

● Hobbies, sport and games

Topic vocabulary in contrast



see page 186 for definitions

pitch / track / court / course / ring / rink	umpire / referee	sport / athletics
win / beat / score	final / finale / end / ending	interval / half time
play / game	bat / stick / rod / racket	draw / equal
spectator / viewer	amateur / professional	competitor / opponent

Phrasal verbs

bring forward change the date/time of an event so it happens earlier	knock out defeat and remove from a competition; make unconscious
carry on continue	look out be careful
get round to start (after planning to do sth for a long time)	pull out stop being involved in an activity
get up to do; do sth you should not do	put off delay, postpone
go in for enter (a competition, etc); like	put up with tolerate
go off stop liking	take to start (as a habit)
join in participate, take part	take up start (a hobby, sport, etc); fill an amount of space/time

Phrases and collocations

best	make the best of sth; do your best; the best at sth/doing
chance	have/take/get a chance to do; have a chance of doing; some/little/etc chance of (your) doing; the chances of (your) doing; take a chance (on sth); chance of a lifetime
go	your go; have a go
height	in height; afraid of heights; height of sth
mad	mad about/on sth/sb/doing; go/become mad
pleasure	take pleasure in sth/doing; gain/get pleasure from sth/doing
popular	popular with/among
side	(on) the opposite side; (on) the far side; side with sb; on the winning/losing side
talent	have a talent (for sth/doing); talent contest
time	on time; (just) in time; the whole time; high/about time; take your time (doing); take time to do; sth takes up (your) time; spend time doing; spend time on; at/for a certain time; time passes; find time to do; make/find time for; for the time being; have a good/nice time (doing); tell the time; free/spare/leisure time
turn	turn (a)round/away; turn sth over; in turn; take turns; take it in turn(s) (to do); your turn (to do)

Word patterns

compete against/with sb; compete for/in sth	listen to sth/sb
concentrate on sth/doing	love sth/sb/doing; love to do
difficult to do; find sth difficult; find it difficult to do	mean to do; it/this means that; it/this means sth/doing
fond of sth/sb/doing	prefer to do (rather than [to] do); prefer sth (rather than sth); prefer sth/doing (to sth/doing)
free to do; free from/of sth; free for sth	stop sth/doing; stop to do; stop sb from doing
interested in sth/doing	sure/certain make/be sure/certain that; sure/certain to do; be sure/certain of sth
involve sth/doing; involved in sth/doing	

Word formation

allow disallow, allowance, allowable	fortune misfortune, (un)fortunate(ly)	medal medallist, medallion
associate disassociate, association, (un)associated	interest (un)interesting(ly)	oppose opposition, opponent, opposite, opposing
compete competition, competitor, competitive(ly)	know knowledge, (un)knowledgeable	practice practise, (im)practical(ly)
enjoy enjoyment, enjoyable	lose lost, loss	train retrain, trainer
equip equipment, equipped	maintain maintenance	

G Water has damaged part of this text about sport at school. Read it and decide what you think each of the original words was. Write the words in the blank spaces.

Sport at school

I used to wear glasses when I was at school, and so I ~~had~~ sport very difficult. I wanted to be involved ~~in~~ school sports competitions, and I loved the idea of teams competing ~~against~~ each other, but being on the rugby team, for example, ~~meant~~ having to take off my glasses, and that meant ~~I~~ I couldn't see! And it's difficult ~~to~~ catch a ball when you can't see it! So, I wasn't very good and the captains always ~~were~~ sure that I wasn't on their team. This meant I ~~was~~ free to do other activities, like being on the debating team, and actually I preferred to ~~do~~ things I was good at doing ~~than~~ than have everyone laugh at me.

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Word formation

H Complete the sentences by changing the form of the word in capitals when this is necessary.

- 1 I need to buy a new pair of (**TRAIN**).
- 2 Ellie used to (**PRACTICE**) for hours to learn to juggle properly.
- 3 That was the most (**INTEREST**) book I've ever read. I can't wait for the sequel!
- 4 Would you describe yourself as a (**COMPETE**) person?
- 5 Many professional basketball players earn a (**FORTUNE**) these days.
- 6 F.A. stands for Football (**ASSOCIATE**).
- 7 The gold, silver and bronze (**MEDAL**) took their places on the podium for the presentation ceremony.
- 8 In Britain, the money parents give their children is often called pocket money. In America, it's often called an (**ALLOW**).
- 9 I'm afraid the swimming pool is closed at the moment as they're carrying out some essential (**MAINTAIN**).

I Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line.

A snooker player speaks

When I first started playing snooker, I had no real (1) of the rules. I just thought it looked an (2) game. Also, I didn't need to buy any expensive (3) because the snooker hall near my house had tables and cues. I spent (4) all the free time I had practising, and then decided to enter a (5) It was great fun! My (6) was someone who'd been playing for years. Of course, he beat me, but the fact that I'd (7) didn't put me off at all. And, (8) , my game improved enough for me to become a professional snooker player three years ago.

KNOW
ENJOY
EQUIP
PRACTICAL
COMPETE
OPPOSE
LOSE
FORTUNE