



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Crazy Competitions



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Crazy Competitions 疯狂竞赛

You Won't Believe These Sports! 难以置信的体育项目

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

You might not know it, but many sports and games that are played all over the world were invented by the British. Football, tennis, cricket, snooker, rugby, and golf all originated in the British Isles.

However, if you thought that here in the UK we are only interested in **mainstream sports** then think again. That's because Britain has become a **breeding ground** for increasingly **bizarre** sports. This week's Take Away English looks at some of the strangest sports and competitions to be found in the UK (all of them are 100% true).

Every year the **Welsh** Village of Llanwrtyd Wells hosts the World **Bog-Snorkelling** Championships. In this event competitors are required to put on a **face mask**, **wetsuit** and **snorkel** then swim face down in a water-filled **ditch**.

If you think that sounds painful, then you probably won't want to take part in the World **Nettle** Eating Championships. This competition takes place in the village of Marshwood in the south-west of England. The rules are simple: each competitor has one hour to eat as many **stinging** nettles as they can. You'll have to work hard to win it – last year's winner **munched** his way through 14.6 meters of nettles!

You don't always have to have physical strength to be a winner in British **silly** sports. A Nottingham pub plays host to the annual competition to be 'The World's Greatest **Liar**'. This competition invites competitors to tell the most unbelievable story they can **make up**. Last year's winner won the prize after entertaining the crowd with a **whopper** about his parents who just happen to be **vampires**!

In recent years we have seen the rise of what must be the silliest sport of them all – **extreme ironing**. Invented in Leicester in 1997, extreme ironing has become a **global phenomenon**. Extreme ironers attempt to do their ironing in the strangest and most dangerous places – under the sea, on top of mountains, even at the end of a parachute falling to earth.

Britain is proud to still be a world-beater in this event. This year a team of British extreme ironers broke the world record when they **dived** to a depth of 126 meters to do their ironing.

Glossary 词汇表

mainstream sports – 主流的体育项目	breeding ground – 繁殖地
bizarre – 奇异的	Welsh – 威尔士的
bog-snorkelling - 沼泽潜水	face mask - 面具
wetsuit - 紧身潜水衣	snorkel - (潜水用的)通气管
ditch - 沟渠, 壕沟	nettle - 荨麻
stinging - 刺痛, 针刺	munched – 用力咀嚼, 大声咀嚼
silly - 愚蠢的, 无聊的	liar - 说谎者
make up – 虚构	whopper - 弥天大谎
vampires – 吸血鬼	extreme ironing - 极限烫衣板运动
global phenomenon – 全球性现象	dived - 潜水, 跳水

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. Soccer and cricket were both played for the first time in Britain.
True / False
2. Bog-snorkellers use special equipment to be able to breathe underwater.
True / False
3. You have to be careful when eating nettles because they can hurt your mouth. **True / False**
4. The winner of the World's Biggest Liar competition told a story about his parents being werewolves. **True / False**
5. Britain holds the record for ironing deep below the sea. **True / False**

2. Idioms 习惯用语

Look at the idioms below. Each one is connected to swimming and water.

Match the idiom to its definition.

请看下列习惯用语，它们都与游泳有关。

请将习语与各自的定义对应起来。

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. to be out of your depth | a. to be in a situation where you have to adapt very quickly or fail |
| 2. to go in at the deep end | b. to manage to survive but only just |
| 3. to sink or swim | c. to try a new activity without any preparation |
| 4. to keep your head above water | d. to be in a situation that is too difficult for you to cope with |

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the idioms above.

现在请用以上的某个习语完成下列句子。

1. I wasn't given any training at all for my new job I just had to _____ and learn as I went along.
2. I felt that I was _____ in the advanced English class. It was so difficult I couldn't understand anything.
3. I've got so many bills and expenses and my salary is too small; I'm only just able to _____.
4. If my company doesn't get this deal we will probably have to close. We are in a _____ situation.

3. Anagrams 组词填空

Solve the anagrams and then complete the sentences with the correct words.

重新排列组合次序混乱的词语，然后把正确词语填空造句。

1. entlet

4. oseknlr

2. orhwpep

5. nioinrg

3. rerbaiz

6. eudncmh

1. When I go to the seaside I like to swim wearing a _____ and facemask so I can look at the fish.
2. My friend is such a liar – he told me a _____ about Bill Gates being his uncle!
3. I saw a really _____ film at the weekend. It was so strange I didn't really understand it.
4. I washed all my clothes this morning and now I have mountain of _____ to do.
5. I _____ a raw carrot at lunchtime.
6. Be careful when you walk in the woods; a _____ might sting your legs.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with crazy competitions in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (→), vertically (↓) or diagonally (↘)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与疯狂竞赛有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(→) 垂直的(↓) 或对角的(↘)形式出现。

m	s	r	f	b	t	s	w	i	m	r	c
u	k	e	v	h	l	g	e	c	j	e	o
n	u	b	i	t	l	i	r	b	a	s	m
c	b	i	r	b	s	w	a	t	y	u	p
h	e	z	r	y	n	d	e	r	q	n	e
e	f	a	b	h	r	i	n	k	j	d	t
d	e	r	t	d	u	v	r	x	b	r	e
i	g	r	e	s	b	e	n	o	e	d	k
t	k	e	n	s	e	b	t	j	n	l	o
c	r	p	o	s	i	l	l	y	g	y	e
h	a	w	e	v	n	y	s	r	u	m	t
h	t	w	e	t	s	u	i	t	p	s	y

dive	iron	bizarre	wetsuit	liar
silly	ditch	swim	munch	compete

Answers 答案

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- You have to be careful when eating nettles because they can hurt your mouth. **True**
- The winner of the World's Biggest Liar competition told a story about his parents being werewolves. **False**
- Britain holds the record for ironing deep below the sea. **True**

3. Anagrams 组词填空

Solve the anagrams and then complete the sentences with the correct words.

重新排列组合次序混乱的词语,然后把正确词语填空造句。

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 1. nettle | 4. snorkel |
| 2. whopper | 5. ironing |
| 3. bizarre | 6. munched |

- When I go to the seaside I like to swim wearing a **snorkel** and facemask so I can look at the fish.
- My friend is such a liar – he told me a **whopper** about Bill Gates being his uncle!
- I saw a really **bizarre** film at the weekend. It was so strange I didn't really understand it.
- I washed all my clothes this morning and now I have mountain of **ironing** to do.
- I **munched** a raw carrot at lunchtime.
- Be careful when you walk in the woods; a **nettle** might sting your legs.

2. Idioms 习惯用语

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请看下列习惯用语,它们都与游泳有关。

请将习语与各自的定义对应起来。

- d
- c
- a
- b

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the idioms above.

现在请用以上的某个习语完成下列句子。

- I wasn't given any training at all for my new job I just had to **go in at the deep end** and learn as I went along.
- I felt that I was **out of my depth** in the advanced English class. It was so difficult I couldn't understand anything.
- I've got so many bills and expenses and my salary is too small; I'm only just able to **keep my head above water**.
- If my company doesn't get this deal we will probably have to close. We are in a **sink or swim** situation.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

m					s	w	i	m	c
u				l					o
n	b				i				m
c	i				a				p
h	z				d	r			e
	a				i				t
d	r				v	r			e
i	r				e	o			
t	e						n		
c			s	i	l	l	y		
h									
		w	e	t	s	u	i	t	