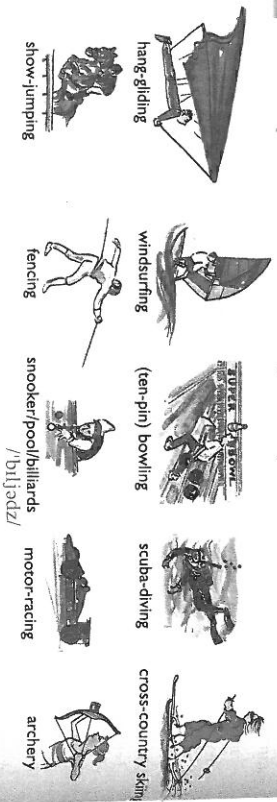


Sport

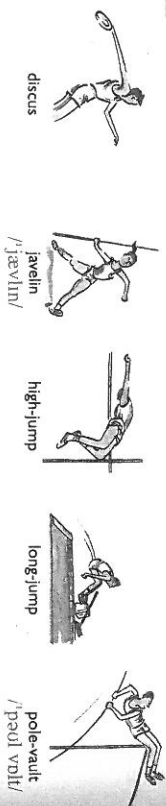
A Some sports whose names you may not know



B Equipment – what you hold in your hand

golf – club squash/tennis/badminton – racket darts – dart archery – bow
cricket/table-tennis/baseball – bat (ice) hockey – stick snooker/pool/billiards – cue
canoeing – paddle rowing – oar fishing – rod/line

C Athletics – some field events



She's a great sprinter [fast over short distances]. She's running the final leg in the relay.
I hope no-one drops the baton.
He's a great long-distance runner. [e.g. 5000 metres, marathon]
jogging round the park every Saturday's enough for me. It keeps me fairly fit.

D Verbs and their collocations in the context of sport

Our team won/lost by three goals/points.
She broke the Olympic record last year.
He holds the record for the 100 metres breast-stroke.
Liverpool beat Hamburg 4-2 yesterday.
The team have never been defeated. [more formal than beat]
How many goals/points have you scored this season?
I think I'll take up bowling next spring and give up golf.

E People who do particular sports

-er can be used for many sports, e.g. footballer, swimmer, windsurfer, high-jumper, cricketer, golfer, etc. Player is often necessary, e.g. tennis-player, snooker-player, darts-player, and we can also say football-player, cricket-player. Some names must be learnt separately, e.g. canoeist, mountaineer, jockey, archer (not archer), gymnast.

Exercises

1 Which of the sports opposite are these people probably talking about?

- The ball has a natural curve on it so it doesn't go in a straight line on the ground. You have to aim away from the centre of the pins.
- Provided it's not too windy at the top, there's no problem.
- It is incredibly noisy, fast and dangerous, but it's really exciting to watch.
- You have to jump over a series of different jumps without knocking the posts off.
- It's all a matter of balance really. But sometimes you can't help falling in the water.
- You need a good eye and a lot of concentration, especially to hit the centre of the board.

2 Name one other piece of equipment necessary to play these sports apart from the item given, as in the example. What special clothing, if any, is worn for each sport?

EXAMPLE golf: clubs, ...balls...

- archery: bow, ...
- badminton: racket, ...
- hockey: stick, ...
- baseball: bat, ...
- darts: darts, ...

3 Fill the gaps with suitable verbs.

- We're many records at the Olympics?
- We've been so many times we deserve to be bottom of the league!
- Congratulations! How many points did you by?
- You should jogging. That would help you lose weight.
- Who the world record for the 1000 metres? Is it a Russian?
- I only ever once a goal, and that was sheer luck.

4 What do you call a person who ...?

- does the long-jump? a long-jumper
- rides horses in races?
- drives cars in races?
- throws the discus/javelin?
- does gymnastics?
- plays hockey?
- plays football?
- does the pole-vault?

5 Make sure you know which sports these places are associated with, as in the example. Use a dictionary if necessary.

- court tennis, squash, etc. 5 rink
- course 6 alley
- ring 7 piste
- pitch

Follow-up: Look at the sports page of one or two newspapers (either in English or in your own language). Are there any sports mentioned not listed in A opposite? If so, what are their English names? Use a bilingual dictionary if necessary. Make sure you know the English names for any sport you do, any equipment and clothing you use to do it, and the place where you do it. Use a dictionary if necessary.

● Three teenagers talk about their experiences connected with sports. Identify the sports they are talking about.

a We were at a disadvantage from the start; our best striker had been injured two days before during practice. But we still could have made it if it hadn't been for that referee. When Nick scored, the ref said it was offside, and then in the second half he awarded them a penalty for a foul that had never happened ... and Jack didn't manage to defend it. We lost four-one.

b It was a difficult match. They've got this point guard who's very good at three-point shots, and after the second quarter they were ten points ahead of us. Then the coach asked for time-out, told us off, substituted Tommy for Greg as forward, and you should have seen Tommy's slam dunk! And he's not even that tall! We finally won 74-68 in overtime.

c It was sheer pleasure to watch Laura play in the first game she served three aces. Her opponent has a strong forehand and she managed to win the second game, but her backhand can't really compare with Laura's. When I heard the umpire say 'game, set, match to Miss Wood!' I was on the verge of tears ... I hope she does equally well in the doubles.

● Match the sports to the equipment used to play them.

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1 ice hockey | a racket, shuttlecock |
| 2 baseball | b racket balls |
| 3 golf | c stick, puck |
| 4 snooker | d bat, glove, ball |
| 5 tennis | e club, balls |
| 6 badminton | f cue, balls |

● Choose the two correct answers to each question.

- Which sports are played on a court?
a tennis b basketball c baseball
- Which sports are played on a pitch?
a football b volleyball c rugby
- Which sports are played with bats?
a golf b cricket c table tennis
- Which sporting events take place on a track?
a running b motorcycle racing c archery
- Which verbs fit this phrase: 'to ... a sporting event?'
a hold b lead c organise
- Which are the correct collocations? Two athletes tested ... for performance-enhancing drugs.
a well b positive c negative

● Complete the sentences with words formed from the words in brackets.

- I can't go riding in ... (ALLEGO) to horses.
- After the operation, she made a remarkably speedy ... (RECOVER).
- At the 2006 World Cup Michael Owen suffered an ... (INJURE) which took him a year to recover from.
- Jose Owens was an African American ... (ATHLETE) who won four gold medals at the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin.
- Most champion ... (SKI) come from mountainous regions.
- Lance Armstrong is the only ... (CYCLE) to have won the Tour de France seven consecutive times.
- My cousin's school certificate lists all his sporting ... (ACHIEVE).