

1 In Bolivia, soccer is the national sport, but the country is also [] for another sport—wrestling. Local people like watching [] and it's popular with tourists, too. It's an exciting mixture of sport, drama, and []. When modern wrestling started in Bolivia in the 1950s, the [] were all men, but nowadays women are also competing in the ring.

2 The city of El Alto is a good place to watch wrestling. Hundreds of spectators go to the fights in the evening. This evening, the [] is sitting around a huge wrestling ring and shouting, "[] Bring them on!" [], the commentator is speaking into a microphone, "Ladies and gentlemen. It's time for Yolanda and Claudina!" The crowd is screaming with [] as two women in colorful clothes enter the ring.

3 Yolanda and Claudina are like famous pop stars. They smile and wave to their fans. The music stops, and the [] starts the fight. Claudina jumps on Yolanda.

Then Yolanda throws Claudina on the floor. As Claudina [] the floor, Yolanda smiles and waves to the crowd. Then Claudina gets up and pushes Yolanda [] the ground. One minute, Yolanda is winning. The next minute, Claudina is winning. The spectators []!

Away from the ring, many [] are women with families. At home, Yolanda has a normal, quiet family life. She has two daughters, and she makes [] for a living. Her father was also a wrestler, so it's a family tradition. In answer to the question "Would your daughters like to become wrestlers one day?", Yolanda says they []. She answers, "My daughters ask me why I do this. It's dangerous, and they complain that wrestling doesn't bring any money into the house." So []

Yolanda loves wrestling because of her fans—and she has lots of them. One of her fans is named Esperanza Cancina. Esperanza pays \$1.50 (a large part of her salary) to sit near the ring. She [] wrestling because, she says, "We laugh and we forget our problems for three or four hours."

2 Read the article about wrestling in Bolivia. Which paragraph (1–5) describes:

- the two wrestlers before the fight? 2
- the popularity of male and female wrestling in Bolivia? ____
- Yolanda's family life? ____
- the reason why a fan watches it? ____
- the fight between the two wrestlers? ____

3 Find words in the article for these definitions.

- something people watch for pleasure
entertainment
- a large group of people
c _____
- the person who describes the action in a sport
c _____
- get very excited, shout, and jump up and down
g _____ c _____
- people who like a famous athlete
f _____
- the money you earn for work done
s _____

Critical thinking reading between the lines

4 An article doesn't always tell us about how people feel, but we can often guess. Match the people from the article (1–3) with the sentences (a–c).

- Yolanda
- Yolanda's daughter
- Esperanza

- "I don't understand why wrestling is so popular." ____
- "I feel wonderful every time I step into the ring." ____
- "Life is very hard for people like me." ____

5 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.

- How do you feel about the women wrestlers?
- Would you like to see this sport? Why or why not?