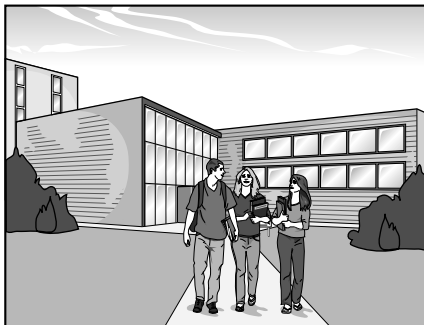


Exercise 1

Read the following guide for new students, and then answer the questions on the opposite page.

Wellbridge College student guide



Welcome to Wellbridge College! This guide is for new students who are starting a course with us next year. It contains some practical information about our facilities, your arrival and accommodation at our international college.

Your first few days

On arrival at the college, the Information Centre is the place to go. Here you will receive a form to complete for your ID card (which you collect later at the library), a map of the site, and information about the college and some welcome events, all of which are free. You can also speak to advisers about how to open a bank account, and get help with writing letters.

See the 'social' board in the Information Centre to find out what's on. On your first evening, you can get to know other new students at a welcome party in the Garden Room. The next morning, come along to the Great Hall to be introduced to your tutors and other staff, and find out more about your course.

Staff at the Information Centre arrange tours of the college site for all new students. You will be shown all the important places such as the library, the medical centre (where you can see a nurse or a doctor between 9am and 5pm on weekdays), and of course the cafeteria.

We hope that new students will enjoy their time with us at the college. However, we realise that for some it can be a challenging experience at times. Therefore we offer free half-day workshops on a range of topics such as stress management and relaxation. See the notice board in the Information Centre for more details.

Accommodation

We cannot guarantee everyone a place in student accommodation, so we would encourage you to apply as soon as you can, ideally online via the website. If this is not possible, you can request a paper application form from us and send it in by post. Please note that some students, for example those who are going to study part-time, are unlikely to be offered a room.

Our most popular accommodation is Simson Court, situated at the very centre of the college. This has 176 single en-suite rooms, with shared kitchens. We also have 150 studio flats in Patterson House, which is three kilometres from the college. Finally, there are 148 rooms, some of which are shared, in The Lakeside, just inside the college grounds.

If you prefer more independence, private-sector housing is another option to consider. We provide assistance for students who decide to rent privately, including the StudentHouse website and frequent house-hunting days. There are many accommodation agencies in the town which can be contacted as well.

(a) Where do students get their identity cards from?

.....[1]

(b) What financial advice does the Information Centre give students?

.....[1]

(c) Where will new students meet their teachers for the first time?

.....[1]

(d) Where should students go if they feel unwell?

.....[1]

(e) What courses can students take if they are finding student life difficult? Give **two** details.

.....
.....[1]

(f) What is the best way to apply for college accommodation?

.....[1]

(g) Which students will probably not get college accommodation?

.....[1]

(h) Which student accommodation is located on the college campus? Give **two** details.

.....
.....[1]

(i) How does the college help students to find a house to live in? Give **two** details.

.....
.....[1]

[Total: 9]

Exercise 2

Read the following article about a sport called BMX, and then answer the questions on the opposite page.

BMX

There is only so much that you can write about a sport without trying it yourself. I was excited when my editor asked me to produce an article on BMX. The appeal of the sport for many people is the challenge, but I started feeling anxious when I realised that I would actually need to have a go at it myself.

BMX, or bicycle motocross, involves riding a small bicycle on tracks which usually include several jumps. Some people prefer BMX racing; others like freestyle BMX, which is all about performing tricks. Either way, the fact that BMX bikes are fairly cheap to buy has helped to make it a sport that many people want to try.

