

Passage 1

Sumo wrestling is a national sport in Japan. Every year there are six tournaments, and millions of Japanese watch them on television. A tournament is a series of matches. Sumo is almost as old as the nation of Japan itself. Stories say that there was sumo wrestling over two thousand (2,000) years ago. History says that there were national sumo tournaments in the eighth century.

Often athletes are thin and can move very quickly. It is beautiful to watch them play. However, sumo wrestlers weigh from 100 to 180 kilos. One famous wrestler weighed 195 kilos. Sumo wrestlers do not look beautiful, and sumo wrestling is a very slow sport. Sumo wrestlers start training when they are boys. They exercise to make their bodies strong. They also eat and eat and eat.

They wrestle in a sand floor. A wrestler loses the match if he is forced out of the ring. He is also the loser if any part of his body except his touches the floor. Each wrestler tries to push the other down on the floor or out of the ring. Sometimes one wrestler just step aside when the other wrestler rushes toward him. When wrestler falls down or falls out of the ring. Sumo is not very popular in other countries, but the Japanese love it.

Even young people find this traditional sport exciting.

Directions: Circle **T** if the sentence is true and circle **F** if the sentence is false. (10 marks)

1. Sumo wrestling is a national sport in Thailand.	T	F
2. Sumo wrestling is a fast sport.	T	F
3. Sumo wrestlers are thin.	T	F
4. The sumo wrestling ring is round.	T	F
5. Does the sumo wrestling use a sand floor?	T	F
6. There are both male and female sumo wrestling.	T	F
7. The Japanese think that sumo is boring.	T	F
8. Sumo wrestlers exercise to make their bodies strong.	T	F
9. Sumo wrestlers start training when they are adults.	T	F
10. A wrestler wins the match if he leave the ring.	T	F

