

Cops on Wheels



1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.
What is the story about? Now read it.

PARIS, FRANCE ¹What is your idea of a **cool** job? Would you like to spend the day on **in-line skates** in the **lovely** streets of Paris? That is what a group of French **police officers** do. In their blue uniforms, they **speed** through Paris traffic on in-line skates. ²**Look out!** They **chase** thieves and try to **catch up with** them. They give tickets to drivers who are talking on cell phones.

³It is a very good job. The cops* **skate** only four hours a day, four days a week. ⁴The rest of the time

they go to the gym** because they have to stay **in shape** for this job. ⁵But it can be dangerous—the streets are not always **flat**. No officer has **seriously** hurt himself yet, but some have taken a bad fall.

⁶Young French women like the cops on wheels, and **tourists** love them, too. “I’m in thousands of Japanese photos!” says one cop.

*cops (informal): policemen or policewomen

**gym: a place where you exercise and do sports.

NEW WORDS

cool (informal) *adj*

in-line skate *n*

lovely *adj*

police officer *n*

speed *v*

look out *v*

chase *v*

catch up with *v*

skate *v*

in shape *adv*

flat *adj*

seriously *adv*

tourist *n*

>> See Glossary on page 90. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an X.

Not at All

A Lot

1

2

3

4

5

3. Check your comprehension

Match the first and second parts of the sentences.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a. The French cops speed through ____ | 1. in shape for the job. |
| b. They chase criminals and give ____ | 2. traffic on in-line skates. |
| c. They stay ____ | 3. dangerous. |
| d. Their work can be ____ | 4. photos of the cops. |
| e. Tourists take ____ | 5. tickets to drivers. |

4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- A group of police off_____ move through Paris on in-line sk_____.
- They sp_____ through the lov_____ streets.
- They ch_____ thieves and c_____ up with them.
- The streets are not always f_____, but no cop has been ser_____ hurt yet.

5. Listen to the story track 12

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

7. Answer the questions

About the story...

- What work do these Paris cops do?
- What are the good and bad sides of the job?
- Why do tourists take their photo?
- Would you like this job? Why or why not?

About you...

- What three jobs do you think are cool? Why?
- When do you think it is *not* OK to talk on a cell phone?
- Have you ever skated? Is it a good way to stay in shape? Why or why not?
- What do tourists take photos of in your country?

8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

IN SHAPE		
stay get be	in shape	<i>The cops have to stay in shape for this job. I'd like to get in shape for summer. He's in shape because he plays tennis.</i>
in	perfect good bad	shape <i>Sports star David Beckham is in perfect shape. Motoko was in good shape last year. I'm in bad shape because I never go to the gym.</i>

- My favorite sports star, _____, is _____ shape.
- My friend _____ shape.
- I'm _____ shape because _____.

9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true for you. Use words from the picture.

THINGS WITH WHEELS

a skateboard



a bike



a motorcycle



in-line skates



a wheelchair



a scooter

- When I was younger I had _____.
- I want to buy _____.
- My friends have _____ and _____.

10. Take a dictation track 13

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 86.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

wheelchair speeds cool in perfect shape seriously look out

PRINCIPAL ON WHEELS

DAEJEON, KOREA (1) _____!
Here comes the principal! Yong-gyun Oh
(2) _____ around his school in
Korea. His students call him "Principal in
a (3) _____."

A few years ago, Mr. Oh opened a school
for children with disabilities*. Little by
little, Mr. Oh said, he began to understand
something important. People with
disabilities have so much to give to
the world.

Mr. Oh's students think that he is a
(4) _____ principal, and Mr. Oh
is surprised at his new life. Ten years ago,
he was wearing an air force** uniform, and
he was (5) _____. Then he became
(6) _____ ill and could not walk any
more. Dark and angry days followed, but
then Mr. Oh had the idea to open a school
for people like himself. He became happy.



Now his friends envy*** him because he has
a full life. "I am living a very fruitful life," the
principal says, "in a very new world."

* disabilities: serious problems people have with
their bodies

** air force: the airplanes and people that a country
uses for fighting

*** envy: want what another person has



Talk about the stories

Imagine that you and a partner are a "cop on wheels" and Yong-gyun Oh. You are meeting for the first time. Tell each other about your life on wheels.