

Sports Vocabulary

A Complete the word groups with these words:
canoeing cap final referee stick team tournament track

1 linesman, judge,	5 sailing, windsurfing,
2 pitch, pool,	6 competition, championship,
3 racket, bat,	7 individual sports, indoor sports,
4 helmet, glove,	8 match, game,

B Complete the idioms in these sentences below with these words

ball course court neck race sails worms

- 1 I wanted to take part in the tournament, but my trainer said I wasn't ready. That took the wind out of my sails.
- 2 We have to do something immediately if we want to help. It's a race against time.
- 3 The cyclists were neck and neck as they got to the finishing line. It was a very exciting race.
- 4 Let's go for a run. If we want to get fit, we have to get the ball rolling!
- 5 If you accuse John of cheating you will be opening up a can of worms.
- 6 You should expect difficulties when you're training for the Olympics. It's par for the course.
- 7 It's completely up to him to decide what he'll do about his trainer. The ball is in his court.

C Choose the correct option

Athletics is one of the most popular types of sport. People have been (1) scoring / holding athletics competitions since ancient times, ever since the Olympic Games began in 776 BC. Usually, individual athletes (2) compete / excel against each other in running, jumping, throwing and a variety of other activities.

To (3) succeed / achieve in running, you must have speed, (4) strength / weakness and strategy. Sometimes you have to (5) stroll / sprint to the finishing (6) line / trophy, whereas at other times you have to (7) race / pace yourself. Jumping events include the pole vault and the triple jump. In order to try and (8) beat / win your opponents in the triple jump you have to do a (9) hop / lap and a step and then jump

as far as you can into a sandpit. So what are you waiting for? If you want to be the next person to (10) break / set a new record, you have to start now. On your (11) points / marks, get set, go! And may the best man (or woman) (12) win / lose!

D Do you agree with these statements?

Referees are never fair and they always create problems.

Individual sports are much more interesting to watch than team sports.

It's more important to compete than to win.