



READING WORKSHEET READING COMPREHENSION #2

An Extra Challenge

Extreme sports test our strength and abilities to the limit. People practice for years to become skillful enough to take part in sports such as hang-gliding, skiing, or kitesurfing. They have all the latest safety equipment. And even then, it's a challenge. But to take on extreme sports if you can't see or hear, for example, or if you have lost an arm or a leg—that's a new level of challenge.



Have you ever watched blind skiing? It's super exciting for spectators, but extremely difficult for competitors. Imagine skiing downhill at 112 kilometers (70 miles) an hour—wearing a blindfold! It takes courage. So how does it work? The blind skier skis with a sighted skier who guides them down the slope. The two skiers travel at speed just a few feet apart. A tiny mistake can lead to a crash. Jade Etherington, a skier who has just 5 percent vision, explains how she feels about the danger: "I've had many crashes. But never too bad . . . In a way it's a help if you can't see it coming—you're more relaxed."

Another inspirational athlete is 18-year-old Brazilian skateboarder Felipe Nunes. Since Felipe lost his legs in an accident at the age of six, he has worked to achieve his dream of becoming a skateboarder. Now he competes at the highest level, and videos of his cool moves are an internet sensation. In everyday life, he doesn't use a wheelchair—he goes everywhere on his skateboard!



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2 Read the text again. Check the main idea in each paragraph.

1. ☐ a. You need good safety equipment if you are doing extreme sports.
☐ b. Extreme sports are even more challenging for people who have disabilities.
2. ☐ a. Blind skiers need to be brave and extremely skillful.
☐ b. Blind skiing is exciting to watch.
3. ☐ a. Skateboarders can become extremely popular on the internet.
☐ b. Skateboarder Felipe Nunes has achieved his dream against all odds.

3 Write. Read paragraphs 2 and 3 again. Complete the chart with information for the two people described.

Person	Sport	Difficulties they have overcome	Describe how they have become famous	What adjectives can you use to describe them?
Jade Etherington				
Felipe Nunes				

4 Write. Imagine what it feels like to take part in one of the extreme sports on page 8. Write a description. Then work with a partner and share your descriptions.
