**A. Look at the picture. What do you think dogsleds are used for? Read the text and find out.**

## DOG SLEDDING

Dog sledding is a means of transport that has been used for hundreds of years. Today, people in some places like Canada, Greenland, Alaska and Scandinavian countries still use dog sledding as a way to travel and transport things from one place to another. Dog sledding races are also a very popular sport in these places.

A dog sledding team consists of a number of dogs and the *musher*; this is the driver of the dog sled. The most common type of dog used to pull dog sleds are huskies. People train the dogs from the time they are puppies. The dogs need to be able to pull heavy weights while running very fast across the snow.

Each dog in a dogsled team is very important. For example, the *wheelers*, the dogs nearest to the sled, are the strongest and biggest. The *leaders* lead the team; they are usually the cleverest and fastest and they run in front of the other dogs. The dogs behind the leaders are called *swing* dogs; they make sure that the sled turns quickly and easily. The other dogs are there to give speed to the team and make it stronger.

Dog sledding is an important means of transport for people living in cold, snow covered places. It is also an exciting way for visitors to get around the place and enjoy nature.

**B. Read the text again and answer the questions.**

1. Where is dog sledding a popular sport?

2. What is the *musher*?

3. When do the dogs start their training?

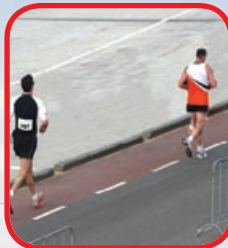4. Who are the strongest and biggest dogs in a dog sled team?

5. What do the *swing* dogs do?

## Vocabulary:

pull        puppy        lead