## Day Two

Triathions
Part 1: Tricky phrases and words

$\rightarrow$ Read these phrases and words out loud to your partner.


Everything is structured down to the minute
Sleeping and eating is as important as the training
But what makes triathlons so extreme
They must be careful not to waste all their energy
They must pedal quickly to keep their muscles loose
Triathletes have already had a hard swim
Many athletes take up to 12 hours to finish a full triathlon


| triathlon | treye $\mid$ ATH $\mid$ lon |
| :--- | :--- |
| devoted | duh $\mid$ VOH $\mid$ tid |
| structured | STRUK $\mid$ churd |
| triathlete | treye $\mid$ ATH $\mid$ leet |
| extreme | ek $\mid$ STREEM |
| distance | DIS $\mid$ tinss |
| quickly | KWIK $\mid$ lee |
| professional | pruh $\mid$ FEH $\mid$ shun $\mid$ ul |


marathon
exhausted
MAR | uh | thon
ig | ZAWS | tid

## Decoding practice:

Circlethe base words in the longer words below. Remember, a base word shows the core meaning of a longer word. The base word includes no word endings or prefixes. The first one has been done for you.

| faster | stronger | professional |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| shortest | hardest | quickly |

When athletes train for a triathlon, it can take over their lives. Each day is devoted to getting faster and stronger. "Everything is structured down to the minute," says professional triathlete Tim DeBoom. "Sleeping and eating is as important as the training." But what makes triathlons so extreme?

A full triathlon is made up of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride, and a 26.2-mile run. 69
The swim is the shortest distance. But for many athletes, this is the hardest part. Often, 85
the swim is in open water. The athletes fight the stinging waves. They get slapped and 101
kicked by other swimmers. They must be careful not to waste all their energy on the first 118
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { stage. } & 119\end{array}$

The second stage is the bike ride. Triathletes sprint from the water, dry off, pull on a shirt, 137 socks, and shoes, and hop onto racing bikes. They must pedal quickly to keep their 152 $\begin{array}{ll}\text { muscles loose for the final stage. } & 158\end{array}$

The last stage is the run. Triathletes have already had a hard swim and a long ride. Now 176
they must run 26.2 miles: a full marathon. They eat and drink during the run to keep up 194
their strength. 197

Many athletes take up to 12 hours to finish a full triathlon. By the end, they are exhausted 214 and sore. "The finish is always worth it," says Tim DeBoom. His advice for new 229 triathletes? "Never give up." 233

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion Do you think you might like to try a triathlon someday? Why or why not?
Check in with your partner. What does your partner think?
$\square$ My parther would like to try a triathlon.
My parther would not like to try a triathlon.
What reasons does your partner give?

