

Reading Comprehension (1)

Goal! Sports around the World

People are crowding into the Olympic- Stadium in Rome. Banners are flying. Flags are waving .Everyone is talking at once. The Calcio champions, Rome and Milan, are about to meet. Calcio is the Italian name for soccer. In soccer, known as football in many countries; players try to get a ball into a goal without using their hands. Every Sunday, from October to May, teams from big Italian cities play one another. "Evvival" (Hurrah!) A great sound travelled through the stadium as the game begins. Soccer is the most popular sport in Italy, and probably throughout the world. In many countries in Europe, South America, and Asia, soccer is the national sport. In Canada, ice hockey is the national sport. This game was first played on Canada's frozen lakes and ponds. Now, hockey is popular in Western Europe, Russia, the United States and Japan.



Cricket, the United Kingdom's favourite summer sport, is also popular in Australia, the West Indies, and Pakistan. In the game, a player hits a ball with a bat. In basketball, players try to shoot a ball through a hoop. Basketball is popular in many countries. Americans play all kinds of ball games such as football, baseball, and basketball. American children love to roller-skate and ride bikes. In volleyball, players hit a ball back and forth, trying to keep it from hitting the floor on their side of the net.



In Japan, the favourite sports are volleyball, baseball, and table tennis. Very large wrestlers compete in sumo wrestling, another popular sport in Japan.



A. Answer the following questions.

1. What do players do in basketball?

2. When do Italian teams play soccer?

3. Where is ice hockey popular?

4. Which summer sport is popular in Australia?

5. Where do wrestlers play sumo?

B. Put (T) or (F).

1. Cricket is known as football in many countries. ()

2. Cricket is a popular sport in the United States. ()

3. Calcio is the Italian name for soccer. ()

4. Basketball isn't popular in many countries. ()

5. American children love to play sumo wrestling. ()

C. Find out:

1. Two nouns: _____ / _____
2. Two verb: _____ / _____
3. Two adjectives: _____ / _____
4. Two ballgames: _____ / _____
5. The underlined word "**this**" refers to _____
6. The opposite of "**Unknown**" in _____
7. A word that means to "**Start**": _____

D. Complete the following.

1. People are crowding into _____.
2. _____ is the most popular sport in Italy.
3. In Japan, the favourite sports are
_____, _____ and
_____.
4. Ice Hockey is popular in _____.
5. American children love to _____ and
_____.