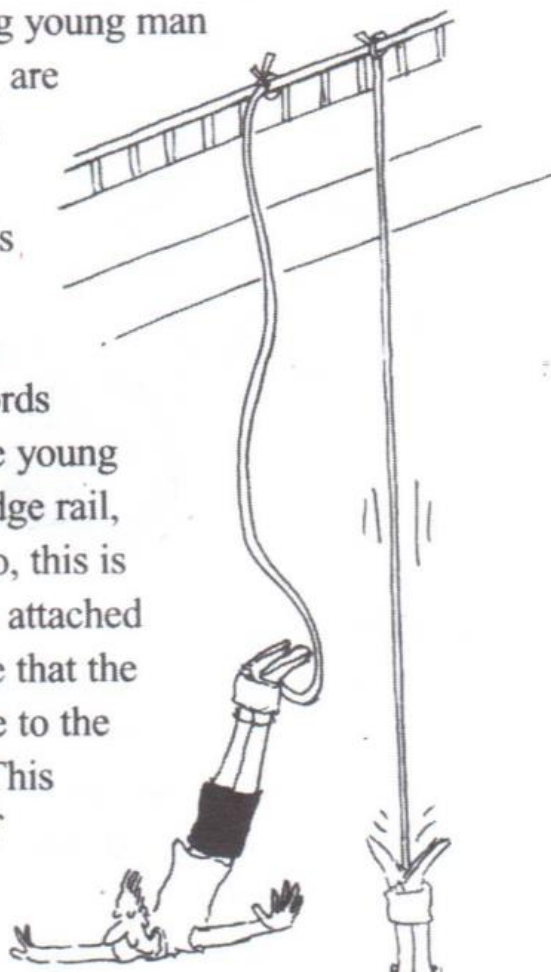


Going to Extremes?

A pickup truck rolls to the center of a deserted bridge. Several people get out. Two of them, a thirty-something young man and a twenty-something young woman, are both wearing a strange-looking harness on their backs. The others with them check their harnesses to make sure all is well. As soon as they complete these preparations, they attach a long cord to each harness and securely fasten the cords to the bridge. When that is finished, the young man and woman climb up onto the bridge rail, wave to the crowd below, and jump. No, this is not a suicide attempt. The elastic cords attached to their backs are so strong and flexible that the young people will be able to drop close to the canyon floor below without hitting it. This is bungee jumping, one of a new set of sports that are being described as “extreme.”



deserted = abandoned

harness = controlling device

as soon as = when, once = به محض این که

As soon as they complete these preparations => **an Adverbial Clause of Time**

When that is finished, => **an Adverbial Clause of Time**

suicide = killing oneself

cord = rope

elastic = flexible

canyon = valley

below = underneath

that the young people will be able to drop close to the canyon floor below without hitting it
=> **an Adverbial Clause of Result**

so + Adjective/Adverb + that clause

so strong and flexible

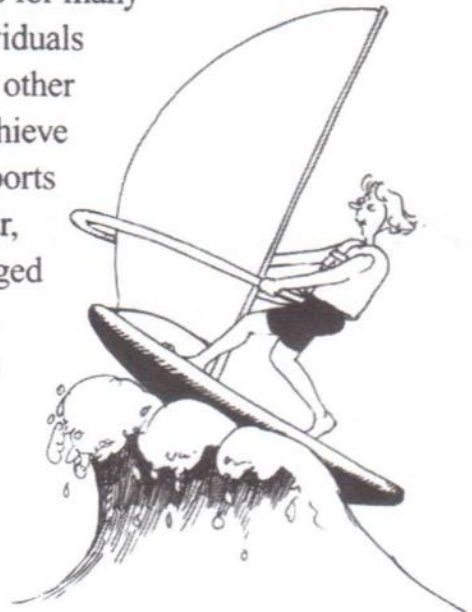
strong => **Adjective**

flexible => **Adjective**

Most people, if they're really honest with themselves, will admit they like sports at least a little bit. When the first Olympic Games began in Greece in 776 B.C., something within the



human spirit was tapped. Most of us like to be challenged, and many of us are at least moderately competitive. Sports provide benefits: they amuse and excite us, provide jobs for many people, and allow individuals who might not have other opportunities to achieve success. Although sports have long been popular, something significant has changed in the last ten to twenty years. A whole new set of sports has been created. They are called "extreme" because participants are pushing themselves to extreme (and even dangerous) levels.



ski

at least # at most

if they are really honest with themselves => **an Adverbial Clause of Condition**

B.C. = Before Christ

B.C. # A.D.

