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Audioscript

**TR: 2**
**Level 4 Unit 1 Quiz**

**S1:** Today we're talking about extreme sports and why people might do them. I am going to ask three extreme athletes about how they started their extreme sports. Maybe they will inspire you to try them.
Ally, you're a dogsledder. Why did you choose to become one?

**S2:** I got into dogsledding because I love huskies and I love the snow. I'm fascinated by the strength and the endurance of these dogs. The conditions are sometimes hazardous, but they keep pushing themselves. Their determination is amazing.

**S1:** Sarah, you enjoy rock climbing in your free time. It's quite scary being very high up. How did you become a rock climber?

**S3:** I saw a video on the Internet of Hazel Findlay free climbing. I was impressed how she could overcome any obstacle with hard work and a positive attitude. So, I was determined to try climbing. Hazel is a great role model for me. I think if I keep pushing myself to become a better climber, I could also be a role model for young girls.

**S1:** Our next extreme athlete is Joe. Every year he runs a desert marathon. Why do you do something so difficult and dangerous?

**S4:** I was bored with just running around my town, so a friend suggested that I try running a desert marathon. The first time I tried, I felt a lot of pain. It was a struggle. In the end, I didn't finish the race. However, I was determined to train harder and harder. The following year I finished the race. It was unbelievable. It was the best feeling I have ever experienced. Now, I race every year and see some of the most incredible scenery.

**S1:** These were some amazing stories. Send an e-mail to the show if you want to ask our extreme athletes any questions.

**TR: 3**
**Level 4 Unit 2 Quiz**

What can you do in 10 minutes? Watch a video on the Internet? Send some text



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messages to a friend? How about volunteering? Most people want to help out, but they think volunteering takes a lot of time. But volunteering doesn't have to be on a large scale. Ten minutes of your time is all you need to make a difference. Anyone can do it, young or old. April 15th is Microvolunteering Day. On this day, a large network of people spend a small amount of their time helping out to make someone's situation better and bring a smile to that person's face. There are many ways in which you can help. You can do it online or offline. Some people write a short letter to someone who has been in a disaster to make that person happy. Others tag and upload photos that could help relief workers in a crisis. So why not give ten minutes of your time for a good cause?

**TR: 4**
**Level 4 Unit 3 Quiz**

We face a huge challenge to produce more food without further impact on the environment. Scientists are researching ways to produce new, better crops in a more sustainable way. This kind of research is important since the world's population is growing very fast.

Doctor Norman Borlaug, who won a Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his lifelong work of feeding the world, set up the World Food Prize initiative. He wanted to promote new research projects and encourage small local farms and large commercial ones to improve the way they grow food.

In 2014, Doctor Sanjaya Rajaram won the World Food Prize for developing 480 new types of wheat. His revolutionary new wheat can be grown in many different conditions and environments. This is great news because the more wheat we grow, the more people we can feed. If it hadn't been for Doctor Rajaram's wheat, we would need to find 200 million more tons of wheat each year.

Doctor Borlaug and Doctor Rajaram helped find ways to feed the world's growing population. We need more people like them to meet the challenge of feeding 9 billion people by 2050.

**TR: 5**
**Level 4 Unit 4 Quiz**

The Japanese soccer team didn't win at the World Cup in Brazil, but their fans sure are winners. Pictures of 15,000 fans picking up their litter were seen around the world,



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actions which had social media wild with praise. But in Japan, people are expected to clean up the venue after an event. As one fan said, “It’s our tradition. Living without waste is much better.”

Despite all the positive comments, some people from their native country criticized the fans. Japanese writer Mayumi Tanimoto suggested people be sensitive to one another’s customs. She remembers several times when friends and coworkers from Italy, Bolivia, and Spain were surprised when they saw her clean up at a restaurant. They told her that people are employed to clean up. With this in mind, Tanimoto suggests that the Japanese fans’ action could have had an effect on the jobs of Brazilians who were hired to clean up. Even though she criticized the Japanese fans, she knows that they meant no harm.

So, what do you think? Should the fans continue collecting trash after the games, or should they respect the customs of the host country?

**TR: 6**
**Level 4 Unit 5 Quiz**

You may not have heard of the pioneer Alison Levine, but she is one of fewer than 30 people who have completed the Adventure Grand Slam. That means she has climbed to the top of the highest mountain on every continent, as well as skied across the North and South Poles. Even though she was curious from a young age, Alison didn't start climbing until she was 32. What makes her achievements even more remarkable is that she has had three heart surgeries.

