**SPORTS**

**TASK 1 – Reading skills**

**Read the article and complete the gaps with the words from the box.**

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| pastime amateur rewarding team participant commitment physical leisure participation |

# **AMATEUR SPORTS AS A HOBBY**

(Adapted from: <https://www.sketch-full.net/sports-and-hobbies/amateur-sports-as-a-hobby/>.)

Quite often, people don’t think of sports as a hobby. However, if the particular sport is performed at an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ level, then it can be considered as such. Being an amateur sports \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ means the athlete does not receive any kind of payment for their sporting activities.

There are some great advantages to choosing a sport as a hobby. Most importantly, it allows the player to get some exercise whilst enjoying their favourite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Quite often, those that are into other types of hobbies do not get enough proper exercise. So, it means they have to take extra time out for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ activity. A sports hobby has a two in one advantage. It is fulfilling a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ need with the sport itself while giving the necessary exercise for a healthy lifestyle.

One of the main differences between sports hobbies is that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has to be fairly consistent. Participation in sports requires the development of skills. Other types of hobbies can be learned at a much slower pace and the skills can be developed over time.

Another choice has to be made whether to enter into a single sports activity, such as tennis or join a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ game, like baseball or hockey. Team sports demand a bit more of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, as the players have to take into consideration the schedules of other team members. Whereas with single sports, if the participant wants to withdraw from an event, they are not affecting a team.

No matter which amateur sports one chooses, it should be one that the participant finds \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and relaxing in regards to relieving stress.

(Source: <https://www.sketch-full.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Sport-for-a-Hobby-300x207.jpg>)

**TASK 2 – Speaking skills**

**Watch the video on benefits of playing sports on**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmFQqjMF\_f0**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmFQqjMF_f0)

**and then present these benefits in your own words.**

**TASK 3 – Word formation**

**Complete the following article with the correct form of the words in brackets.**

## **PROFESSIONAL SPORT IS, FIRST AND FOREMOST, A BUSINESS**

(Adapted from: <http://igormakarov.org/professional-sport-is-first-and-foremost-a-business/>.)

People love \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (profession) sport teams. Rooting for them gives fans a sense of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (belong) and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (identify) in a wider community. It can also provide escape from the daily grind and help people cheer up by bolstering their self-esteem and pride. When fans’ teams succeed, fans experience the [victory vicariously](http://www.cantonrep.com/x1350924790/The-psychology-of-sports-Why-do-fans-care-so-much), a phenomenon that makes them feel like they’ve won as well.

Since sports are a positive force in people’s lives that is built on ideas of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (dedicate), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (cooperate), hard work, and sportsmanship, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (passion) fans sometimes forget that at the heart of professional sport lies a unique business model.

The basic business plan for professional sport is the same as for other popular forms of audience-driven \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (entertain). Like movie studios, concert venues, dance companies, theatres, and so on, owners of sports teams have one fundamental goal: to fill the arena with spectators who will root for their favourite athlete, player, or team (or a combination of all three). Just like other live events, this requires securing talent, generating advertising contracts, negotiating and obtaining stadium leases, creating merchandising plans, and a number of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (addition), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (high) detailed tasks. For this reason, a professional sports team can employ [hundreds of people](http://www.giants.com/team/staff.html) beyond the athletes and their coaches, whose salaries \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (typical) make up only one-third to one-half of the total cost it takes to run a team.

Nevertheless, professional sport is a [special kind of business](http://www.anderson.ucla.edu/assets-digital/think-in-the-next/sports-vs-community-feature) because of the way it reaches out to and treats its customers. While it is most definitely a for-profit enterprise, professional sport serves as a unique community resource whose \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (measure) benefits exceeds estimation. This is because sport franchises build ongoing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (relate) with their fans that cater to what they want and need most, thereby making the fans feel treasured, yearning to come back again and again.

**TASK 4 – Speaking skills**

**Answer the questions:**

1. How often do you play sports?
2. What is your favourite sport?
3. Do you play any sport professionally?
4. Are you a member of any sports team?
5. What sports are you good at?
6. Do you like to exercise?
7. What are your favourite team sports?
8. Which team do you support?
9. What sport is the most dangerous/expensive?
10. Have you ever tried any extreme sports?
11. What is the most popular sport in your country?
12. Are there good sports facilities in your city/town/village?

**TASK 5 – Speaking skills**

**Compare and contrast the following two pictures:**

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(Source: <https://www.google.si/search?q=sports+pictures&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=ZUmhDuRhZqFHhM%253A%252C5GbA12L42IOfyM%252C_&vet=1&usg=AI4_-kRQDCk53BjbVaIgTlUFULa9SXFEfA&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj595PY1MnlAhXDtYsKHUp>)



(Source: <https://www.google.si/search?q=sports+pictures&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=ZUmhDuRhZqFHhM%253A%252C5GbA12L42IOfyM%252C_&vet=1&usg=AI4_-kRQDCk53BjbVaIgTlUFULa9SXFEfA&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj595PY1MnlAhXDtYsKHUp>)

**TASK 6 – Listening and speaking skills**

**Listen and watch the video clip on**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDKc6z4LRgQ**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDKc6z4LRgQ)

**about Top 10 Extreme Sports, then choose your favourite one and present it.**

**TASK 7 – Writing skills**

**Write an essay discussing the following topic:**

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| Why sports should be encouraged?  |

**Support your opinion in 160–180 words.**

**WHY SPORTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED?**

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