Three crashes in Bellhaven

Who's to blame? Follow the evidence, then make your case.

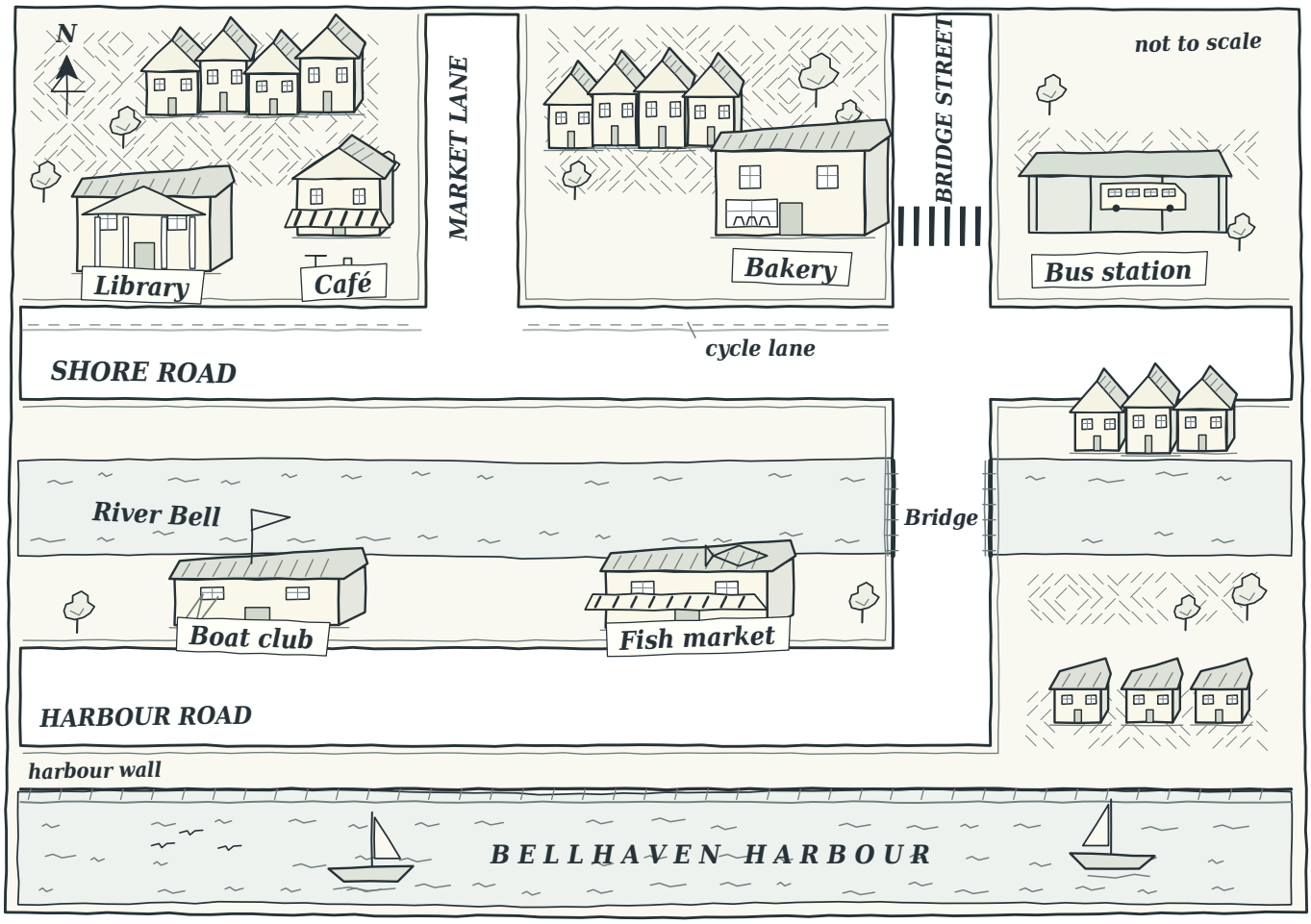
1 Before you listen

In pairs. A driver slows down suddenly. What might be happening? Use the words below to give two possible explanations.

brake = slow down or stop • **swerve** = change direction suddenly
skid = slide out of control • **clip** = hit the side or edge of something

2 First listen · follow the action

Number the three crash sites on the map. Draw and label arrows to show where the vehicles and people were going. Use an X to mark each point of impact.



Compare. Which two statements describe the same crash? Compare your arrows with a partner and circle one detail you want to check on the second listen.

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What can you prove?

Use the evidence to decide who shares responsibility.

3 Second listen · gather the evidence

1 The van and the cyclist

a. What did Nisha check, and when?

b. What did the cyclist think Nisha was doing?

2 Two cars at the crossing

a. Why did Ross say he stopped again?

b. Where and when did Mo see the boy?

3 The bag in the road

a. What did the taxi hit after it swerved?

b. What did Ellis actually see that might put the taxi driver at fault?

4 Speaking · hold a claims meeting

In pairs. Choose one crash. Divide 100% of the responsibility between the people involved. Prepare one fact you agree on, one point you're unsure about and one thing you'd check. Compare your decision with another pair. Did their evidence change your mind?

Useful language

… was partly to blame because … • … should have checked / slowed down.

… might have been … • We know that …, but we can't be sure whether …

5 Homework · write the report

Write 80–100 words about a crash you didn't discuss. Describe what happened, explain who you think was partly responsible, and say what evidence might change your decision. Use **should have** and **might have**.

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