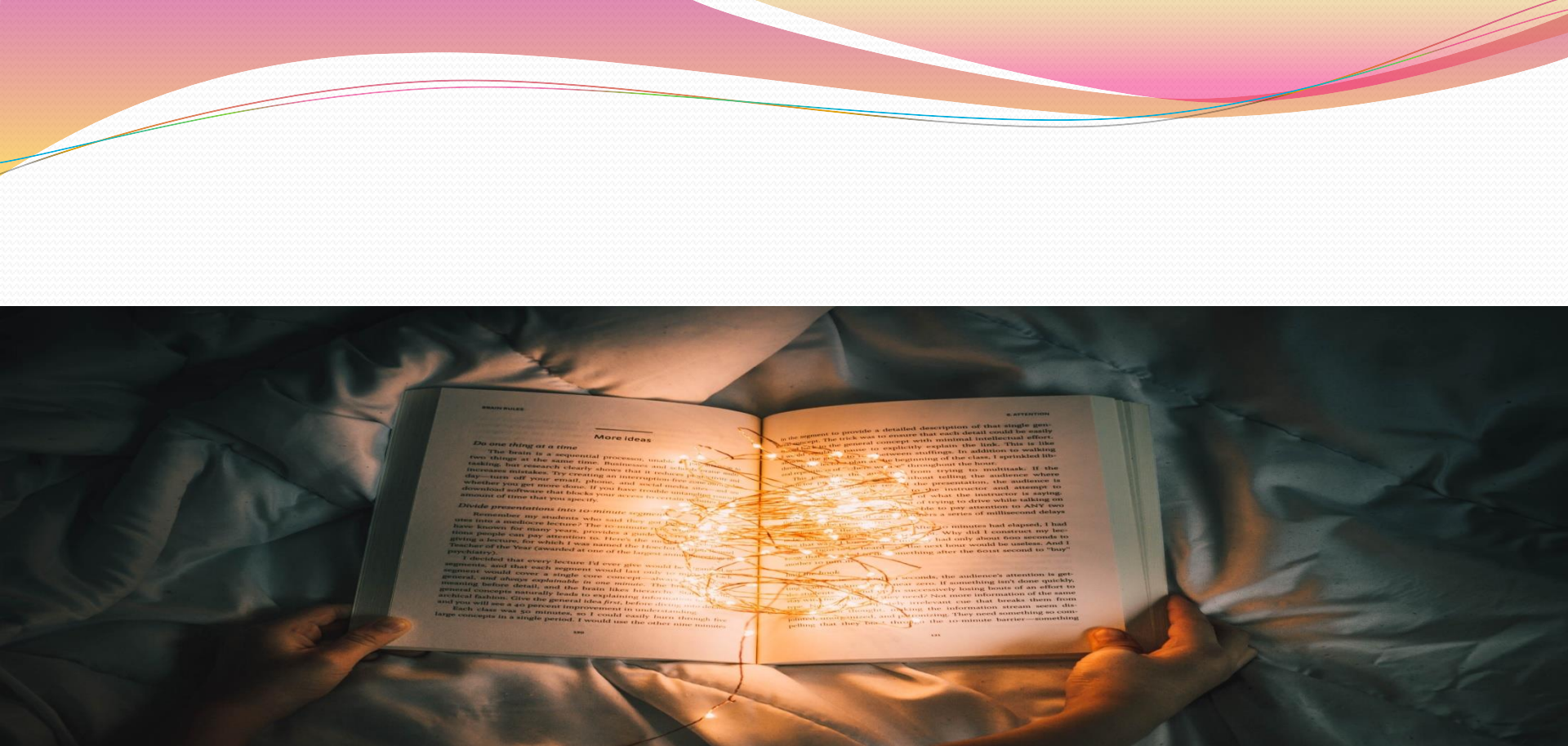


# Unit 2 -Success

## Part Two



# Reading

# a. Discuss

- **What do we mean by record-breaking achievements?**
- **Do you know of or have you heard of any record-breaking achievements?**

