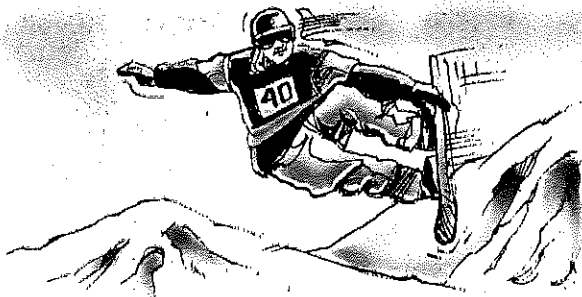


READING COMPREHENSION

The Rise of Snowboarding

Would you like a sport that combines surfing, skateboarding, and skiing? If so, then snowboarding is for you! In a very short time, it has become a popular winter activity.

The first snowboard was probably invented by Sherman Poppen. In 1965, Poppen attached two skis together and tied a rope to the front of his contraption. He had created it for his daughter, who wanted a sled she could stand up on. Poppen's wife named it "the Snurfer" (from the words *snow* and *surf*). The very next year, more than half a million Snurfers were sold!



(1) Among the many creative people involved in refining the design of early snowboards was an *avid* skateboarder named Tom Sims. (2) Every summer, he found the *allure* of skateboarding irresistible. (3) He was so *zealous* that he wanted to skate in the winter, as well. So, he designed a skateboard that would glide on ice. (4) Another *devoted* athlete, Jake Burton Carpenter, thought of attaching a foot holster to the board. All these improvements helped develop the snowboards that are used today.

(5) Athletes were *effusive* in their praise for the new sport. (6) They loved the *exhilaration* of racing

and freestyle boarding on challenging courses.

(7) By the 1980s, there were many snowboarding *fanatics*. Fancy tricks, like the ollie and kickflips, performed on halfpipes (large U-shaped tracks) became popular. Through the 1980s and 1990s, the number of snowboarding competitions increased. The craze affected ski resorts all over the United States. (8) At first, most ski resort owners greeted the new sport with *indifference*, or even fear. Many resorts prohibited snowboarding on their slopes, until the popularity of the new sport convinced them to allow it.

Soon, snowboarders began to urge that their sport be represented at the Olympics. (9) Although some were *reticent* about including it, others worked with enthusiasm to have it accepted. Snowboarding became an official Olympic sport at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan. Spectators watched with awe as snowboarders performed spectacular maneuvers: They shot up the icy side of a curved halfpipe, flew high above the edge and seemed to hang suspended in the air before turning, twisting, and swooping sharply back down and up the opposite side. (10) *Jubilant* competitors from four countries were awarded gold medals.

Snowboarding soon became one of the fastest-growing sports in America. In 2000, the number of people who went downhill skiing had increased by 6 percent, while the number of people who went snowboarding had increased by 51.2 percent!

Snowboarding continues to grow in popularity. You can now try it at most U.S. ski resorts. So, grab a snowboard, hit the slopes, and see what makes this sport so exciting to so many.

Each sentence below refers to a numbered sentence in the passage. Write the letter of the choice that gives the sentence a meaning that is closest to the original sentence.

- _____ 1. Among the many creative people involved in refining the design was a(n) _____ skateboarder named Tom Sims.
a. enthusiastic b. crazed c. mediocre d. joyful
- _____ 2. Every summer, he found the _____ of skateboarding irresistible.
a. happiness b. dedication c. attraction d. reluctance
- _____ 3. He was so _____ that he wanted to skate in the winter.
a. creative b. athletic c. joyful d. motivated
- _____ 4. Another _____ athlete, Jake Burton Carpenter, thought of attaching a foot holster to the board.
a. excited b. dedicated c. uninterested d. insane

- _____ 5. Athletes were _____ in their praise for the new sport.
a. not devoted b. not caring c. gushing d. very quiet
- _____ 6. They loved the _____ of racing and freestyle boarding on challenging courses.
a. speed b. excitement c. dedication d. commitment
- _____ 7. By the 1980s, there were many snowboarding _____.
a. uninterested fans b. happy athletes c. insane people d. extreme fans
- _____ 8. At first, most ski resort owners greeted the new sport with _____.
a. lack of interest b. lack of difference c. lack of athletics d. lack of respect
- _____ 9. Although some were _____ about including it, others worked with enthusiasm to have it accepted.
a. excited b. dedicated c. reluctant d. overly enthusiastic
- _____ 10. _____ competitors from four countries were awarded gold medals.
a. Dedicated b. Joyful c. Enthusiastic d. Eager

Indicate whether the statements below are TRUE or FALSE according to the passage.

- _____ 1. Several people were involved in the development of the snowboard.
- _____ 2. The first snowboard was probably invented in ancient Rome.
- _____ 3. Snowboarding is now an official sport of the Olympics.

FINISH THE THOUGHT

Complete each sentence so that it shows the meaning of the italicized word.

1. I would be *jubilant* if _____

2. I am *reticent* about _____

WRITE THE DERIVATIVE

Complete the sentence by writing the correct form of the word shown in parentheses. You may not need to change the form that is given.

- _____ 1. The knight _____ defended the honor of his king. (*zealous*)
- _____ 2. Dan is an _____ basketball player. (*avid*)
- _____ 3. The celebration was one of happiness and _____. (*jubilant*)
- _____ 4. Uncle Zeev _____ greeted and hugged all of us. (*effusive*)

- _____ 5. His _____ on the subject of his career made us suspicious. (*reticent*)
- _____ 6. Although we used to be best friends, now all we feel toward each other is _____. (*indifferent*)
- _____ 7. The sale at the coat shop was too _____ to pass up. (*allure*)
- _____ 8. _____ people often do a disservice to their cause because they seem unreasonable and unwilling to listen to other points of view. (*fanatic*)
- _____ 9. Barak _____ his free time to caring for his sick mother. (*devotion*)
- _____ 10. We were all _____ the first time we rode on the new roller coaster. (*exhilaration*)

FIND THE EXAMPLE

Choose the answer that best describes the action or situation.

- _____ 1. Something that someone who feels *indifferent* might do
 a. shout and cheer b. cry and moan c. complain loudly d. shrug her shoulders
- _____ 2. Something a *fanatical* sports fan might wear every day
 a. a team's jersey b. a bright tie c. dressy shoes d. a sports coat
- _____ 3. Something that would probably make you feel *exhilarated*
 a. sharpening a pencil b. failing a quiz c. winning a trophy d. getting knocked over
- _____ 4. Something that would most likely be *alluring* to a three-year-old
 a. a ten-dollar bill b. a valuable stamp c. a rainbow lollipop d. a steak dinner
- _____ 5. An *effusive* greeting
 a. Hey. b. What's up? c. How's it going? d. How *great* to see you!
- _____ 6. A person most likely to be *zealous* about his work
 a. shoe repairman b. office assistant c. grocery bagger d. animal-rights activist
- _____ 7. A way that a worker might show *devotion* to her job
 a. take long vacations b. leave work early c. work extra hours d. gaze at coworkers
- _____ 8. The best word to describe someone who is *reticent*
 a. shy b. enthusiastic c. friendly d. confident
- _____ 9. Something most people would NOT want their friends to be *indifferent* toward
 a. flower gardening b. others' feelings c. school grades d. spectator sports
- _____ 10. Something a *jubilant* child might say
 a. I'm too tired. b. Where is it? c. Boo hoo! d. Yippee!