Alison doesn’t think that her achievements are extraordinary. What she really thinks is important is the knowledge she gained from her journeys. She thinks that the requirements for being a great climber are the same as for being successful in life. She has spent a lot of time educating people about what she has learned. One important lesson she shares frequently is that you need to stay focused on what is happening, rather than on the plan you had made. Another really important lesson she shares is not to be afraid of failure. The first time Alison was climbing Mount Everest, she had been climbing for two months, going up and down the route to get used to the thin air. When she was 200 meters from the top, she had to turn back. To accept failure is important. It motivates you to succeed the next time.

We can all learn a lot from Alison. She has many amazing stories about her adventures and life. I encourage you to read her book, *On the Edge,* to learn more about Alison.



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**TR: 7**
**Level 4 Unit 6 Quiz**

A lot of people are afraid of snakes, even though very few regularly see snakes outside of the zoo. Psychologists believe humans developed the fear of snakes from prehistoric times to keep safe from danger. Maybe there was a good reason for this. Not long ago in Colombia, paleontologists discovered fossils that belong to a 15-meter-long giant snake. It weighed more than 1,000 kilograms, and its stomach was wider than the rest of its body. They named the snake Titanoboa. It lived 65 million years ago in South America where the climate was very hot and humid. This fierce carnivore moved slowly on the ground and was too heavy to climb trees, so it mainly hunted in the water, where it had an advantage. It preyed on crocodiles, large fish, turtles, and other snakes. It would first bite its prey with its powerful jaws and then squeeze it. So, why don't we see Titanoboas today? Dr. Carlos Jaramillo, who was part of the team that found Titanoboa's fossils, believes climate change caused their extinction. The Earth cooled so much that they couldn't survive. Will they return in the future? Dr. Jaramillo says, maybe. The Earth's temperature is rising. But don't have nightmares just yet. He says it will take millions of years before snakes could again be as big as Titanoboa.

**TR: 8**
**Level 4 Unit 7 Quiz**

For millions of children, summer is a time to have fun. Children go to summer camp to participate in arts and crafts, learn how to play a musical instrument, or try out a new sport. All of these activities are usually quite safe. Parents normally don't want their kids to do anything that's too dangerous. However, according to Gever Tully, parents should let kids experiment with dangerous tools in a safe setting, so they learn how to be creative, confident, and in control of the environment around them. With that in mind, Tully set up a rather unusual summer camp. In his camp kids as young as five play around with dangerous tools: hammers, sharp knives, and drills. They use these tools to complete do-it-yourself projects. He calls the camp the Tinkering School. At the Tinkering School, Tully aims to teach kids that they can do bigger and bolder things. During a typical camp session, kids decide what they want to make and they build it together. Tully encourages them to innovate and experiment with many ideas until they're ready to transform one into reality. The kids often fail, but they are encouraged to be persistent and resourceful. They almost always find a way to succeed. You should check out some of the things the kids at the Tinkering School have made—eight-person bikes, giant hamster wheels, hang gliders. After spending some time at the camp, kids



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practically beg their parents to let them go back. Would you like to go to a summer camp like this?

**TR: 9**
**Level 4 Unit 8 Quiz**

**S1:** Art should be a basic subject at school.

**S2:** Don't take down the controversial display of artwork.

**S1:** Why haven't you taken a picture of that impressive cave painting before?

**S2:** It will take Willard three months to complete one of his miniature sculptures.

**S1:** A great piece of art can draw its viewers in.

**TR: 10**
**Level 4 Unit 8 Quiz**

Thank you for joining us tonight where we are looking forward to finding out who this year's winners are of the Art Prize for Schools. It's an international competition for children aged between four and eighteen. They are divided into two categories, primary and secondary. The competition started with an impressive 22,000 entries, from 54 different countries. And now we are moments away from finding out this year's winner. The judges have been raving about so many of the entries. The winners of each category will take away 1,000 pounds for themselves and 5,000 pounds for their school.

Choosing the winners is a difficult task. We tracked down two of the judges, Julia Wachtel and Jeremy Newton. Julia said that she had been impressed by all the beautiful artwork and that the young artists had come up with many contemporary themes. Jeremy's reaction was equally positive. He commented that he admired the power of the images that the young artists had depicted. He also felt that they had all captured the world around them in a creative way.

