

We are going to talk about leisure activities. Before we start we must first define what it actually means. These are all the activities that we do in our free time when we don't have to think about our business, work and obligations. There are some exceptions when some people do work-oriented tasks for pleasure such as cooking. These activities include hobbies, sports, different entertainment such as cinema, theatre, television etc.

Leisure activities are important so people can relax and forget about their problems, but also to socialize with other people and maintain contacts through various activities.

We will now further exploit different kinds of activities that people normally do to occupy their free time. Leisure is usually referenced to **hobbies**. A hobby is a regular activity or interest that is undertaken for pleasure. Here is just a short list of group of hobbies (prebere s pp).

Most notable hobby is probably collecting. People collect various items such as stamps, coins, trading cards, comics, badges, postcards, DVDs...

There are also outdoor recreation hobbies such as hill walking, hiking, backpacking, canoeing, climbing, caving, etc.

Performing arts include singing, acting, juggling, magic, dancing etc.

Creative hobbies are for example woodworking, photography, moviemaking, jewelry making etc. Beside these traditional hobbies there are now hobbies that are becoming more and more popular such as photoshoping and home video production.

Work oriented hobbies are cooking, gardening, hunting fishing...

I would personally include reading in the previous category, but I think that many don't think that reading counts as work☺.

Entertainment is all the activities that entertain people in any way. People have different aspects of what **entertainment** is. It actually depends on the person and what amuses and entertains him or her. Here is just a short list of what counts as entertainment: (prebere s pp).

People nowadays usually occupy their time with watching television or playing computer meaning any activity done on a computer whether it means surfing on the internet, playing videogames, watching a movie or just listening to music.

People also go watch movies to the cinema, which is more about spending time with your friends than the actual movie. More old-fashioned form of cinema is the theatre, but it's not as popular as it was use to especially between young folk.

As we already told earlier reading books or comics also counts as entertainment. Comics are especially popular among youngsters.

Many people find involvement in social dance to be entertaining. This includes going in various discothèques or clubs, where meeting with friends and drinking is almost always a necessity.

Games include board games such as Monopoly or (Ludo) Človek, ne jezi se, gambling, card games, children's games like Tag and hide-and-seek and computer games etc. Games are usually the best entertainment for children.

Sport is in my opinion one of the most common form of entertainment especially among male population. One can be entertained either by viewing a sport as spectator on the television or live in stadiums and arenas OR by participating himself.

Popularity of sports depends on the culture or tradition of the individual country. For example in the USA the most popular sports for both spactating and playing are baseball, American football, basketball and Ice hockey whereas in Slovenia American football and baseball are not very popular in contrast to Football and Basketball. This has all been changing in the last few years as Football is becoming more and more popular in the USA as well as American football in Slovenia or in other parts of Europe. Britain also has its unique sports such as cricket and rugby. Football is by far the most popular sport on the planet.

Sport may be professional or amateur. One can do sport for entertainment or for his/her body health. There are many different sports from winter sports to ball sports, individual or team, no contact or full contact sport. It occupies free time of people all ages and gender, all cultures and nationalities no matter how different they really are.

In conclusion we would like to say that our free time is very important because it relieves us from our duties and we forget about our stress that is part of our everyday life. No matter what kind of leisure activities we do the point is that we enjoy them and relax.