

# 11 Extremes

## Reading

1 Read the article on page 75 quickly. What is it about?

- a a new world record
- b the history of a famous book
- c the life story of a famous businessman

2 Read the article again. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

1 The idea for a book of records came from an argument about phones.	T F
2 The first <i>Guinness Book of Records</i> appeared in 1955.	T F
3 By the 1980s, there were copies of the book in many languages.	T F
4 There are other world record companies now.	T F
5 The Guinness World Records organization has closed down.	T F



## THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

Who holds the world record for the tallest person? Where is the world's longest road? The highest mountain? You can find the answers to all these questions in *Guinness World Records* (previously called *The Guinness Book of Records*). The book contains all kinds of world records and has been around for over 60 years. But how did it start?

The idea for a book of world records began in the early 1950s. Two British businessmen were at a party, and they began to argue about the fastest bird in the world. They could not agree on an answer. This gave them the idea for a book of facts and world records. In 1955, they published the first *Guinness Book of Records*.

The book quickly became popular. It sold more than a million copies in its first year, and another 23 million copies in the next 10 years. By 1987, *The Guinness Book of Records* existed in 31 languages and was in bookstores all over the world. There were even TV shows and museums for the Guinness World Records organization.

Today, things are different. Many people just look up facts on their smartphones. There are also new companies that are doing similar work to the Guinness World Records organization. But the *Guinness World Records* book still sells around a million copies every year. There are also judges for new world records, and they find more than 6,000 new world records every year. The Guinness World Records organization may not be the only world record



A Guinness World of Records museum

3 Find these words in the article. Check the meaning in a dictionary and choose the best definition (a or b).

1 **record** (line 1)

- a (n) the top or number one in an area, especially in sports
- b (v) to make an electronic copy of sounds or images

2 **look up** (line 17)

- a (v) to improve or get better
- b (v) to find a particular piece of information in a list or a book

3 **judges** (line 22)

- a (n) people who make decisions about the law
- b (n) people who decide the results of a competition or a world record

## Grammar

### Superlative adjectives

1 Complete the chart with the superlative form of these adjectives.

bad cheap funny hot nice useful

+ <b>-est</b>	the hardest
+ <b>-st</b>	the closest
+ <b>double consonant</b>	the biggest
+ <b>-iest</b>	the dirtiest
<b>the most + adjective</b>	the most comfortable
<b>Irregular form</b>	the farthest

**2** Write sentences. Use the simple present and the superlative form of the adjectives.

1 Monday / be / busy / day of the week.  
*Monday is the busiest day of the week.*

2 This / be / comfortable / chair in the house.

3 Trulli / be / good / restaurant in town.

4 Marta / be / friendly / person in our office.

5 São Paulo / be / big / city in South America.

6 January / be / hot / month in my country.

## 7 This / be / bad / job I've ever had.

3 Look at the information about three sports classes. Complete the sentences with the name of the sport and the correct form of the adjective in parentheses.

## Parkour Classes

Price: \$20 per class

Difficult? very difficult

Number of students: 4–6



## BMX Classes

**Price:** \$25 per class

Difficult? quite difficult

**Number of students:** 2-5



## Crossfit Classes

Price: \$12 per class

Difficult? a bit difficult

Number of students: 10-15



- 1 The crossfit classes are the cheapest (cheap) classes.
- 2 The \_\_\_\_\_ classes are the \_\_\_\_\_ (expensive) classes.
- 3 The \_\_\_\_\_ (easy) classes are the \_\_\_\_\_ classes.
- 4 The \_\_\_\_\_ (difficult) classes are the \_\_\_\_\_ classes.
- 5 The \_\_\_\_\_ classes are the \_\_\_\_\_ (small) of all the classes.
- 6 The \_\_\_\_\_ (big) classes are the \_\_\_\_\_ classes.

## Pronunciation

## Saying /st/

### 1 ▶ 11.1 Listen and circle the word(s) you hear.

1	cheaper	cheapest
2	happier	happiest
3	more useful	most useful
4	closer	closest
5	bigger	biggest

# Vocabulary

## Weather words

1 Match the temperatures (1–4) with the words (a–d).

1 2°C	<input type="radio"/>	a warm
2 15°C	<input type="radio"/>	b hot
3 25°C	<input type="radio"/>	c cool
4 40°C	<input type="radio"/>	d cold

2 Complete the sentences with these words.

cloudy	foggy	raining
snowing	sunny	windy

- 1 Take an umbrella. It's \_\_\_\_\_ heavily.
- 2 The chairs in the backyard have fallen over. It's very \_\_\_\_\_ today.
- 3 I hate driving when it's \_\_\_\_\_. You can't see the road.
- 4 It's the perfect weather for a photo. It's \_\_\_\_\_ and the sky is blue.
- 5 It's \_\_\_\_\_ in the mountains. Maybe we can go skiing next weekend.
- 6 You can't see the moon tonight. The sky is too \_\_\_\_\_.

## Listening

1 **11.2** Listen to three different conversations about the weather. Match each conversation (1–3) with the place where it happens (a–d). One place is extra.

Conversation 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Conversation 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Conversation 3: \_\_\_\_\_

- a in an elevator
- b in a car
- c in a store
- d in a park

2 **11.2** Read the questions (1–3) and look at the pictures. Then listen again and choose the correct answer (a, b, or c).

1 What was the weather report for the beach?



2 What's the temperature outside?

a **13°C** b **30°C** c **36°C**

3 What did the woman bring to work?



## Grammar

### Have to / Don't have to

1 Circle the correct option to complete the sentences.

- 1 I *have to* / *don't have to* work today. It's a holiday.
- 2 Milo *has to* / *have to* visit his sister tomorrow.

3 *Do* / *Does* you have to check this with your boss?

4 You *has to* / *have to* have an ID card in my country.

5 Mei *have to* / *doesn't have to* wear a uniform to work.

2 Look at Phan's notes for a family vacation. Complete the sentences below with the correct form of *have to* or *don't have to*.

Weather in May: very cold but not rainy  
Visas for the family? Not necessary  
Remember! Print tickets  
Arrive at airport 2 hours early  
Taxi to airport ✓

- 1 Phan \_\_\_\_\_ pack warm clothes.
- 2 He \_\_\_\_\_ take an umbrella.
- 3 Phan and his family \_\_\_\_\_ get visas.
- 4 Phan \_\_\_\_\_ print the tickets.
- 5 Phan and his family \_\_\_\_\_ arrive at the airport two hours early.
- 6 Phan \_\_\_\_\_ drive to the airport.

## Pronunciation

Saying /b/ and /v/

1  11.3 Listen and number these words in the order you hear them (1–4). Then listen again and repeat.

a \_\_\_\_ best      c \_\_\_\_ vote  
b \_\_\_\_ boat      d \_\_\_\_ vest

## Writing

1 Reviews often include the five W's. Match these question words with the sentences (1–4).

what      when      where      who      why

- 1 The café is next to the park. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 I went on Friday with a friend. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 We ordered the vegetarian pizza. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 I like this café because it's cheap. \_\_\_\_\_