B2.2. Why do we take risks? (BBC 6-minute English)

Fill in the gaps

Note: This is not a partial transcript. Words appear in the right order.

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Alice
Do you? I didn't know you had a **phobia** – and that means a strong and _____ fear of something.

Finn
Well, I don't think this is a phobia because it isn't unreasonable. Flying thousands of feet up in the sky in a _____ _____, you know, that's not safe!

Alice
Flying is safer than you think, Finn. It's much riskier to drive or cycle to work. And, actually, risk taking is the subject of today's show! **Risk** means the chances of something bad happening. For example, did you know that your chance of being _____ ____ your bicycle and killed during a one-mile journey is the same as your chances of winning the lottery?

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Alice OK. So we'll find out later if you're right or wrong later on. Now let's listen to Andreas Wilkey, a psychologist at Clarkson University in New York, talking about why we're bad at _____ risk.

INSERT Andreas Wilkey, Psychologist, Clarkson University, Potsdam, New York
People typically fear anything which is small probability but it's _____ _____ if it were to happen... Think about dying in a plane crash, think about a nuclear meltdown from the nearby _____ _____. Recently we have another increase in these birds' virus _____ in South Korea. People read about that. And they may pay a lot of attention to that in the news but they may forget to get their flu shot.

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Alice
And it's often because of **media coverage** – for example, watching the news and reading the newspapers – that it can be difficult for us to understand how likely certain things are to happen. Catastrophic events feel like very real _____, while we tend to forget about the small but _____ risks that become more likely over time.

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Finn
People who enjoy extreme sports actually seek out danger – it gives them extreme _____! So let's listen to Karina Hollekim from Norway. She's a **base jumper** – that's a person with a _____ who leaps from tall buildings or cliffs – and she's talking about what she feels about risk.

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Alice
Yes. It must be a magical feeling to step off a _____, mustn't it, Finn?

Alice
Yes. The odds are actually 1 in 14 million. You are as _____ to win the national lottery from a single ticket as you are to be knocked off your bicycle and killed during a _____ _____.

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