

Listening skills practice: Sports interviews – exercises

Listen to the radio interview and do the exercises to practise and improve your listening skills.

1. Preparation: word 2 word

Do this exercise before you listen. Put these questions in the correct order by writing a number in the brackets.

1. it () popular () sport? () Is () a ()
2. do () it? () you () How () play ()
3. it? () does () Who ()
4. all () female? () sport () Is () the ()
5. do () How () you () go? () fast ()
6. Wales, () isn't () That's () it? () in ()
7. sport? () you () about () Can () tell () your () us ()
8. what () explain () is? () Can () you () that ()

2. Check your understanding: grouping

Do this exercise while you listen. Which sport? Put these sentences in the correct groups.

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| a. The sport began in the 1930s. | b. It's becoming really popular in the UK. | c. This sport involves doing tricks in the air. | d. There are more guys than girls doing it. | e. There are more girls than guys doing it. |
| f. It started in California. | g. When you compete, you score points for your team. | h. There are strong influences from other, similar sports. | i. A big event for this sport is held in Wales. | j. The clothes people wear for this sport have changed. |

Wakeboarding	Roller derby

3. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Do this exercise while you listen. Circle the best option to complete these sentences.

1. People are talking about these sports because they are becoming more and more popular / they might be included in the 2020 Olympics / a lot of people are getting injured doing them .
2. In wakeboarding the rider is attached to the board / another rider / a speedboat .
3. In wakeboarding 1260 degree spins are impossible / difficult / surprisingly easy .
4. Wakestock festival in Wales has a similar feel to California / is a good place to see the best riders / is really cool but not many people know about it .
5. Wakeboarding tricks are unique to the sport / have different names to skateboarding and surfing moves / are often the same as skateboarding and surfing ones .
6. Roller derby has had a revival in popularity in the last fifteen years / has always had a small group of dedicated fans / has continually grown in popularity since it started .
7. In roller derby you score points by going past other players / arriving at a goal / making people fall over .
8. Roller derby teams are currently mostly non-professional / mostly professional / about half professional and half amateur .

Which of these sports would you be most interested in trying?

I'd like to try ... because ...

I wouldn't like to try ... because ...