

0806-LVE IND

Baccalauréat professionnel

ÉPREUVE D'ANGLAIS

TOUTES SPÉCIALITÉS DU

SECTEUR INDUSTRIEL

And the best solution to protect pedestrians? Remove safety barriers

And the best solution for protecting pedestrians? Remove safety barriers

They clutter the streets, get in the way when you want to cross the road and, according to a study, increase your chances of being run over. Railings are supposed to protect pedestrians from cars but they are said to encourage a false sense of security that leads to more people being killed or injured. An experiment in Kensington High Street found that

5 the number of casualties fell sharply when railings were removed. Kensington and Chelsea removed 600 metres of railings and found that, after two years, pedestrian casualties had declined three times faster than the London average.

In its £4.5 million redesign of the street, Kensington adopted the principle of "shared space". Pioneered in the Netherlands, it rejects the concept that pedestrians and traffic

10 must be strictly segregated. The idea is that cars, cyclists and those on foot will coexist more safely. Drivers now realize there is always a risk of someone stepping off the pavement, and so tend to slow down. Pedestrians cease to rely on railings to keep them safe and become more aware of traffic.

Ben Hamilton-Baillie, a street-design consultant advising Kensington, said: "Railings encouraged people to climb over them to cross the road. They also forced people to

15 gather at narrow crossing-points, increasing the risk of someone being pushed out into the traffic."

Graeme Swinburne, Kensington's director of transport, said that visibility had been improved for drivers and pedestrians by the removal of railings, street signs and posts.

20 Traffic lights have been attached to lampposts, removing the need for an extra post. The number of signs has been rigorously reviewed, with hundreds taken away or made smaller. "Drivers can be distracted if there are too many signs. The less information, the better the eye contact."

Traffic-light phases had been redesigned to allow pedestrians to cross a junction in a

25 single movement rather than having to seek refuge in a central island, Mr Swinburne said. "Where it used to take three phases to cross a junction it now takes one – people are less likely to lose patience and run across against the traffic."

He admitted that favouring the pedestrian had reduced the traffic capacity of the street by about 3 per cent. But the improved cycle parking and more pleasant environment for

30 walkers meant that people were less inclined to drive to the area to work or shop.

The Times, Saturday, April 8, 2006 (adapted)

Vocabulary

to clutter: encombrer

casualties: victimes

Kensington, Chelsea: quartiers de Londres

to step off (the pavement): quitter (le trottoir)

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A Répondez en français aux questions suivantes, en utilisant uniquement les informations contenues dans le texte : (9 points)

1. Pour quelles raisons a-t-on décidé de supprimer les barrières visant à protéger les piétons dans la rue principale de Kensington ? (1 pt)
2. Cette expérience s'est-elle avérée positive ? (1 pt)
3. Quel concept venu des Pays-Bas a-t-on choisi d'adopter pour le réaménagement de la rue ? Expliquez en quoi il consiste. (1pt)
4. En quoi l'attitude des conducteurs et des piétons a-t-elle changé ? (2 pts)
5. Quels autres changements ont été apportés au réaménagement de la rue ? Citez-en au moins quatre. (2 pts)
6. Quels effets ces changements ont-ils eus dans le quartier ? (2 pts)

B Traduisez en français le passage suivant : (3 points)

de la ligne 14 *Railings encouraged people...* à la ligne 17 *...into the traffic.*

C Recopiez et complétez le texte suivant avec l'élément qui convient : (2 points)

Jenny, a mother of three children, is very satisfied the new layout of Kensington High Street. She used to be afraid crossing the road because railings prevented car drivers seeing her children. Since the removal of railings, drivers pay more attention her and her children.

D Recopiez l'interview de Ted en mettant les adjectifs au degré de comparaison voulu par le contexte. (2 points)

Ted, who sells newspapers in Kensington High Street, has been interviewed about the new layout of Kensington High Street and is very enthusiastic.

"I think it's a good thing. Kensington High Street is probably the **(innovative)** shopping street in the area. The street is **(attractive)** and **(safe)** than before. And as the traffic is reduced, it is also **(noisy)**."

E Expression en anglais (4 points)

Traitez en quelques lignes le sujet suivant :

How do you travel in your everyday life and which problems do you have to face?
You may think about comfort, speed, traffic, safety, delays, costs, etc.