26 **Complete the sentences with words from the box.**

compete	competitor	dangerous	fearless	racing	sporting event

1 Bike races can be _____ because the riders go very fast.
2 Swimming is a _____ at the Olympics.
3 My favourite _____ is the young man from Kenya.
4 You have to be _____ when skiing down those high mountains!
5 My dad enjoys watching bike _____ more than any other sport on TV.
6 If you want to _____ in this sport, you have to be a very good swimmer.

27 **Listen and read. Match headings A–C to paragraphs 1–3.**

A Bunny Hops and Whoops **B** Dangerous Olympic Sports **C** Competing in a BMX Race

New Olympic Sport

1

Some Olympic sports are more dangerous than others. For example, sports that are very fast are often more dangerous than those that are slower. Do you like riding your bike fast? Did you know that extra fast bike riding is a sport at the Olympics? Bike racing started as an Olympic sport in Athens in 1896. Over the years, there were road races and track races and mountain-bike racing in the Olympic Games. Then, in the 2008 Beijing Games, a bike sport called BMX became a new Olympic sport. BMX started in California in about 1968. The sport grew and now it's a favourite sport for many people around the world. It's a very fast and dangerous sport, so competitors have to be fearless to take part!

2

Both men and women compete in BMX. The bikes they use are light and very strong. They need to be strong enough for all the jumps and ramps and yet remain light so the riders can travel as fast as possible. The tracks for men are about 450 metres long. They're a little shorter for women. But this doesn't mean that the women's races take less time than the men's races. All the races last only forty seconds! If you blink, you'll miss them!

3

Like any sport, BMX racing has its own special words. The riders have created new words to talk about their sport, such as 'bunny hop'. A bunny hop is when a rider's bike goes up in the air. The rider in the picture is bunny hopping. You can see how high he goes and how important it is for his bike to be both light and strong. Another special word is 'whoop'. A whoop is a small bump in the road. So, the next time you ride your bike, watch out for whoops and don't bunny hop. Stay safe!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

28 Read 27 again and rewrite the sentences so that they are true.

1 Only men compete in BMX.

_____

2 The bikes are heavy.

_____

3 Each race lasts sixty seconds.

_____

4 A bunny-hop is a small bump in the road.

_____

29 Find these numbers in 27. Write the sentences with these numbers.

1 eighteen ninety-six

_____

2 nineteen sixty-eight

_____

3 four hundred and fifty

_____

30 Unscramble and write the words from 26.

1 _____ pmcoiterot
2 _____ slsrafee
3 _____ gnicra
4 _____ regnaduso
5 _____ sintgpor netve
6 _____ teepomc

THINK BIG

Why is BMX dangerous? Do all people enjoy doing dangerous sports? Why/Why not?

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS