



ACT GRAMMAR AND USAGE PRACTICE DRILL I

Last summer, while my family and I spent a few weeks with missionaries volunteering in a low-income village in Denmark, I **developed**¹ a new fascination with bicycles. We noticed that bicycle culture there was far different from what we were used to in America. The number of bicycles on the streets **were**² astounding. Almost every block in the larger cities had a bike rack filled with them, sometimes overflowing onto the street. They even had a free bicycle sharing program. **You**³ could pick up a bike from an outpost in one part of the city and drop it off at your destination.

Americans don't use bicycles this way. Back home, people **whom**⁴ cycle usually do so for recreation or fitness. People associate bikes with memories of Dad running alongside them the first time they **had took off**⁵ their training wheels, or teenagers **wild**⁶ riding mountain bikes down homemade ramps. Others think of triathlons or cardio machines at the gym. But places like Copenhagen engage in "utility cycling": locals use bikes simply as a way to get around town. About 500,000 residents of the city—over a third of **its**⁷ population **commutes**⁸ by bicycle every day. In contrast, over three fourths of the teens in the United States are blessed with the opportunity to drive a car to school each day.

Utility cycling **had**⁹ many advantages over commuting by car, both for individuals and for the community as a whole. Cycling is **a more cleaner**¹⁰ form of transportation because it produces no emissions. Cycling is safer than driving, both for passengers and for pedestrians. **It's**¹¹ also more economical than driving—bicycles are inexpensive to own and **only requires**¹² the fuel to run your body, which not only helps us be good stewards of God's creation, but it also helps us care for thousands of God's people by helping everyone breath better and cleaner air due to the reduced emissions.

On top of all that, it's great exercise and promotes a healthy lifestyle thus caring for our bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit. If utility cycling is so great, why don't more Americans and Christians do it? One problem is that American cities are not yet equipped for bike travel. Most American cities are dominated by suburban areas **which**¹³ neighborhoods are far from each other, making commutes too long and often too dangerous for bike travel. European cities have smaller, interconnected streets that are more bicycle friendly while utility cycling in the United States **are**¹⁴ still far less common than in Europe, however, more and more people have **started using**¹⁵ bicycles for transportation.



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From New York to Seattle, cities have launched initiatives to encourage utility cycling. They have even contemplated bike-sharing programs like the one in Denmark. "All big cities should promote bicycle use," one transit official said. "Bicycles take cars off the road, which is a big win for everyone." This spirit of collaboration and care for our environment reflects how we, as Christians, are called to be stewards of the world God entrusted to us.