## Day Two Cheerleading: A Risky Business

Part 1: Tricky phrases and words

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

- famous people were once cheerleaders
- Routines are highly choreographed
- as cheer becomes more complex
- I was inverted and in the air with nothing to stop me
- How can such frightening accidents happen
- it is considered an activity instead of a sport

tumbling	<b>TUM</b>   bling
gymnastics	jim   NAS   tiks
routines	roo   TEENZ
choreographed	CORE   ee   uh   graft
inverted	in   <b>VER</b>   tid
straight	STRAYT
considered	kun   <b>SID</b>   erd

## Decoding practice:

Circle the 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.

risky	flexible	dangerous
frightening	safety	harmless

Passage 3

ⓒ 🚺 🧐 😑 SERP Institute, 2014-2020

// one minute

## Day Two Cheerleading: A Risky Business Part 2: Last read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

What do Madonna, Lindsay Lohan, and George W. Bush have in common? What about Paula Abdul, Halle Berry, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt? All six of these famous people were once cheerleaders.

In the past, cheerleading was something young men and women did to support		
sports teams. They performed cheers on the sidelines to excite the crowd. Today,	58	
however, cheerleading has changed. It involves tumbling, gymnastics, and dance.	68	
Routines are highly choreographed. Cheerleaders toss each other into the air. They	80	
must be flexible, graceful, and strong. However, as cheer becomes more	91	
complex, it also becomes more dangerous.	97	
An 18-year-old cheerleader named Jessica Smith broke her neck in a stunt. "As	112	
I was thrown into the air, the cheerleader who was supposed to catch me lost his	128	
balance and fell back," she says. "I was inverted and in the air with nothing to stop	145	
me from coming straight down on my head." Jessica can't move properly anymore.	158	
She dropped out of school.	163	
How can such frightening accidents happen? Some people blame old stereotypes	174	
about cheerleading. In many states, it is considered an activity instead of a sport.	188	
Therefore, it has fewer safety rules. "Everyone thought cheerleading was jumping	199	
up and down and screaming to the crowd, which seemed pretty harmless," says	212	
Brenda Shields, an expert on cheerleading injuries. "No one knew how much		
cheerleading had changed."	227	
Part 3: Comprehension and discu" ion		

Are cheerleaders athletes? Explain your answer.

Check in with your partner. What does your partner think?

My partner thinks that cheerleaders