

Worksheet | Sport is GREAT

Task 5

Idioms

1. Idioms 1-7 are taken from the running dictation text. Match each one to its definition (a-g).

Idiom	Definition
1. against all odds	a. to try hard to defeat someone and make it difficult for them to win
2. to give it your best shot	b. to give up
3. to give someone a run for their money	c. despite difficulties or a low probability
4. to win hands down	d. it is your responsibility or decision to do something about a situation
5. to throw in the towel	e. to try your hardest; put in a lot of effort
6. to be a one trick pony	f. to win easily and by a large extent
7. the ball is in your court	g. to be good at (and successful in) only one thing

2. Use the idioms you have just learned to fill in the gaps.

- Alex is only really good at football. He can't play any other sports. He's a _____.
- It was really unlikely that Shammie would survive after the crash, but, _____ she has made a full recovery.
- Although Andy lost the game, Roger had to try really hard and it wasn't an easy victory. Andy gave him _____.
- My football team beat the opposition by five goals. They played really well and _____.
- Jessica has been trying to be a professional swimmer since she was five. Now she is 21 and she still hasn't had much success, so she has decided to _____.
- Pete's gymnastics coach told him that the decision about the competition was up to him. He said, "_____."
- David really wanted to become an athlete but he knew he would have to work really hard to be successful. He decided to _____.