



“15 Minutes of Free Fall Required Years of Taming Scientific Challenges”

Link to text below

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/10/27/science/for-world-record-alan-eustace-fought-atmosphere-and-equipment.html?ref=science>

Vocabulary

Match the vocabulary on the left with their meanings on the right.

To plummet	Made at home, rather than a factory
To descend	Impossible to do successfully
To be insurmountable	To fall straight down from a high position
A hurdle	To lift something to a higher position
To hoist	Fall quickly from a high position
To ascend	To rise into the air.
A plunge	To become lower, to go down
Home-brew	A problem you must solve

Questions

True or False; read the following statements and, based on the text decide if they are true or false.

1. Google sent Mr. Eustace to the edge of space as part of his job as senior vice president.
2. Mr. Eustace has worked in the computer and technology industry for many years.
3. There were many challenges that the Stratosphere Explorer team had to face right from the beginning in 2011.
4. There was disagreement about how much more it would cost than Felix Baumgartner's jump.
5. In order to prevent “the bends” when going up, Eustace had to breathe oxygen before.
6. A key to preventing spin, and keeping Eustace stable while descending, was the use of a drogue parachute.
7. The descent Eustace made back down to earth was gentle, like a boat cruising on the sea.