

Reading

1. Read the article. Would you like to try competitive surfing?

Competitive Surfing

Different surfing competitions have different rules. Here is an example of a typical surfing competition for teens. There are two types of contests—heats and finals. Heats are the opening competitions. They last for 20 minutes each. During this time, the surfers show how they can handle the waves. A leader waves a green flag to start a heat. The contestants run down the beach and dive into the water. Then they complete as many rides as they can. The rules allow a surfer to complete up to 10 rides during a 20-minute heat. A siren sounds to mark the end of the heat. Surfers then return to the shore. There may be as many as 25 heats in a single day.

Surfers get between 0 and 10 points for each ride they complete during a heat. Competitors who do unusual and difficult moves get extra points. However, the judges are also looking for control. A contestant who tries something difficult and fails, won't get a good score. The winners of each heat then move on to the next round of competition. On the last day of a competition, the top-scoring surfers compete in the finals. The winners of the finals then go on to compete in other contests at a higher level. Strong surfers who put in years of practice can go on to become professional surfers. Some of these men and women can earn thousands of dollars in a single competition.

2. Read the sentences. Then write *T* if the statement is true, or *F* if it is false.

- T 1. A heat happens at the beginning of a surfing competition.
- _____ 2. A heat lasts for 25 minutes.
- _____ 3. A green flag marks the end of a heat.
- _____ 4. A surfer can complete up to 20 rides during a heat.
- _____ 5. Surfers who do difficult moves successfully get extra points.
- _____ 6. Finals are on the last day of a competition.
- _____ 7. Judges don't look for control, but for difficult moves.
- _____ 8. Surfers can get a lot of money in a single competition.