I am just hearing that the results are in. It's the moment we've been waiting for. The winner in the primary school category is a student from South Korea for her mixed medium piece called *A Couple*. The winners in the secondary school category are eight students from a high school in Cyprus for a sculpture called *Immigrants*. The winners in both categories drew in viewers with their creativity and their impressive techniques.



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**TR: 11**
**Level 4 Units 1-4 Mastery Test**

Zoe Wang grew up in Hong Kong, where fresh produce was limited. So when she moved to San Francisco, California, she loved shopping at the fresh fruit and vegetable markets.

However, she noticed that many boxes of fruits and vegetables were wasted every day. She then had an idea. She used the food that the markets would throw away to start her jam-making business. However, getting the unwanted food and using it in time was too tiring. After a year, she changed her plan. Through social media, Zoe set up a network of businesses that use the unwanted fruits and vegetables from farmers and supermarkets. Her company alerts companies in the network when unwanted food is available and arranges for its delivery. The impact has been huge: so far, more than 5,000 kilograms of food have been saved.

Andrew Shakman also uses technology to reduce food waste. His company's "smart scales" are designed to stop businesses from ordering too much food. These scales record the value and the environmental cost of the food that businesses such as hotels, universities, and restaurants, are throwing away. Andrew thinks his scales can help people change their attitude toward ordering food. In the kitchens of the University of California, for example, his scales have already stopped more than a third of the food from being thrown away. This saved the university nearly $60,000.

These are just two examples of people getting creative about reducing food waste. Do you have an idea?

**TR: 12**
**Level 4 Units 5-8 Mastery Test**

Did you know that some of the most interesting inventions came about by accident? Today I am going to talk about some of these inventions.

Amazingly, chocolate led the way to the invention of the microwave oven. In 1945 Percy Spencer was working on a ship's radar when he felt the sizzling of a chocolate bar melt in his pocket. He quickly realized that radiation from an electric tube had an impact on the chocolate. This inspired him to invent the microwave oven.

Quite by accident and with the help of his dog, George de Mestral came up with the idea of Velcro®—two pieces of material that stick together. One day, he was walking his



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dog when he noticed a plant's seeds kept sticking to his socks and to his dog's fur. The seeds had tiny hooks. After many experiments, George de Mestral invented Velcro.

And what about inventing a color? That is what William Perkin did in 1856. He discovered the color mauve, a kind of purple, when he was using tree bark to come up with a cure for malaria. Although he failed to find a cure for malaria, he created a purple substance, which he thought would be a great color for nice clothes.

These are just a few examples of the many accidental inventions. You can search the Internet to find and learn about other interesting inventions.

**TR: 13**
**Level 4 Final Test**

Brazilian mural artist Eduardo Kobra has a recognizable technique which attracts many admirers. In his hometown of São Paulo, Kobra's artwork uses brightly colored square and triangle patterns to depict famous people from history on the walls of large buildings.

Kobra taught himself to paint. He started off as a graffiti artist and then, after ten years, he started to paint the murals he is famous for. His first mural wasn't in color, which he is well-known for today. It was black and white and was about 900 square meters. You can still see this mural today in São Paulo.

Often his famous artworks start in a bookstore or a museum, where he finds lots of inspiration. His favorite theme is connecting history to the present, especially people from history who brought peace to the world, such as Abraham Lincoln and Nelson Mandela. Buildings are his favorite place to paint because he says his country doesn't preserve its old buildings very well. He hopes his murals give the country a reason to look after them.

So if you'd like to see some of his art in person, you can track down his art in places like the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia, Japan, Switzerland, and France. You'll definitely find his work impressive.



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**TR: 14**
**Level 4 Pre-test**

Does your food come from a big supermarket? Do you know where it comes from? If not, think about it. Your food choices have an impact on the environment. Buying food grown in your area is better.  Here are a few reasons why:

- It's better for the environment. The less distance food travels to your table, the less pollution it creates. Local food is probably not pre-packaged. As a result, less litter is produced.
- It tastes better. Locally grown produce is fresher. You can get it as soon as it's harvested. Fresh, local food usually contains fewer chemicals, making it more wholesome, which means it's healthier for you.
- It has a positive impact on the local economy. Local food producers can employ more people, who can spend more money locally. Local farms also attract many visitors who spend money in the area, too.
- Finally, if you eat more local food, you will have a more diverse diet. Each season provides different foods.



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