

Cycling Through QAR

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Review the list of sample questions about the passage. Decide which type of QAR each question belongs to:

- (RT) - Right There
- (TS) - Think and Search
- (AM) - Author and Me
- (O) - On My Own



The Rise of Bicycles

In the late 1800s, bicycles became an exciting new way to travel. Before then, most people relied on walking or horse-drawn carriages for short trips. The first bicycles were called “velocipedes,” and they had wooden frames with iron wheels that made for a very bumpy ride. Soon, inventors improved the design by adding rubber tires and pedals, which made bicycles faster and more comfortable. Cycling quickly became popular, especially in cities where streets were crowded with horses and carts. For many, the bicycle meant new independence, since it was cheaper than owning a horse and allowed people to travel longer distances on their own. The bicycle craze even influenced fashion, as riders began wearing more practical clothing instead of heavy, formal outfits. Over time, bicycles also played a role in women’s independence, giving them greater freedom to move about on their own.

- _____ 1. What were the first bicycles called?
- _____ 2. Why did bicycles become more popular in cities than horses or carts?
- _____ 3. How might riding a bicycle in the 1800s compare to riding one today?
- _____ 4. Have you ever learned to ride a bike, and what was that experience like?
- _____ 5. What two improvements made bicycles faster and more comfortable?
- _____ 6. According to the passage, how did bicycles influence women’s independence?
- _____ 7. The passage mentions clothing changes—how do you think that connects to larger social changes of the time?