

Adrenaline junkies

Warm-up!

Risky Business: A Dangerous Guessing Game!

Unjumble the words below related to dangerous sports and hobbies:

1. SBAE MUNPGIJ
2. CKRO LBCMIGIN
3. AVEC NIGDIV



Image taken from: <https://www.flaticon.com/>

Watch the video.

Underwater Cave Diving | Best Job Ever

Source: National Geographic | Underwater Cave Diving | Best Job Ever

Answer the questions based on the video you just watched.

1. How does the narrator describe his experience with cave diving?
2. Why do you think people become involved in dangerous activities such as cave diving?
3. What did the narrator find in the caves that was most valuable to him?
4. In your opinion, what is the line which separates bravery from recklessness? Explain your answer.

Exercises!

Complete the word family.

Noun	Adjective	Adverb
		Precipitously
		Perseveringly
Resilience	Audacious	
	Enduring	
Tenacity	Expeditious	

Reading!

Read the text below.

Dangerous Hobbies: Thrill or Threat?

In a world where the ordinary often fails to satisfy, extreme hobbies have surged in popularity, offering an adrenaline rush that many find irresistible. From wingsuit flying, where individuals soar through the air at breakneck speeds, to free solo climbing, where climbers ascend great heights without safety ropes, these activities push the boundaries of human capability and courage.

Proponents argue that such hobbies are not just about seeking thrills; they're a form of expression, a way to truly feel alive and test personal limits. Critics, however, point to the high risks involved, including potential injury and death, questioning whether the pursuit of such extreme sensations justifies the danger.

In this high-stakes game, where the line between exhilaration and catastrophe is razor-thin, one must ponder: What drives individuals towards these dangerous pastimes? Is it the pursuit of freedom, an inherent need to escape the mundane, or simply the human instinct to challenge oneself?

The Psychology Behind the Peril

Delving deeper, the psychological allure of dangerous hobbies cannot be overlooked. For many, engaging in such activities provides a unique form of escapism, a way to disconnect from the digital overload and complexities of modern life. The intense focus required for these hobbies fosters a state of 'flow,' where time seems to stand still, and the hobbyist is completely immersed in the moment. This state of mind is deeply satisfying and can lead to significant mental health benefits, but at what cost?

A Cultural Phenomenon

Globally, these hobbies have not only become personal pursuits but have created communities around them. These communities provide a sense of belonging and support, sharing knowledge, and celebrating achievements. However, they can also perpetuate a culture of one-upmanship, where the risks are continuously escalated in the quest for recognition and status within the group. This dynamic raises questions about the social pressures involved and the potential for pushing individuals beyond their limits.

The Role of Technology and Innovation

Advancements in technology and safety equipment have made these dangerous hobbies more accessible than ever. Innovations in gear and training methods have improved safety, potentially reducing the risk of catastrophic outcomes. Yet, as the gear becomes more sophisticated, people may be tempted to take on even greater challenges, possibly negating these safety advancements. The interplay between technological progress and human ambition creates a complex scenario where the boundaries of safety and risk are continually evolving.

Answer the questions based on the text you just read.

1. To what extent does the mental escape provided by dangerous hobbies outweigh the physical risks?
1. How does belonging to an extreme hobby group affect individuals' willingness to take risks?
2. Do advancements in safety gear for extreme hobbies enhance safety or encourage riskier behaviors?
3. When pursuing extreme hobbies, how does one recognize their own limits before it's too late?



Image taken from: <https://www.flaticon.com/>

Writing!

Perceptions and Misconceptions: Society's View on Dangerous Sports.

Overview:

This assignment invites you to examine and critique the social perceptions surrounding dangerous sports.

Create a short text (300 words) following the structure below:

Introduction:

- Briefly define dangerous sports and introduce the focus on societal perceptions.

Public Viewpoint:

- Discuss general societal attitudes towards dangerous sports. Are they seen as reckless, admirable, or a mix of both?
- Consider how factors like culture, age, and media influence these views.

Media Influence:

- Analyze the role of the media in portraying dangerous sports, highlighting the balance between glorification and cautionary tales.
- Reflect on how media coverage affects public opinion and potentially the athletes involved.

Reality vs. Perception:

- Contrast common misconceptions with the realities faced by enthusiasts of dangerous sports. Discuss aspects like safety measures, community, and personal motivations.

Discussion!

Discuss your interpretation of the graph below.

