



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Champion's Mindset

*An activity of "Max goes for the max in 24-hour endurance race"*

Read "Max goes for the max in 24-hour endurance race" (page 25, *What's Up* July 2026). This article describes how Formula One (F1) world champion Max Verstappen challenged himself to complete a totally different type of race.

1. Complete the following cloze passage that highlights the difference between an F1 race and the Nürburgring endurance race that Max Verstappen took part in.

Both the F1 race and the Nürburgring endurance race involve fast cars but they are very (i) \_\_\_\_\_ sports. While the F1 race lasts only a few hours, the Nürburgring race lasts for an (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ 24 hours. In F1, Max Verstappen drove (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ but in the Nürburgring race, Max took turns driving the same car with several team (iv) \_\_\_\_\_. While the F1 cars he drove were specially designed racing cars, the endurance cars he drove were modified (v) \_\_\_\_\_ of high-performance road cars. Winning an F1 race (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ greatly on speed, quick decision-making, and individual driving skill. On top of that, endurance racing also requires careful planning, ensuring the car remains reliable for the entire race, and for the drivers to work well as a (vii) \_\_\_\_\_. The Nürburgring is famous for being one of the world's most (viii) \_\_\_\_\_ racetracks because of the many bends, rough road (ix) \_\_\_\_\_ and changing conditions. Max Verstappen's team led the race for more than 20 hours before a broken driveshaft (x) \_\_\_\_\_ them to retire from the competition. Although they did not win the race, Max still enjoyed the experience because he enjoyed the challenge of trying something (xi) \_\_\_\_\_. The article reminds us that success is not just about (xii) \_\_\_\_\_ but also about perseverance, teamwork, and resilience.

2. Read the following slogans. Tick (✓) three that speak to you.

|  |                           |  |                          |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|
|  | One more step.            |  | Stronger than yesterday. |
|  | Finish well.              |  | Keep moving forward.     |
|  | Progress, not perfection. |  | Grow through storms.     |
|  | Never settle.             |  | Better together.         |
|  | Keep showing up.          |  | Learn. Adapt. Grow.      |
|  | Built, not born.          |  | Choose courage.          |
|  | Stand again.              |  | More than speed.         |

3. Discuss with a partner:

- Which slogan do you like the most? Why?
- Which one would be the hardest to live out? Why?
- Which one do you think is often misunderstood? Why?

4. Imagine you are selecting an athlete for your dream sports team.

| Team for<br><br>Rank these qualities →<br>from 1 (most important)<br>to 6 (least important).<br><br>There is no one “correct”<br>ranking. Different<br>sports/challenges and<br>situations may require<br>different strengths. | Quality    | Rank |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Talent     |      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Practice   |      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Teamwork   |      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Resilience |      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Confidence |      |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Discipline |      |

5. Compare your rankings with your partner. Pick two qualities that you ranked differently from your partner. Why did you rank them as such? Think of a real-life example that shows how these two qualities matters.

6. Complete the following sentence:

*“Sometimes success is not just about winning. It is also about \_\_\_\_\_*  
*\_\_\_\_\_.”*