

## History of Skateboarding Video Comprehension - Answers

Watch this video and answer the questions:

The history of the skateboard [https://youtu.be/3YIP4O\\_t4kg](https://youtu.be/3YIP4O_t4kg)

### Late 1940's/Early 1950's

Why did surfers invent skateboards? How did they make them?

Because they were bored when there weren't any waves to surf on

They took the wheels off roller skates and fixed them onto wooden boards

### 1960's

What are the two things mentioned that show how popular skateboarding was during the 60's?

There were contests everywhere and the first sponsored skateboarders started to emerge.

### 1970's

How did the urethane wheel change skateboarding?

It allowed skaters to ride on rougher ground and at faster speeds

What weather event resulted in the new trend of "pool skating" in Southern California and how did this impact the way people skateboarded?

A serious drought meant that people had to empty their swimming pools. Skateboarders used the empty pools which meant they were no longer only skating on flat surfaces and confined to "parking lots and sidewalks"

### 1980s

What three things mentioned indicated a **Renaissance** in skateboarding?

the invention of new tricks, pros were earning unheard of amounts of money and skateboarder owned companies were thriving

What do you understand by the term "vert"?

\*Vert is short for "vertical" and is the term used for skating parks with ramps, halfpipes and bowls allowing skateboarders to be more aerial.

\*NOTE – this explanation is not given by the narrator but students might be able to work out the answer from the visuals in the video.

### 1990's

Can you name three of the four different places mentioned that street skateboarders use when street skating?

stairs, handrails, benches, curbs

### TODAY

The narrator says that skateboarding was traditionally thought of as being for underdogs, outcasts, misfits.

These are three synonyms, with similar, but not the same meanings. What is the shared sense of their meaning?

They are all types of people and they have a negative connotation. People who for different reasons don't fit in socially. Here are the definitions given by Cambridge Learner's dictionary:

**Underdog:** the person or team that is expected to lose a race or competition

**Outcast:** someone who is not accepted by society because they are different to most other people

**Misfit:** someone with strange or unusual behaviour who is not accepted by other people

For this exercise it may help students to separate the nouns into two parts e.g. **under-dog, out-cast** and **mis-fit** noting that **under, out** and particularly **mis-** which is a common suffix, can sometimes be used in prefix/compound forms to give a negative sense:

Underling (noun)

Outlaw (noun)

Misfortune (noun)

Underachiever (noun)

Outsider (noun)

Mistreat (verb)

Underpaid (adjective)

Outplay (verb)

Misunderstood (adjective)

Note: underdog and outcast are both examples of compound nouns (nouns made up of two words which go together) and misfit is a noun with a negative prefix.



Check your answers using the Infographic.

All the answers are included in the infographic. This is also an opportunity to look at some unfamiliar vocabulary.

**Discussion**

As a final discussion on the video, ask the students to give their opinion on the video, if they liked the animation, was it interesting/informative.

**Optional writing task:** students can create a time-line based on the history of one of their own hobbies/interests to present to the rest of the class.