A.D. = Anno Domini = in the year of our Lord

When the first Olympic Games began in Greece in 776 B.C. => **an Adverbial Clause of Time**

moderately = to some extent, somewhat

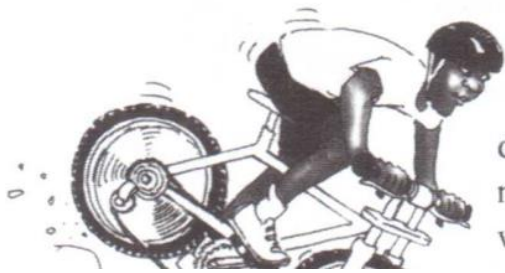
Although sports have long been popular => **an Adverbial Clause of Contrast**

significant = important

because participants are pushing themselves to extreme levels => **an Adverbial Clause of Reason**

jumping

Why do people participate in extreme sports? Mark Musgrave, an "extreme" sportsman who windsurfs all year around, says people do it because it's a question of attitude, not the activity per se. "These sports are so hard," says Musgrave, "they don't attract the masses; I think that's one of the appealing things about it. You can



excel in it if you put your mind to it.

There's not a thousand people out there crowding you or doing what you're doing." He adds, "There is no right. There is no wrong. There are no rules. You can do what you want and no one cares."

windsurfing

because it's a question of attitude, not the activity per se => **an Adverbial Clause of Reason**

attitude = point of view, frame of mind

per se = by itself = في نفسه

attract # repel

masses = ordinary people, common people

appealing = attractive; interesting

excel = become excellent

if you put your mind to it => **an Adverbial Clause of Condition**

mountain biking

So what are some of these new extreme sports? Musgrave's own sport of windsurfing is one, though windsurfing on a quiet summer day at a speed of 2 miles an hour hardly qualifies. If you want to become extreme, you'll have to travel much faster, above the water, with a much more powerful wind blowing while you're trying to do a forward flip.



So what are some of these new extreme sports? Musgrave's own sport of windsurfing is one, though windsurfing on a quiet summer day at a speed of 2 miles an hour hardly

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to become extreme, you'll have to travel much faster, above the water, with a much more powerful wind blowing while you're trying to do a forward flip.



qualify = have the necessary characteristics

though windsurfing on a quiet summer day at a speed of 2 miles an hour hardly qualifies => **an Adverbial Clause of Contrast**

If you want to become extreme => **an Adverbial Clause of Condition**

while you're trying trying to do a forward flip => **an Adverbial Clause of Time**

flip = turnover

Then there's mountain biking, although riding your mountain bike down a gentle slope at a leisurely speed doesn't make you an extreme biker. What does is piloting that bike down a steep, rocky mountain path at a speed of at least 35 miles per hour. You can also call yourself an extreme sports enthusiast if you ski off cliffs, jump out of a plane and sky surf, or go in-line skating.



(continued on next page)

although riding your bike doesn't make you an extreme biker => **an Adverbial Clause of Contrast**

What does => **a Subjective Noun Clause**
What does = **what makes you an extreme biker**

path = way, route

if you ski off cliffs, jump out of a plane and sky surf, or go in-line skating => **an Adverbial Clause of Condition**

enthusiast = a person who is highly interested in an activity

By now, someone somewhere is probably mounting a campaign to make extreme sports safer to save extreme sports enthusiasts from themselves. Are these sports too dangerous? Perhaps. Even if they are, isn't a personal choice involved here? It occurs to this writer that the development of extreme sports is understandable, even quite predictable. We live in such a globalized, homogenized world today that a counterrevolution seems to have started. Wherever we go, we see sameness: a McDonald's in Moscow is only marginally different from one in Paris or in Pensacola, Florida. There seem to be far fewer singular, individualized experiences today than there were in the past. Maybe extreme-sport people are merely striking a blow for truly individualized and unique experiences.



campaign = a series of activities in order to achieve a goal

homogenize = هموژنیزه کردن، همگن ساختن = make things look the same in quality and appearance

globalize = provide something in all countries of the world

counterrevolution = a movement against a revolution

revolution => homogenization and globalization

counterrevolution => extreme sports

marginally = a little, slightly

strike a blow = encourage