

PRE-INTERMEDIATE (A2+)
MID-TERM TEST

READING

1. Read the text about breaking. Are the statements True (T) or False (F)?

Breaking: An Art or a Sport?

When we think of breaking (or breakdancing), the first thing that we think of is young men and women dancing in city parks. They move their bodies to music, watching and encouraging each other. They move fast, stand on their hands and even turn around on their heads. It's an art – but is it also a sport?

To many people, it is a sport and that's why the IOC (the International Olympic Committee) have added it to the Olympic Games programme for 2024. The dancers are called breakers. To dance well, breakers need to be strong, but they also need to move quickly and easily. They use everything – from their feet to their backs to their elbows to their heads and shoulders. This is no different to athletes who do judo, karate, athletics, gymnastics, etc.

So, breakers aren't just dancers. They're also athletes. They practise for several hours a day every day of the week. They dance, but they also do other types of gym exercises to become strong, just like swimmers or surfers. They have to eat the right foods to stay healthy, too. Sports scientists are studying the activity to find out more about it.

In a breaking competition there are rules. Three or five people (judges) watch each dance (usually at least three) and give it a score. They look for things like how well the breaker moves and how different the dance is to other dances. One problem is that judges use their opinions to score the dances, and they don't always agree, but the rules make it as fair as possible. This is the same as some other Olympic sports – ice dancing for example.

I understand why breaking is in the Olympics. It's hard work, just like any sport, and it's fun. But most importantly, it gets the attention of all kinds of young people, as well as older people like myself. It's an art, but it's also a sport for everyone to do and watch in the 21st century.

1. Read the text again. Choose the correct answers, A, B, C or D.
- 1 Breaking first makes people think of
 - A music.
 - B art
 - C time.
 - D location.
- 2 The writer says that breakers
 - A need good partners.
 - B should try different sports.
 - C have to use their whole bodies.
 - D must think quickly.
- 3 To prepare for competitions, breakers
 - A get help from sports scientists.
 - B eat large amounts of food.
 - C do water sports to get fit.
 - D spend time at the gym.
- 4 The writer says that judges
 - A look at one part of each dance.
 - B watch no more than three dances by each breaker.
 - C work with other sports people, too.
 - D can sometimes score very differently.
- 5 The writer thinks the main advantage of having breaking in the Olympics is that
 - A it's interesting to different types of people.
 - B it's a sport for the future.
 - C it's fun to watch.
 - D it's difficult to do.