



Paweł Smejko is a Polish skydiver and a wind tunnel instructor at the FreeFlyCenter in Leszno. He is one of the first Polish wind tunnel instructors. He has more than 20 years skydiving experience. Paweł has spent countless hours in the air, and he does not plan to stop any time soon.

countless | niezliczony

have time to take it all in. All of a sudden, you're float- ing through space with the instructor. The actual jump is an unforgettable experience. It's definitely something to try once in a lifetime.

**EM:** Experienced jumpers often perform stunts while free falling. How do you steer your body in mid-air? Can you compare it to swimming?

**PS:** For those who are just starting out in the sport, the sight of the instructors is enormously impressive. They glide through the sky so gracefully, it looks more like a fluid dance than walking or swimming. It all looks so easy! In fact, controlling the

flight takes preparation and experience. Jumpers work on their technique in wind tunnels – learning to steer with their bodies, how to change direction and control their height.

**EM:** Banzai Skydiving – where you throw your parachute out of the plane, wait for a bit and then jump out to get it back – is that an urban legend or an actual variant of skydiving?

**PS:** It's an urban legend, or something from a science fiction film. Honestly, no one jumps like that. There aren't really different varieties of jumping. Of course, there can be exceptions to the rule. There are people looking for

new, crazy experiences, and sometimes what you thought was impossible turns out to be possible.

**EM:** Is there anything you'd like to say to encourage those who have concerns about skydiving, either in a wind tunnel or real parachuting?

**PS:** I'd just like to encourage everyone to try flying in a wind tunnel. In particular, those who are scared of jumping with a parachute can experience it in a controlled environment under the care of qualified instructors. Anyone who's braver should come and try out a tandem jump, because it's an experience worth having. //

to take sth in | pojąć coś, ogarnąć  
all of a sudden | znenacka, nagle  
to float | unosić się  
unforgettable ,ʌnfə'getəbl  
,ʌnfə'getəbl | niezapomniany  
definitely | zdecydowanie  
to perform sth | wykonywać coś  
stunt | wyczyn

sight saɪt | widok  
enormously | wielce  
to glide | sunąć  
flight | lot  
height haɪt | wysokość  
to throw sth out of sth  
| wyrzucać coś z czegoś  
urban 'ʊ:bən 'ɜ:rbən | miejski  
actual | prawdziwy  
honestly | szczerze

exception | wyjątek  
to look for sth | szukać czegoś  
to turn out | okazywać się  
to encourage sb | zachęcać kogoś  
concern | obawa  
either...or... | tu: zarówno... jak i...  
in particular | zwłaszcza  
brave | odwazny  
worth sth | wart/y czegoś