



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Horse Sports



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Horse Sports 骑马运动

The Riding Princess 马背上的公主

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

Here in the UK the sport of **horse racing** is often referred to as the “sport of kings”. However, after Zara Phillips stunning victory in the World **Equestrian** Games in Aachen, Germany, perhaps equestrian events should be called the “sport of princesses.”

That’s because the new **three-day event** world champion, Zara Phillips, is Queen Elizabeth’s niece and 11th **in line to the throne**.

With her horse, Toytown, she won the three-day event competition in Germany, adding the world title to the **European crown** she won last year.

The three-day event tests competitors’ **horsemanship** in three different disciplines: **dressage**, in which the rider must manoeuvre the horse through a sequence of movements in an **enclosed arena**; **cross-country** which is a timed race over **obstacles** such as fences, **ponds** and **ditches**; and finally **show-jumping** which tests the technical jumping skills of horse and rider.

Zara is **following in the footsteps** of her mother, Princess Anne, and father, Captain Mark Phillips, both of whom represented Great Britain in equestrian events. However, neither of her parents managed to achieve world champion status.

Naturally, she was delighted to win the title, telling the BBC, “It’s incredible; it’s **beyond my wildest dreams**.” However, the joy of victory was **tempered** with sadness as she **dedicated her triumph** to her friend Sherelle Duke, another equestrian rider who was killed when her horse fell, **crushing** her while competing a week before the World Championships.

Zara has now **set her sights** firmly on the 2008 Beijing Olympics, especially since an **injury** to her horse prevented her from qualifying for the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

She told us, “Obviously winning the Olympics has been a massive dream but you have to get everything right leading up to it, and have the horse power, so it's still a long way away.”

Glossary 词汇表

horse racing – 赛马	equestrian – 骑手
three-day event – 三日赛程	in line to the throne – 皇位继承人
European crown – 欧洲桂冠	horsemanship - 马术
dressage - 驯马技术, 马在表演时的一种优美而复杂的步法	enclosed arena – 封闭的竞赛场地
cross-country - 越野	obstacles – 障碍物
ponds – 池塘	ditches - 壕沟
show-jumping - 骑马越障表演	following in the footsteps – 追随
beyond my wildest dreams – 连做梦都没有想到的	tempered – 调节, 使缓和
dedicated her triumph – (将她的胜利)献给 . . .	crushing – 挤压, 压伤
set her sights – 她的目标, 打算	injury – 伤病

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

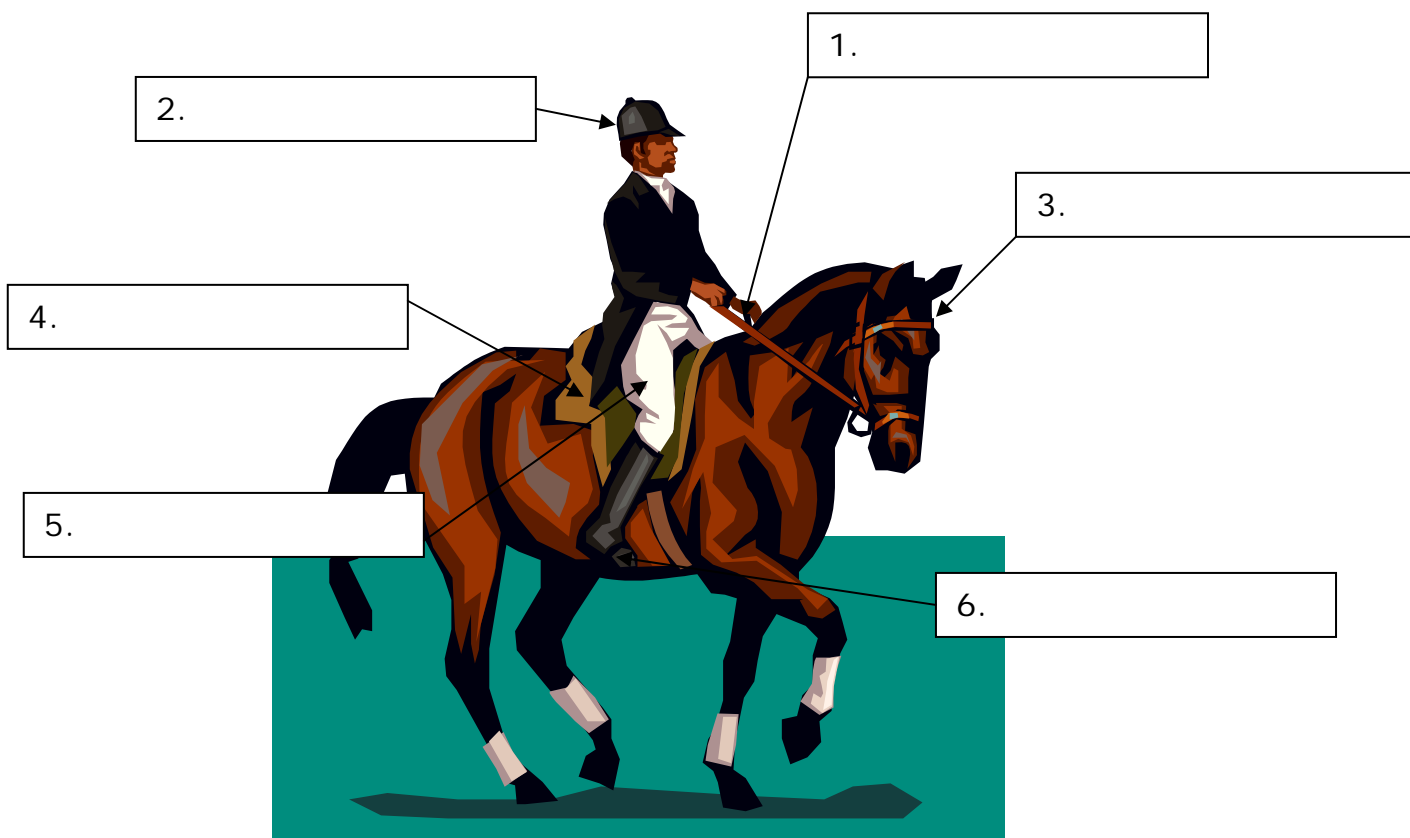
以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. Greyhound racing is known as the “sport of Kings”. **True / False**
2. Zara Phillips is the Queen’s sister’s daughter-in-law. **True / False**
3. The cross-country event is a race over difficult terrain. **True / False**
4. All of the Phillips family have ridden in international competitions.
True / False
5. Zara told the BBC that she had wanted to win the world championships in memory of a friend who had died in a show jumping accident. **True / False**

