

e-lesson

Week starting: October 4, 2010

1. Surfing

This week's lesson is about the famously addictive sport of surfing.

Level

Pre-intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level A2–B1 and above)

How to use the lesson

1. Ask your students what their favorite sports are, and why. How many individual sports can they name in English? Brainstorm on the subject of surfing. Have any of your students ever tried it? If so, ask them to describe their experiences to the rest of the class.
2. Give your students five to ten minutes to read through Worksheet A, encouraging them to look up new vocabulary. Tell them they are going to answer a series of questions on the text, but that they shouldn't write anything down at this stage.
3. Divide the students into pairs and hand out Worksheet B. Ask the students to work together to complete Exercises 1 and 2, in which they have to answer two different kinds of comprehension questions.
4. Check answers in open class.
5. Hand out Worksheet C and ask the students to work together to complete the crossword.
6. Check answers in open class.

Answers:

Exercise 1

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. D 5. F 6. D 7. F 8. T 9. D 10. F

Exercise 2

1. The Pacific Islands.
2. Their ankles.
3. Northern California.
4. Large pieces of wood.
5. Because it requires good balance.
6. To help their feet stick to the board.
7. In the 1950s and 60s.
8. He means that once you have started surfing, it is impossible (or at least very difficult) to stop.

Exercise 3

1. stick 2. living 3. down 4. hooked 5. essential
6. professional 7. materials 8. wetsuit 9. stand

If the sentences have been completed correctly, *Indonesia* will read from top to bottom.

2. Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.surfermag.com/>

SURFER magazine's website, including articles written by Kelly Slater, pictures, video, news, and more. Accessible to all levels.

<http://www.independent.com/news/2008/apr/16/emone-winter-storyem-tells-sarah-gerhardts-rise-po/>

An article (2008) in the *Santa Barbara Independent* about Sarah Gerhardt, the first woman to have surfed "Maverick's" in northern California, one of the most dangerous places to surf in the world. Includes a video clip about the making of *One Winter Story*, a documentary about Sarah, with black and white footage. Challenging for intermediate level.

<http://traveltips.usatoday.com/surfing-bali-indonesia-2515.html>

USA Today's notes on great places to surf in Bali, Indonesia. Intermediate level and above.

<http://www.surfcitysurfdog.com/>

A website about a recent surfing competition with a difference: the competitors were dogs. Intermediate level and above.