

LESSON 14 Swimwear for Speed



swimwear [swɪmwɛə]r
competition(s)
 [kɑ:mpə'tɪʃən(z)]
swimmer(s) [swɪmər(z)]
resistance [rɪzɪstəns]

smoothly [smu:ðli]
besides [bɪ'saɪdz]

smooth(er) [smu:ð(ə)r]
stiff(er) [stɪf(ə)r]

ultrasound [ʌltrə'saʊnd]

stitch(es) [stɪtʃ(ɪz)]
seamless [si:mləs]

rubber [rʌbər]

waterproof [wɑ:tə'pru:f]
minimal [mɪnəml]
championship(s)
 [tʃæmpɪənʃɪp(s)]

criticize(d) [krɪtə'saɪz(d)]

technological
 [tɛknələ:dʒɪkl]
doping [dɒpɪŋ]

federation [fɛdərɛɪʃən]
ban(ned) [bæn(d)]
swimsuit(s)
 [swɪmsu:t(s)]

1 To swim faster in competitions, swimmers must reduce resistance from the water. To this end, they practice every day to improve their form and swim more smoothly. However, besides swimmers' own efforts, their swimwear greatly affects their speed.

2 In 2007, a new kind of swimwear appeared. It used smoother and stiffer material that held the swimmer's body tightly. Thus, water resistance was greatly reduced.

3 In 2008, ultrasound was used to join pieces of material without stitches and make seamless suits. In that year's Olympic Games, swimmers wearing these suits broke 23 world records.

4 In 2009, a new rubber suit appeared. It was waterproof and had minimal resistance. In that year's world championships, no fewer than 43 world records were set in just two weeks.

5 The flood of world records was criticized as the result of "technological doping." It was caused by "magic swimwear" rather than athletes' efforts. Consequently, the International Swimming Federation (FINA) banned these new swimsuits from 2010. No new world records were set that year. Now swimmers need to make greater efforts to improve their speed.

Read It Through

A Match each word from the text with its explanation.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. reduce () | a. to say that something is not allowed |
| 2. seamless () | b. to make smaller in amount |
| 3. minimal () | c. as small as possible in amount |
| 4. ban () | d. smooth and without clear joins on the surface(表面) |

B Describe features of new swimwear below.

The swimwear in 2007

- Material: ① _____ material
- It held ② _____.

The swimwear in 2008

- It was seamless. It had no stitches because ③ _____ was used in order to ④ _____.

The swimwear in 2009

- Material: ⑤ _____
- It was ⑥ _____ and ⑦ _____.

C Answer true or false.

1. Athletes' swimwear as well as their efforts has a great influence on their speed.
2. The swimwear that appeared in 2007 had great water resistance.
3. The seamless swimsuits of 2008 contributed to a rash(多発) of world records.
4. As many as 43 world records were set during the world championships in 2009.
5. The new types of swimsuits were finally banned because FINA was worried about swimmers' health.

It's Your Turn!

🎧 Listen to the questions and answer them.

1. It means wearing special swimwear that reduces _____.
2. I agree, because _____.
- I disagree, because _____.

15. no *fewer than ~ ㊦ 2. endの意味は?

20. FINA (Fédération Internationale de Natation<仏>の略) フィナ. 国際水泳連盟