**b. Read the text. Choose the correct answer from the following**

**The main aim of the text is**

1. To describe an important event in the history of skydiving
2. To explain what extreme skydrivers go through
3. To compare the lives of Joe Kittinger and Felix Baumgartner
4. To discuss the history and future of skydiving





Felix Baumgartner  
127,851 ft



Joe Kittinger  
102,800 ft



weather balloon  
80,000 ft



Boeing 747  
46,000 ft

## STRATOSPHERE

Mt Everest  
29,029 ft

# Fearless Felix

On 16<sup>th</sup> August, 1960, a man named Joe Kittinger jumped from a height of 102,800 ft (19.5 miles). He fell for 4 minutes and 36 seconds, reaching a top speed of 614 mph before opening his parachute at 18,000 ft. In a matter of minutes, Kittinger had made history. He set records for highest ascent\*, highest parachute jump and fastest velocity\*. 52 years later, Kittinger was first on the list of a highly-experienced crew when skydiver Felix Baumgartner decided to break the record and go even higher.

Felix Baumgartner was born on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 1969 in Salzburg, Austria. He is a professional BASE jumper and skydiver, and has accomplished many amazing **feats**. In 1999, he claimed the world record for the highest parachute jump from a building after **leaping** 1,479 ft from The Petronas Twin Towers in Malaysia, which were the tallest buildings in the world at the time. In 2004, Felix jumped off the highest bridge in the world, the Millau Viaduct in France, from an **altitude** of 1,125 ft. In 2007, Felix jumped to the bottom of the world's second biggest cave, called 'Seating of the Spirits', located in Oman. The depth of the cave (only 395 ft) and its tube-like shape made this challenge seem impossible. Felix, however, jumped into pitch darkness and landed unhurt six seconds later with only two seconds to open his parachute!

Before attempting the highest skydive

on record, Felix had made two successful stratosphere\* test jumps from 71,581 ft and 96,650 ft. Weather conditions on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2012 were perfect as the helium balloon and capsule\* moved upwards into the sky. However, when it reached 62,000 ft, Felix reported that his visor heater wasn't working **properly**. The ground crew briefly considered **aborting** the mission, but decided to continue. It took him two and a half hours to climb to 127,851 ft (over 24 miles) and as he prepared to jump, Kittinger told him via radio, 'OK, we're getting serious now, Felix.'

Along with the many dangers of skydiving, the main fear for Felix was what would happen to his body if he broke the sound barrier at 768 mph. No human had travelled faster than the speed of sound before without a vehicle. 8,000,000 people were watching the live stream on **YouTube** as Felix looked down at the Earth below him and said, 'I'm coming home.' Then he jumped. After 42 seconds of freefall, he reached a top speed of 843.6 mph. Soon after, the atmosphere became thicker and slowed him down a little. Approximately four minutes later, he opened his parachute and was safely back on the ground eleven minutes after leaving the capsule. Felix had once again succeeded, therefore proving his ability to achieve his goals. Felix broke three records and gained international **fame**. What will his **passion** make him do next?

## C. Read the text again. Which of the following statements is True (T), False (F), or Not Mentioned (NM).

1. Joe Kittinger held three world records for 52 years.
2. Felix still holds the record for the highest parachute jump from a building.
3. Felix's jump into the cave lasted for 8 seconds.
4. Felix was forced to cancel his jump on 14 th October 2012 because of a problem with his equipment.
5. Felix had no contact with the ground crew when he reached 127,851 ft.
6. Felix travelled faster than the speed of sound while falling.
7. The Earth's atmosphere made Felix travel more slowly.
8. Felix's jump from space lasted 11 minutes.
9. Felix is now planing his next breathtaking feat.

## d. Look at the highlighted words in the text and match them with their meanings

1. Feat
  2. Leap
  3. Altitude
  4. Properly
  5. Abort
  6. Fame
  7. passion
- a. The height above sea level
  - b. Correctly, right
  - c. An achievement
  - d. The success and attention you get when being famous
  - e. To jump
  - f. To stop an activity or plan before completing it



BUILDING A BETTER  
VOCABULARY





a. Look at the nouns below from the text.  
Which adjective do they derive from?

