Dependent Prepositions | Nouns – Open Cloze

A. Discuss the questions with a partner.

1. Do you enjoy playing games?
2. What is the difference between a sport and a game?
3. Look at the activities below. Would you consider them sports or games? Why?

poker	chess	darts	pool
archery	fencing	eSports	bowling

B. For questions 1-10, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

Darts is a game that is played in pubs and bars worldwide. However, many people do not see darts as a sport, but instead as a casual activity. This perception is due to a lack (1) _____ understanding and familiarity (2) _____ darts as a competitive game.

One reason for the opposition (3) _____ recognising darts as a sport is the association with excessive drinking. Although darts has traditionally been played in places that serve alcohol, it is important to separate the game from its surroundings. Considering darts a sport should not be influenced by the environment where it is played.

Another factor is the concern (4) _____ the lack of proper facilities. Some people argue that not everyone has the opportunity to play darts in a professional setting, which lowers its status as a sport. However, access (5) _____ state-of-the-art facilities should not be the only determining factor in defining an activity as a sport.

Moreover, the emphasis (6) _____ rules and techniques also plays a role. People's knowledge (7) _____ the game is often limited, leading to false impressions about its skill requirements. Increasing public awareness is the solution (8) _____ eliminating these misunderstandings.

Darts is more than just a pub game. Despite players' pride (9) _____ its casual roots, it has the characteristics of a sport: skill, strategy, and competition. Perhaps there is a fear (10) _____ allowing darts to be considered a sport because other games could also cross that boundary. If that is the case, then let's give all these strategic games the recognition they really deserve as sports.

C. Write a short text about another game that could be considered a sport. For every dependent preposition, leave a gap. Then exchange with a partner and test their knowledge.

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ANSWER KEY

A.

Answers will vary, but there is an argument that any of these should be considered a sport. Archery and fencing are both Olympic sports, while all the others also have global competitions.

B.

1. of
2. with
3. to
4. about / over
5. to
6. on
7. of / about
8. to
9. in
10. of

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