

WINTER SPORTS

1 How good a skier are you? If you ski, tell a partner about your first time on skis. If you have never been skiing, discuss some other activity that you have learned and the first time you tried it (e.g. surfing, roller skating, riding a bicycle, etc.).

2 Now read the text and fill the gaps with the words below:

slope / piste
skis
hard-packed
lodge
poles
lift
ticket / ski pass / lift pass
snowplough
cross-country
rack
downhill
skiing holiday

3 After filling in the gaps, read the text again and underline words and phrases that you want to remember.

4 Retell the story from the text in your own words. Use as many of the words you inserted as possible.

5 Write a short paragraph (100 words maximum) describing a different first attempt at skiing, using the same vocabulary again. Then read it to your partner.

It was about 11 a.m. on a bright February morning when we finally arrived at our ski **1**_____. ready for our **2**_____. Being terribly excited, I immediately jumped out and started trying to get the skis off of the ski **3**_____. All of my friends, however, went to the side of the road and started picking up handfuls of snow, muttering to each other in low voices. As I picked up a handful of snow, I realised why they all looked so worried. It was **4**_____, snow that had been melted by a warm spell and then frozen again. Not exactly the perfect conditions for my first attempt at **5**_____ skiing.



I was determined to try, however, and a half hour later I was sitting at the bottom of a threatening ski **6**_____, trying to get used to standing on skis. My first disaster came at the ski **7**_____. I showed the operator my **8**_____ and, when it was finally my turn, he grabbed a little rope and shoved it between my legs. I was jerked up the slope, and made it about fifteen feet before I fell off and slid back down to the bottom. It took four embarrassing tries before I finally managed to stay up until the top.

Once at the top, I wished I had never tried. I pushed off, trying to **9**_____ as my friends had taught me, keeping my **10**_____ pointing inward in a little v, but I instantly realised I had no control over where and how fast I was going. I lost both of my **11**_____, hit two trees and one old lady, and fell down countless times before I reached the bottom with a twisted knee and a wide range of bruises and scrapes. My friends encouraged me to keep trying, but I just shook my head and walked off to the pub, stopping to throw my useless lift ticket in the rubbish can. Next time, I thought, I'll try **12**_____ skiing instead.

Complete each sentence with a word from the box.

handlebars	racket	rope	glasses	net	costume
whistle	saddle	gloves	rod	club	ice

- a) When Brenda entered the swimming competition she bought a new **...costume**
- b) I learned to ride a horse without using a
- c) Gemma tried to hit the golf-ball with her, but missed it.
- d) After the tennis match, one of the players jumped over the
- e) Diana's bike crashed into a tree, and she was thrown over the
- f) A mountain-climber's life may depend on their
- g) Open-air skating can be dangerous if the is too thin.
- h) Peter put his in front of his face to protect himself from his opponent's punches.
- i) Suddenly the referee blew his and pointed to the penalty spot.
- j) Skiing can be dangerous if you don't wear dark
- k) I had to play the doubles match with a borrowed
- l) Terry went fishing with the new his parents gave him.

3 Underline the most suitable word.

- a) Sue came first in the 5000 metre *competition/game/race*.
- b) Jack and Eddie arranged to meet outside the football *ground/field/pitch*.
- c) Brenda goes jogging every morning to keep *exercised/fit/trained*.
- d) Our team *beat/defeated/won* the match by two goals to nil.
- e) The local stadium isn't large enough for so many *audience/viewers/spectators*.
- f) I'm afraid I don't find basketball very *interested/interesting*.
- g) The final result was a/an *draw/equal/score*.
- h) Norman won first *medal/prize/reward* in the cookery competition.
- i) All *competitors/rivals/supporters* for the race should make their way to the track.
- j) Collecting matchboxes is Rebecca's favourite *leisure/occupation/pastime*.



6 Choose the most suitable word or phrase to complete each sentence.

- a) Mary stopped swimming and just.....**B**..... on the surface.
A) sank B) floated C) dived D) poured
- b) Jack turned the last corner and..... for the finishing line.
A) approached B) arrived C) waited D) headed
- c) David was trying to..... another cyclist when he crashed.
A) overpass B) overcome C) overtake D) overcharge
- d) You have to..... the person with the ball until you catch them.
A) chase B) rush C) jump D) drop
- e) The fans climbed over the fence to..... paying.
A) avoid B) prevent C) abandon D) refuse
- f) I fell over while skiing and my sister had to..... a doctor.
A) bring B) take C) fetch D) carry
- g) It's very easy to..... over when the snow is hard.
A) slide B) skid C) skate D) slip
- h) Don't..... the road until all the runners have gone by.
A) pass B) cross C) across D) pass by
- i) The swimmers..... forward as they waited to begin the race.
A) fell B) crawled C) rolled D) leaned
- j) When I was hiking in the mountains, I..... on a snake.
A) tripped B) stepped C) surprised D) carried

9 Decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each space.

Sport

Someone once said that there are three kinds of people who are

(1).....**C**:..... in sport: people who (2)..... part, people who watch, and people who watch (3)..... television. It's very easy to make fun of stay-at-home sports (4)....., but on the other hand, television does enable us to enjoy all kinds of (5)..... events. We can watch a racing car (6)..... another, see a cyclist (7)..... the finishing line, or enjoy the goals of our favourite football (8)..... The first time I watched a tennis (9)..... was on television, and I found it (10)..... interesting. It's not always easy to (11)..... long distances to football (12)....., and television is a good solution. Of course, you can (13)..... used to sitting indoors all the time, and this is dangerous. We should all try to (14)..... fit, and have other interests and (15).....

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|------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1) A playing | B really | C interested | D succeed |
| 2) A take | B have | C make | D get |
| 3) A on | B with | C by | D from |
| 4) A people | B centres | C programmes | D fans |
| 5) A the | B future | C sports | D athlete |
| 6) A cross | B overtake | C or | D from |
| 7) A overtake | B and | C cross | D professional |
| 8) A group | B class | C band | D team |
| 9) A match | B it | C which | D that |
| 10) A valuable | B imaginatively | C unexpectedly | D real |
| 11) A trip | B tour | C pass | D travel |
| 12) A areas | B grounds | C teams | D fans |
| 13) A or | B which | C get | D is |
| 14) A keep | B make | C do | D have |
| 15) A customs | B habits | C pastimes | D leisure |