

## INTERMEDIATE UNIT 6

## 1 Work in pairs and discuss.

- 1 What do you know about New Zealand?
- 2 Do you enjoy sports? If so, which ones and why?
- 3 Are there any unusual sports you'd like to try?

## 2 Read the article. What unusual or extreme sports does it mention?

## 3 Read the article again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false sentences.

- 1 Bungee jumping is better in New Zealand than in Europe, according to Andy.
- 2 Andy walked up a mountain to go bungee jumping.
- 3 The whitewater rafting course is 20 kilometres long.
- 4 Whitewater rafting is a good way to meet people.
- 5 Andy wanted to parachute in the past.
- 6 Andy jumped solo from the plane.



## Not for the faint-hearted

New Zealand has become a popular destination for people looking to experience extreme emotions. Whether it's enjoying the **stunning** views and breathtaking scenery or trying one of the many extreme sports, this country has become famous for delighting the senses. Our travel writer Andy Burgiss went all the way to New Zealand to try some of the amazing activities on offer there.

I've been bungee jumping all over Europe but nothing beats New Zealand for the most amazing jump and biggest thrill. But seriously, it's not for **the faint-hearted!** Taking the cable car up to the jump platform is **hair-raising** enough as you look down the side of the mountain, but then you reach the top and can see the town far down below you. But the moment you jump, you'll have the greatest buzz of adrenalin you're ever likely to feel.

Whitewater rafting is a common sport all over the world, but nothing beats the rivers of New Zealand. The course I took in the southern mountains was on one of the fastest rivers in the world. It is over 20 kilometres long and is only for experienced rafters. Even I was a little frightened at times when our **raft** seemed to almost tip over. However, because everyone in the boat is working together, you quickly feel safe. And even better, you'll make some good friends by the end of the ride.

I always said I would never do it, but I did and I felt **exhilarated** afterwards! So what did I do? I jumped from a plane, with a parachute of course! I was **strapped** to an instructor, so I wasn't alone and it wasn't so frightening. It's something I would recommend, especially in the lovely hills around Wellington, the capital of New Zealand.

## 4 Match the words and phrases in bold in the text with their meanings 1–6.

- 1 very beautiful
- 2 connected securely
- 3 small light boat
- 4 very excited and happy
- 5 frightened people
- 6 frightening

## 5 Work in pairs or small groups and discuss. Would you like to try any of the activities in the text? Why/Why not?

## 6 6.1 Listen to an interview with Alex, who did a tightrope walk, and answer the questions.

- 1 Why did he do the walk?
- 2 How much money did he raise?
- 3 What activity did Alex do when he was a teenager?
- 4 Where did he do the walk?
- 5 How high up was the tightrope walk?
- 6 How long was the tightrope walk?
- 7 Was he nervous during the walk?

## 7 The words and phrases in the box are from the recording. Complete the sentences with the words/phrases in the box.

height butterflies in my stomach  
support harness crazy roughly  
publicity opposite

- 1 The ticket office is \_\_\_\_\_ the entrance to the park.
- 2 I think it is important to \_\_\_\_\_ local charities.
- 3 It's important to wear a \_\_\_\_\_ if you go climbing.
- 4 I had \_\_\_\_\_ before the exam.
- 5 I think it's \_\_\_\_\_ to go swimming in the sea in winter.
- 6 It's important to get \_\_\_\_\_ if you want people to know about an event.
- 7 The programme is \_\_\_\_\_ thirty minutes long.
- 8 The \_\_\_\_\_ of the building is forty metres.

## 8 Work in pairs or small groups and discuss.

- 1 Have you ever done anything to raise money for charity? If so, what did you do?
- 2 What extreme activities or sports could you do to raise money for charity?
- 3 How do you feel when you give money to charity, or do something to raise money for charity?