**Darkness -**

**Ability -**

**Height -**

**Depth -**

## b. Read the notes and complete the tables.

Some nouns are formed by adding the suffix **-ness** or **-ity** to an adjective.  
e.g. sad- **sadness**, active- **activity**

Adjective	Noun
Lazy	
Creative	
Popular	
Aware	
Responsible	
Weak	
Kind	
Similar	

Some nouns have an irregular formation.

<b>Adjective or Verb</b>	<b>Noun</b>
Weigh	
	Strength
Dead/ die	
	Belief
Relieve	
	Anger
	Thought
	Growth
Famous	



**Listening**





Speaking

**Imagine your university/ neighborhood is planning to expand its facilities. Behind the university/neighborhood is an area of open ground which will be turned into one of the two options shown below. You are a member of the committee and have been asked to share your opinion.**

**Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each option, using the ideas in the box and the words given.**

CAFETERIA with an  
outdoor patio

An indoor swimming pool

### **Talk about:**

- The cost needed to build/maintain
- How appealing it is to university students/inhabitants
- What students can do there
- How the weather affects it
- How it can improve students/inhabitants' lives

Pay for maintenance      (un)appealing      socialise      enjoyable  
relax      enrgising      beneficial      escape from routine  
wheather dependent      saty in shape

## **Opening a discussion**

To begin with,...

First, we need to discuss...

Let's start by talking/thinking about...

The important thing (here) is...

The main thing we need to discuss is...

initially, we have to taking into consideration the...

## **Supporting a discussion**

I believe... is a good idea because...

There are several reasons why I believethis. The first is... would provide...

The reason I think... is more appealing to students/inhabitants because...

One of the advantages/disadvantages of... is...

I think... would be the most appropriate/suitable option for... as many...

## **Expressing contrast**

On the other hand,...

However/ nevertheless,...

Very true, but...

You might be right, but...





**Record your self expressing your opinion.  
Send it to the following account**

[ibtissambentaleb88@gmail.com](mailto:ibtissambentaleb88@gmail.com)



# Writing

## **a. Discuss.**

If you were an athlete, would you like to be a professional athlete? why why not?

**B. Read the writing task and underline the key words. Then read the essay and answer the following question.**

**- You are supposed to write an essay on the following topic:**

**what are the advantages and disadvantages of being a professional athlete?**

Being a professional athlete requires a lot of effort and devotion. Many people consider it to be a dream career, **while** others disagree.

It is not difficult to see the benefits of being a professional athlete. **To begin with**, the main advantage is earning a huge income doing something you enjoy, as well as earning money from advertising products. **In addition**, most athletes enjoy fame and at the same time act as role models for thousands of people. **Moreover**, there are excellent opportunities for athletes to travel around the world as they can take part in different worldwide events and competitions.

**However**, there are also certain disadvantages to being a professional athlete. **Firstly**, there is a huge amount of stress involved, as any failure means disappointment for you, your coach, your team and your fans. **Secondly**, there is the lack of spare time, as athletes need to devote all their time and energy to demanding training. **Besides that**, extensive travel makes family life difficult. **Last but not least**, there is the issue of injuries. If a professional athlete gets injured, it could mean the end of his or her career.

**On the whole**, I believe the advantages outweigh the disadvantages. The way I see it, being a professional athlete is difficult, but rewarding. Those who have natural talent should not let it go to waste. They should turn professional.





c. Look at the highlighted words/phrases in the essay and use them to complete the table below

LINKING WORDS/ PHRASES	
Listing/Adding points	....., first of all, in the first place,.....,....., what is more,.....,....., furthermore, apart from that, also,....., finally, lastly,.....
Expressing contrast	....., but,....., on the other hand,.....
Summing up	To sum up, in conclusion, all in all,.....



# Sources

## **Books**

Malkogianni, Marileni and H.Q. Mitchell. Pioneer: Intermediate B1- Student's Book. Mm Publications, 2016.