

## A. Discuss.

1. Have you ever heard of any unusual or extreme sports?
2. Have you ever tried an unusual or extreme sport? If yes, what was it? How did it make you feel? If not, would you like to? Why?/Why not?

# UNUSUAL SPORTS



## MAN VS HORSE MARATHON

Do you think you know everything about marathons? Well, think again. In Wales, there is a famous race called the Man vs Horse Marathon. It started in 1980 and it takes place in the countryside. In this race, people compete against horses. The course is about 22 miles long and the competitors have to go over steep hills, across rivers and through forests. It is easy for a man to go through a thick forest, but a horse has to go around the forest. The aim is for the man to beat the first horse and competitors have to be very strong to do it. People can race on foot or ride a bicycle. In 2004, a man racing on foot won the race for the first time. He trained hard to take part in the marathon and he won a big prize.



## KITESURFING

Are you looking for a new water sport? Then try kitesurfing. It is another extreme sport that lots of people love. It started at the end of the 1990s and it soon became popular on almost all the famous beaches around the world.

Kitesurfing is like kiting and surfing together. People stand on a board and hold a kite bar. When they hit the first wave, their body flies about 40 feet into the air and then they crash into the water. It is a lot of fun, but it is also dangerous. To do this sport, people have to spend a lot of time training and practising. They also have to learn how to avoid accidents and what to do if an accident happens.

## Vocabulary

**marathon** - a 42km long race

**countryside** - an area far from towns or cities

**board**- a long, narrow piece of wood used for surfing

**wave**- a raised line of water in the sea

## B. Read the text and answer the questions. Choose a, b or c.

1. The aim of the Man vs Horse Marathon is for the man
  - a. to run through a thick forest.
  - b. to beat the first horse.
  - c. to win a prize.
2. In the Man vs Horse Marathon competitors
  - a. have to be very strong.
  - b. have to learn how to avoid accidents.
  - c. can't ride a bicycle.
3. Kitesurfing takes place
  - a. on popular beaches.
  - b. in Wales.
  - c. in the countryside.
4. Kitesurfing
  - a. is not popular because it is dangerous.
  - b. has been popular since the end of the 1990s.
  - c. is easy.
5. Both sports
  - a. are dangerous.
  - b. started in 1980.
  - c. are difficult.