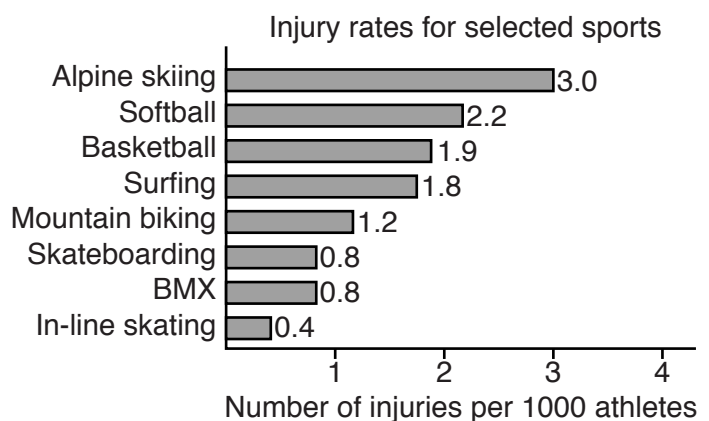


The sport began in the 1970s, when children in California were inspired by the stars of cross-country motorbike racing, and started racing their bikes on dirt tracks. Many people believe that they were motivated by an American TV documentary which showed children riding a popular type of bicycle, called the Sting-Ray, off-road. This quickly became the preferred bike for BMX racing because it was easy to adapt for better performance.

By the mid-1970s, BMX racing had become officially recognised as a sport. In 1981, the International BMX Federation was founded, and the first world championships were held in 1982. The International Olympic Committee made BMX a full-medal Olympic sport in time for the 2008 summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China. The first Olympic champion in men's racing was Māris Štrombergs, from Latvia; Anne-Caroline Chausson, who was French, became the first women's champion.

Lots of people are attracted to BMX because there are many places to ride and do tricks. I went to my local BMX centre and met Mark Hubbard, a professional BMX rider, to try it out. I wanted him to teach me a trick that I had heard about, called the bunnyhop. To do this, riders have to lift their front wheel, then their back wheel, to launch their bike in the air, as if they are jumping off a ramp. However, Mark said this was too challenging, and he would teach me two simpler ones instead. First I tried a truck stand, which involves balancing on the front tyre with your hands in the air. My first attempts were disastrous, so Mark decided to teach me how to do a glider – a trick where you keep your feet on the wheel pegs and roll backwards and forwards with your hands above your head. Mark made it look so easy, but I just couldn't take my hands off the handlebars. Before we ran out of time, Mark gave me one last chance to perfect the first of these tricks. Taking a deep breath, and with Mark firmly holding onto my bike, I managed to get my balance and stand upright. I then realised with horror that Mark had stepped away. I was actually supporting myself – but only for a few seconds, before I fell off! Mark later reassured me that BMX isn't as dangerous as some people think.

I also tried out BMX racing at the centre. I was only allowed on the amateur track, which had a five-metre start hill followed by a variety of jumps and turns. Then I watched some teenagers having an advanced lesson on the elite track, which has a higher start hill and a much more technically demanding layout. They all looked so cool with their bikes – another reason why the sport is so popular. I left feeling very relieved that I didn't have to try my luck on that!



- (a) How did the writer feel about the idea of having a BMX lesson?
[1]
- (b) Which **two** types of BMX riding does the writer mention?

[1]
- (c) Which sport did BMX develop from?
[1]
- (d) Which make of bicycle did most children use for BMX racing in the 1970s?
[1]
- (e) When did the first international BMX competitions take place?
[1]
- (f) What was the nationality of the first woman to win an Olympic BMX racing event?
[1]
- (g) What do riders need to do first if they want to perform a bunnyhop?
[1]
- (h) Which trick did the writer manage to do in his lesson?
[1]
- (i) According to the chart, which sport is as dangerous as BMX, **and** how many injuries are there for every 1000 basketball players?

[1]
- (j) What **two** tracks were at the place where the writer went for his lesson?

[2]
- (k) Give **four** reasons why BMX is such a popular sport nowadays.

[4]

[Total: 15]

[Turn over]