Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities are those that fall outside of the normal school schedule and *they're* not part of your program duties. Sometimes, students *don't* see how these activities can be helpful to build their character and social relations, but *they're* very important. Some common activities are sports and music; however, *there're* so many other activities like pottery, reading clubs, chess and groups to help your community. When *you're* part of an extracurricular activity, you expand your horizons. Here, *you'll* find three students' testimonials about their experience:

Mark (14, Scotland)

I'm a professional chess player. *I've* been playing since I was 5 years old. *I've* been the national champion: it was the first time that someone my age has won. In all of these years, *I've* developed high endurance and patience in the face of difficulty. It *isn't* easy, but *I'll* keep playing all my life.

Aabidullah (13, Canada)

I'm part of the Muslim community in Montreal. I spend my afternoons teaching English to children who come from distant countries, just like me. *I've* organized a speech club to help them express themselves, especially at school. *I'd* never had the experience of teaching before, but I am really good with children. They *won't* fail English classes anymore! I *shouldn't* say this, but *I'm* very proud of myself.

Isabis (16, Nigeria)

I'm a singer and part of a band. We mix traditional songs of Nigeria with other genres such as indie and pop. *I'd* like to be famous one day. I was very shy, but now *I'm* more extroverted since *I've* made new friends.

- How closely did you read? Whose sentences are these? Do not read the text again and choose the correct option.

1. "...*there're* so many other activities like pottery, reading clubs, chess and groups to help your community."

◯ Mark

◯ Aabidullah

◯ Isabis

◯ Narrator

2. "...*I'd* like to be famous one day."

◯ Mark

◯ Aabidullah

◯ Isabis

◯ Narrator

3. "...In all of these years, *I've* developed high endurance and patience in the face of difficulty."

◯ Mark

◯ Aabidullah

🔘 Isabis

◯ Narrator

4. "...I *shouldn't* say this, but I am very proud of myself."

◯ Mark

◯ Aabidullah

◯ Isabis

◯ Narrator

• Read the following sentences in column A, and match their *contractions* with their complete form in column B.

Column A	Column B
1. *They're not* part of your program duties.	A. will not
2. *I'd* never had the experience of teaching before.	B. they are
3. *I've* made new friends.	C. I had
4. *You're* as original as you want to be.	D. you are
5. I *shouldn't* say this, but I am very proud of myself.	E. he has
6. They *won't* fail English classes any more!	F. she is
7. *He's been* the first national champion of his age.	G. I have
8. *She's* one of the best singers in her country.	H. should not

- Read Kumiko's testimonial about her extracurricular activity and change the words in italics to their short forms or contractions: for example, **I will** → **I'll**. Drag and drop the correct answers in the blanks.

A Wonderful Swimmer

My name is Kumiko and I live in San Francisco, California. I attend Sunset Elementary School. *(1) I am* _____ a very athletic person but swimming is new for me. *(2) I would* _____ like to be a long distance swimmer. One of my goals is to swim from Cuba to Florida without the aid of a shark cage. My example is Diana Nyad. *(3) She has* _____ achieved her goal after many years. If I want to achieve my dream, *(4) I will* _____ have to train everyday after school. I normally swim for one hour everyday. Now, I will have to swim for two hours from Monday to Sunday. My schedule is very strict. *(5) It is* _____ basically school, homework, training and sleep. My coaches tell me that I *(6) should not* _____ lose my balance. *(7) There are* _____ students who can't combine curricular and extracurricular activities. However, that's not my case. When I cross the wide Atlantic ocean, I will be able to tell you: *(8) I have* _____ done it! I didn't give up!

I'd	shouldn't	she's
I'll	it's	I've
I'm	there're	