

These tasks will consist of two parts: an online part and a handwritten one, which must be handed over to your teacher on the due date.

ACTIVITY 1: READING. FOR ATHLETES THE DOORS ARE OPEN

If you are an excellent young athlete, you might want to consider studying at a university in the United States. You've got a good chance of being accepted. You may even get a scholarship that will finance your students and living expenses.

Each year, university coaches in the United States look for first-rate athletes from around the world for their teams. These athletes represent their university and are an integral part of campus life. Sports scholarships (only given to athletes who will play in university teams), are much more common in the United States than in any other country. Moreover, many universities give athletes preference in their admissions policies by reserving a certain percentage of spots for them each year.

Critics who are against these special privileges argue that they put other, more academically-qualified, applicants at an unfair disadvantage. The policy of reserved spots means that all other applicants are then left to compete for a limited number of remaining places. Moreover, athletes are sometimes admitted despite having lower marks than those required of non-athletes. The true purpose of universities is intellectual and research- based, so that academic standards should not be compromised for the sake of sport.

Policymakers answer these arguments by saying that sport adds to the variety and excitement of campus life. Athletes are expected to keep up with their studies, and their scholarships are discontinued if they do not meet academic requirements. Most importantly, athletic scholarships provide an education for people from minorities and low socio-economic backgrounds who would otherwise not be able to afford one.

Whichever side you agree with in principle, these arguments needn't concern you if you are a European athlete thinking of applying to a university in the United States. Studying in the United States while playing university sports is a fabulous opportunity that can lead you into professional sport. A university degree from the United States will also benefit your career in any other profession you choose, at home or abroad.

Choose the best answer according to the text

According to the universities,

- a. athletes should not have to meet academic requirements
- b. most athletes are from low socio-economic backgrounds
- c. only athletes that cope with their studies can renew their scholarships
- d. minority athletes are often better students than other athletes.

European athletes who study in the USA

- a. may become professional athletes
- b. don't usually choose non-athletic professions
- c. are not able to use their degrees at home
- d. usually remain in the US after they finish

The writer believes that young European athletes

- a. should think about applying to universities in the US
- b. would find it difficult to get accepted universities in the US
- c. should study at European universities
- d. perform better than athletes from the US

Find words in the text than mean the following (in context). Use only one word.

Probability
Places

Aim
Stopped

Accepted

Handwritten activity 1. Answer the following question using about 50 words.
What is your opinion about the policy of reserved spots?

ACTIVITY 2: READING. WILD CHILDREN.

The early history of the city of Rome involves Romulus and Remus, two orphan boys who, legend says, were raised by a she-wolf. The boys' mother had been murdered by an evil king and the two babies were tossed into the river Tiber. When the wolf found them she perhaps took pity on the crying of the babies and, gently picking them up in her teeth, she carried them back to her cave and fed them on her milk. The boys grew bigger and stronger and, eventually, were found by a herdsman who took them home. He and his wife raised the boys like their own children. When they reached manhood they sought revenge on the king who had killed their mother and driven them from their home. They decided to build a city. Unfortunately, they argued over the appropriate site and Romulus killed his brother Remus. Romulus ruled this city -- called Roma -- for thirty-seven years. The city of Rome is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the world. If you travel there you can see a statue of the two baby boys feeding from their mother - the wolf.

Choose the correct answer

1. What is the gist (the main idea) that this piece of writing conveys?

- a) Wolves like to take care of human children.
- b) The city of Rome had many wolves in the old days.
- c) The city of Rome was founded by a wolf.
- d) Romulus established the city of Rome.

2. What is a herdsman?

- a) someone who builds cities
- b) someone who cares for children
- c) someone who cares for domestic animals
- d) someone who can hear very well

Handwritten activity 2. Watch the video about the legend of Rome and answer the questions using about 20 words per each of them.

Video:

What do we know about Romulus and Remus' parents?

What do we know about Amulius? Who was he and what did he have to do with the legend?