2. Label the picture 标注图片

Look at the picture below. Do you know what these items are? The words you need are in the box at the bottom of the page.

请看下列图片。你知道它们的正式名称什么吗？答案在下面表格中。



saddle jodhpurs bridle reins riding hat stirrups

3. Idioms 习惯用语

Look at the idioms below. Each one is connected to horses.

Match the idiom to its definition.

请看下列习惯用语，它们都与马有关。

请将习语与各自的定义对应起来。

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. to hear it from the horse's mouth | a. If somebody offers you something, you should take it with gratitude |
| 2. I could eat a horse | b. You can't make somebody do something they don't want to do |
| 3. Never look a gift horse in the mouth | c. I am very hungry |
| 4. You can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink | d. to hear information directly from the person involved |

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the idioms above.

现在请用以上的某个习语完成下列句子。

- 'I'm starving.'
'Me too, I _____.'
- There are a lot of rumours about the business closing, but I am going to ask the boss directly. I want _____.
- 'My children just refuse to eat their vegetables no matter how I cook them.'
'Well, you know what they say; _____.'
- 'My grandmother gave me a jacket for Christmas but I don't really like it. Should I tell her that I want to change it?'
'Don't be so ungrateful. You should _____.'

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with horses in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (→), vertically (↓) or diagonally (↘)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与马有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(→) 垂直的(↓) 或对角的(↘)形式出现。

a	s	c	p	o	n	y	a	r	n	d	t
r	a	h	b	r	t	h	k	i	m	e	r
d	f	b	o	y	h	j	e	d	l	r	e
b	j	e	a	r	v	g	u	e	l	u	i
k	l	u	a	p	s	t	a	r	p	s	n
f	j	e	m	n	t	e	g	e	j	a	s
j	k	m	r	p	n	s	r	s	g	d	n
e	m	a	n	e	b	e	r	j	n	d	u
t	e	r	h	l	a	v	y	r	m	l	o
r	f	b	r	i	d	l	e	n	e	e	p
o	l	e	c	g	a	g	j	y	e	h	l
t	q	u	a	t	s	p	u	r	s	w	t

horse	rider	jump	trot	pony
saddle	spurs	reins	bridle	mane

Answers 答案

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假?请圈出正确答案。

1. Greyhound racing is known as the "sport of Kings".
False
2. Zara Phillips is the Queen's sister's daughter-in-law. **False**
3. The cross-country event is a race over difficult terrain. **True**
4. All of the Phillips family have ridden in international competitions. **True**
5. Zara told the BBC that she had wanted to win the world championships in memory of a friend who had died in a show jumping accident. **True**

3. Idioms 习惯用语

1. d
2. c
3. a
4. b

Now complete the sentences below by using one of the idioms above.

现在请用以上的某个习语完成下列句子。

1. 'I'm starving.'
'Me too, I **could eat a horse.**'
2. There are a lot of rumours about the business closing, but I am going to ask the boss directly. I want **to hear it from the horse's mouth.**
3. 'My children just refuse to eat their vegetables no matter how I cook them.'
'Well, you know what they say; **you can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink.**
4. 'My grandmother gave me a jacket for Christmas but I don't really like it. Should I tell her that I want to change it?'
'Don't be so ungrateful. You should **never look a gift horse in the mouth.**'

2. Label the picture 标注图片

1. reins
2. riding hat
3. bridle
4. saddle
5. jodhpurs
6. stirrups

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

			p	o	n	y		r			
		h						i			r
			o					d			e
	j			r				e			i
		u			s			r		s	n
			m			e				a	s
				p						d	
	m	a	n	e							d
t										l	
r		b	r	i	d	l	e				e
o											
t					s	p	u	r	s		