at all international airports.

The Sun

Take care! Our sunlight is very strong and you can get sunburnt.

For best sun protection, it is advisable to wear:

- broad brimmed hat
- shirt with collar and sleeves
- sun screen with high protection factor

Swimming

We have so many beautiful places to swim – beaches, lakes, rivers and creeks.

- Many of our waters are safe for swimming, but if you have any doubts, ask before entering the water.
- Most of our popular ocean beaches have patrols with lifesaving service. Red and yellow flags mark the area that you are advised to swim within.
- If there are no flags and no lifeguards on the beach, talk to local people about the best areas to swim.

Staying safe on the roads

- Australians drive on the LEFT hand side of the road.
- For safety, everyone in the car, including children, must wear a seatbelt.
- Motor cyclists and bicyclists are required to wear a helmet.
- Watch out for native animals crossing the roads, especially at night. Road signs are erected in places where animals are commonly seen.

Have a wonderful time in Australia!

Questions 1-6

Do the following statements agree with the information in the passage? Write

True	if the statement agrees with the information in the passage
False	if the statement disagrees with the information in the passage
Not Given	if there is no information on this

- 1 You are asked to take care of the fragile Australian environment.
- 2 You can change money at some hotels.
- 3 You run the greatest risk of sunburn at the beach.
- 4 You can only swim if there are lifeguards on the beach.
- 5 it is illegal to ride a bicycle without wearing a helmet.
- 6 Many native animals are killed on the roads at night.

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London to Brighton Bike Ride

The start

The bike ride starts at Clapham Common tube station.

- Your Start Time is indicated by the colour of your body number in this pack. It is also printed on the address label of the envelope. Please arrive no earlier than 30 minutes before that time.
- We allocate an equal number of cyclists for each Start Time to ensure a steady flow. Please keep to the time you've been given so we can keep to our schedule and avoid delaying other riders and prevent 'bunching' further down the route.
- An Information Point, toilets and refreshment stands will be open from very early in the day.

Ride carefully

We put together as many facilities as possible to help ensure you have a troublefree day. But we also rely on you to ride safely and with due consideration for other cyclists and road users. Although many roads are closed to oncoming traffic, this is not always the case and you should be aware of the possibility that there could be vehicles coming in the opposite direction. Please do not attempt reckless overtaking whilst riding – remember it is NOT a race.

Follow all instructions

Every effort is made to ensure that the route is well signed and marshalled. Please obey all directions from police and marshals on the route. If you hear a motorcycle marshal blow his/her whistle three times, move left.

Wear a helmet

Every year we are delighted to see more riders wearing protective helmets, but we would like to see every cyclist on the ride wearing one. More than half of reported injuries in cycling accidents are to the head, and a helmet gives the best protection when the head hits the ground.

Attracting assistance

If you have an accident, ask a marshal for help; they are in contact with the support/emergency services. To call for help from our motorcycle marshals, give a 'thumbs down' signal. The marshal will do all he/she can to help, providing he/she is not already going to a more serious accident. If a motorcycle marshal slows down to help you, but you have just stopped for a rest and don't need help, please give a 'thumbs up' signal and he/she will carry on. *Remember – thumbs down means 'I need help'.*

In case of breakdown

Refer to your route map and make your way to a Mechanics Point. Mechanical assistance is free when you show your Rider Identity Card; you just pay for the parts.

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Refreshment stops

Look out for these along the route. Most are organised by voluntary clubs and their prices give you real value for money. They are also raising money for their local communities and the British Heart Foundation, so please give them your support.

Rain or shine – be prepared

In the event of very bad weather, watch out for signs to wet weather stations en route. Good waterproofs, like a cycle cape, are essential. Our first aid staff can only supply bin liners and by the time you get one you may be very wet. However, the English summer is unpredictable – it may also be hot, so don't forget the sun protection cream as well!

If you have to drop out

We will try to pick up your bike for you on the day. Call Bike Events (01225 310859) no more than two weeks after the ride to arrange collection. Sorry, we cannot guarantee this service nor can we accept liability for any loss or damage to your bike. Bike Events will hold your bike for three months, after which it may be disposed of. You will be charged for all costs incurred in returning your cycle.

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Questions 7-14

Do the following statements agree with the information in the passage? Write

True	if the statement agrees with the information in the passage
False	if the statement disagrees with the information in the passage
Not Given	if there is no information on this

- 7** You should not arrive more than half an hour before your allocated starting time.
- 8** Your Rider Identity Card will be sent to you before the event.
- 9** Some roads may have normal traffic flow on them.
- 10** Helmets are compulsory for all participants.
- 11** Refreshments are free to all participants during the ride.
- 12** If you need a rest you must get off the road.
- 13** First aid staff can provide cycle capes.
- 14** Bike Events will charge you for the return of your bike.

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ANSWER KEY