



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)

This is my favorite time to think of activities that you want to do after school. 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) *to think of activities that you want to do after school. The*
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.

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