1 READING

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1 The snowboarders travel to Laax Crap based on the advice of the snowboard shop guy in Verbier, Switzerland.
2 They are shocked and awed by its size. Later they said, 'Laax rocks!'
3 Swiss Germans were friendlier and drink about ten times as much.

2 IDIOMS

A1 snap out of something
A2 gain a reputation for
A3 give something a go
A4 pull someone's leg
A5 not judge a book by its cover
A6 make a mental note of something

B1 Why don't you give surfing a go? You'll like it.
B2 Ron quickly gained a reputation for drinking too much.
B3 You're pulling my leg. Nobody can hold their breath for six minutes.
B4 I made a mental note of what she said in case she denied it later.
B5 Hey! Snap out of it! You almost stepped in front of that bus.
B6 You can't judge a book by its cover. He's not as mean as he looks.

3 IN THE POWDER

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lift station
Mammoth Mountain (major snowboarding resort)
mountain
(rockin') park
rockin' = cool, very good
park = short for snowboard park, a outdoor complex designed for snowboarders with equipment for doing snowboard tricks
peak
(good) pipe
pipe = half-pipe, a semi-circular slope designed for snowboarding aerial tricks
powder
resort
ride
snowboard magazine
snowboard shop
vertical (metres) = height
Whistler Blackcomb (ski resort)