Weird Sports from around the World

You might be surprised at the number of rather unusual sports that exist around the world. Mostly, they are little known outside the areas where they were invented-though occasionally they have gained international recognition. Here are some examples-but, if you're interested, have a look on the web, you may find other, even crazier, ones!

Sandboarding	Extreme ironing	Wife-carrying
Of course there can't be many people who don't know what 1._____ is, but how about sandboarding? The basic principal behind the two sports is the same; start at the top of a 2._____ and use a board to get you to the bottom. But whereas snowboarding is practised on freezing cold snowy mountain tops, sandboarding takes place on sand dunes by sunny 3._____ or in the desert. It's popular in many countries, including Australia, Namibia and 4._____. The quickest way of getting to the bottom involves standing with both feet on a 5._____ and weaving from side to side while trying not to fall off. If this sounds a little bit 6._____ you could always just get on your stomach and slide down. Either way, it's a lot of fun! However, don't forget to keep your mouth closed.	Extreme ironing is called an extreme sport by some and a 7._____ art by others. It's all about taking an ironing board to a remote location, where you then proceed to iron your 8._____! According to the official website, extreme ironing is 'the latest danger sport that combines the thrills of an extreme outdoor activity with the 9._____ of a well-pressed shirt'. Part of the attention this has attracted in the media is to do with the 10._____ of whether it is really a sport or not, and it is often not taken so seriously. Some locations where such performances have taken place include on a mountainside, in a forest, in a 11._____, on a ski slope (while skiing), underwater, in mid-air (while parachuting) and under the ice on a frozen 12._____!	This sport was inspired by an ancient Finnish tradition in which a man 13._____ a woman by running to her village, picking her up and carrying her away. In the modern sporting version, the man has to carry the woman along an 14._____ course without her feet touching the floor. There is a clear set of rules. The track has to be 253.5 metres long and have one water and two 15._____ obstacles. There are several ways of carrying the woman, including piggyback, fireman's lift (over the shoulder) or Estonian-style (the wife hangs 16._____ down with her legs around the husband's shoulders and holds onto his waist). Whoever completes the course In the fastest time wins the 17._____ (but not necessarily a wife these days!).

Answer the questions:

1. What are the names of the weird sports? _____
2. Where is sandboarding popular? _____
3. Where have people perform extreme ironing? _____
4. What is the origin of wife-carrying? _____
5. How many ways can men lift their wives? _____
6. What does it mean "Whoever completes the course in the fastest time wins the trophy (but not necessarily a wife these days!)"?

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