

## Calculating and comparing risk

### Activity sheet – Comparing risks

Activity	Risk of death	
scuba diving	1 in 200 000	dives
fairground rides	1 in 834 000 000	rides
rock climbing	1 in 320 000	climbs
canoeing	1 in 750 000	outings
hang-gliding	1 in 116 000	flights
walking	1 in 27 174 000	journeys
cycling	1 in 7 670 000	journeys
motorcycling	1 in 650 200	journeys
air travel	1 in 125 000 000	journeys
rail travel	1 in 43 000 000	journeys

When doing any activity there are benefits as well as risks. People need to make their own decisions to balance the benefits of an activity against the risks.

- 1 Is any activity risk free?
- 2 a) Which is the safest activity?  
b) Which activity is the most dangerous?
- 3 Suggest reasons why walking is not a risk free activity.
- 4 Rock-climbing and rail travel are not 100% risk-free.  
a) Should rock climbing and rail travel be banned?  
b) Give reasons for your answer.
- 5 Complete the table below. Add more activities. Write 'yes' or 'no' in the final column.

Activity	Benefit			Risk			Is the risk acceptable to me?
	High	Medium	Low	High	Medium	Low	
walking							
cycling							
smoking							
air travel							
swimming in a swimming pool							
swimming in the sea							
swimming in a river							