

Unit 9 Research

Task 1 Warm-up

A) Argue for one of these statements:

- We need to invest more into sports science research.
- Investing into sports science research is a waste of money.

B) Consider “SPORTS PERFORMANCE” in terms of research. How would researchers from different fields of study approach the subject? Suggest at least one research question related to sports performance in each area.

- Physiology
- Sports psychology
- Sociology of sport
- Regeneration and Nutrition

Task 2 Talking about research

A) Match the expressions from below with their synonyms highlighted in the text:

confirm / do / go through / investigate / obtain / powerful / weak

Researchers **conduct** research. In their research they **examine** various phenomena. Researchers may look for, **collect**, examine and consider data. The data they collect may suggest a conclusion. Researchers are happy if the data they find are **convincing** and less happy if the data are **flimsy** or conflicting. They hope that the results of their analysis will **support** their hypothesis. They **check** their facts most carefully before presenting them to others.

B) Prepare a short speech summarising the research you did for your bachelor/ master thesis. You may use the following phrases:

The thesis ...

- discusses/deals with/analyses/considers/explains /describes/ introduces
- develops/presents/studies/ concentrates on
- covers/suggests/shows
- gives/aims to give an overview of
- offers a solution to
- serves as an introduction to

The main goal/purpose of the thesis is to.....

We carried out an analysis of...

We measured...

We gathered data from...

An experiment was conducted to...

Results suggest that...

(<http://en.fel.zcu.cz/AE%20III%20Guidelines%20for%20Academic%20Writing/How%20to%20write%20a%20paper/Useful%20phrases.pdf>)

Task 3 Reading

Study the abstract below. Divide it into paragraphs and choose a heading for each of them. What do the results suggest?

Physical activity and the transition from school to university: A cross-sectional survey among university students in Germany (K. Diehl, J. Hilger)

The transition from school to university may be accompanied by different changes in lifestyle. We aimed to investigate whether students' physical activity (PA) differs between school and university and what role the change of residence plays. We analysed data from 689 university students (69.5% female; mean: 22.7 years). The majority changed PA compared to school (less: 45.4%, more: 36.5%). Among those who were at the beginning of their studies and those who changed residence for the start of studies, the proportion of individuals having reduced PA was higher compared to their reference groups of students in higher semesters and students having not changed residence, respectively. Students visiting their hometown more frequently and staying there during semester break were more likely to have reduced PA. Students who changed residence for starting studies seem to be a vulnerable group future intervention campaigns should focus on. Supporting those students to stay physically active during studies may be important to help them starting an active and healthy work life after graduation. Additionally, freshmen at universities may need more support to have the opportunity to stay physically active.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.scispo.2016.04.012>

Task 4 Word formation

a) Complete the gaps with suitable forms of the words in brackets.

1. The data from the study were (RELY).
2. Kelly conducted an (INVESTIGATE) into sleep characteristics of children with autism.
3. One (DIFFICULT) with this approach is that a set of results may allow different (INTERPRET).
4. We shall now (BRIEF) examine the evidence for the existence of dark matter.
5. Jenny Davidson did a great amount of research into earthquake (PREDICT).
6. Preston made only a minor (CONTRIBUTE) to modern psychology, but it was an interesting one.
7. It was an event of huge (IMPORTANT).
8. In (COMPARE) with his previous work, this paper is more significant.
9. The journal publishes a wide range of sports topics, with the (EXCEPT) of sport sociology.
10. In her paper Wadkova gives a detailed (DESCRIBE) of the experimental procedure.

b) Form nouns from the verbs:

free	choose	grow	know	laugh	lose
marry	please	sell	speak	think	friend
appear	behave	recover	analyse	discover	explore

Task 5 Conditionals

A) Study the examples and derive the rules from them:

Conditional I:

E.g.: She will submit her thesis if she finishes the data analysis.

E.g.: She will submit her thesis if she has finished the data analysis.

I:

Conditional II: She would submit her thesis if she finished the data analysis.

II:

Conditional III: She would have submitted her thesis if she had finished the data analysis.

III:

B) Complete the sentences:

I will complete my diploma thesis if ...

I would complete my diploma thesis in a few weeks if ...

I wouldn't have completed my bachelor thesis if ...

C) Transform the following sentences:

1. He hopes the statistician will process his data. Then he can interpret them.

He will interpret the data if the statistician

2. I have very little time. I can't complete my thesis this semester.

I could complete my thesis this semester if I

3. He studied really hard. He passed the state exams with flying colours.

He wouldn't have passed the state exams with flying colours if he