TRAFFIC IN OUR CITIES

The volume of traffic in many cities in the world today continues to expand. This (0) ..... many problems, including serious air pollution, lengthy delays, and the greater risk (1) ..... accidents. Clearly, something must be done, but it is often difficult to (2) ..... people to change their habits and leave their cars at home.

One possible (3) ..... is to make it more expensive for people to use their cars by (4) ..... charges for parking and (5) ..... tougher fines for anyone who (6) ..... the law. In addition, drivers could be required to pay for using particular routes at different times of the day. This system, (7) ..... as ‘road pricing’, is already being introduced in a (8) ..... of cities, using a special electronic card (9) ..... to the windscreen of the car.

Another way of (10) ..... with the problem is to provide cheap parking on the (11) ..... of the city, and strictly control the number of vehicles allowed into the centre. Drivers and their passengers then use a special bus service for the (12) ..... stage of their journey.

Of course, the most important (13) ..... is to provide good public transport. However, to get people to (14) ..... the comfort of their cars, public transport must be felt to be reliable, convenient and comfortable, with fares (15) ..... at an acceptable level.