

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



# Grammar in the News

## Most Olympic Gold Medals in 2,000 Years

- **Complete the paragraph by circling the correct words.**

More than 2,000 years ago, a Greek man called Leonidas of Rhodes, competed in the Olympic Games and (1)\_\_\_\_\_ three first-place crowns. He repeated these victories during the following three Olympic Games, and twelve years later, (2)\_\_\_\_\_ the age of 36, he (3)\_\_\_\_\_ won a total of 12 crowns. This record lasted (4)\_\_\_\_\_ the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil when Michael Phelps, 31 years old, won his (5)\_\_\_\_\_ gold medal for an individual sport. Unlike Leonidas, (6)\_\_\_\_\_ was a runner, Michael Phelps is a swimmer. Also, Michael Phelps (7)\_\_\_\_\_ Greek, he is an American. Amazingly, (8)\_\_\_\_\_ to the 12 gold medals he has so far won, Phelps has won 10 more Olympic gold medals in relay competitions (for a total of 22 golds). He began swimming (9)\_\_\_\_\_ he was 7 years old and he became one of the (10)\_\_\_\_\_ ever swimmers on an American Olympic team when he was only 15 years old. Before he was 16 years old, (11)\_\_\_\_\_ 2001, he had broken a world swimming record. He stands at 6 feet four inches tall (193 cm), and one of his nicknames (12)\_\_\_\_\_ 'the Flying Fish'.

1.

- (A) win  
(B) won  
(C) winning

2.

- (A) in  
(B) on  
(C) at

3.

- (A) have  
(B) had  
(C) having

4.

- (A) until  
(B) before  
(C) afterwards

5.

- (A) twelves  
(B) twelve  
(C) twelfth

6.

- (A) who  
(B) where  
(C) what

7.

- (A) aren't  
(B) doesn't  
(C) isn't

8.

- (A) in addition  
(B) addition  
(C) additional

9.

- (A) how  
(B) when  
(C) who

10.

- (A) youngest  
(B) young  
(C) younger

11.

- (A) at  
(B) in  
(C) on

12.

- (A) are  
(B) does  
(C) is

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# Most Olympic Gold Medals

## Vocabulary Practice



- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

- |                |              |  |
|----------------|--------------|--|
| 1. compete     | <u>  E  </u> | A. different from  |
| 2. crown       | _____        | B. a written document to show what happened before       |
| 3. victory     | _____        | C. a kind of team sport with several people              |
| 4. record      | _____        | D. one single person; not with other people              |
| 5. individual  | _____        | E. to play a game or sport with another person or team   |
| 6. unlike      | _____        | F. a kind of fish that can jump out of the water and fly |
| 7. relay       | _____        | G. the act of winning                                    |
| 8. flying fish | _____        | H. a gold or silver object worn on the head              |

- Use the above words to complete the sentences. Use Past Tense when necessary.

1. Canada is a cold country. It's \_\_\_\_\_ Mexico.
2. I am going to \_\_\_\_\_ in a spelling competition next week.
3. A strong army can help to achieve \_\_\_\_\_ in war.
4. Some \_\_\_\_\_ can fly for almost a minute.
5. There are four people on our \_\_\_\_\_ team.
6. Kings and queens sometimes wear a gold \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Baseball isn't an \_\_\_\_\_ sport. It's a team sport.
8. The oldest person written about on \_\_\_\_\_ was 122 years old.

- Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

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# Most Olympic Gold Medals



## How Much Do You Understand?

● **Write 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) next to each statement.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Leonidas was 12 years old when he won an Olympic crown.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Leonidas competed in three Olympic Games.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Michael Phelps has won more than 20 Olympic gold medals.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Michael Phelps won a gold medal when he was only 7 years old.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Michael Phelps is very tall.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ The article says Michael Phelps loves to eat fish.

## Discuss

● **Discuss the following questions with your classmates.**

1. What is your favorite sport? Why?
2. Is it important to learn how to swim? Why? / Why not?
3. Should students play more sports in school? Why? / Why not?

## Write

● **Choose one of the above discussion questions. Write a short paragraph to answer it.**

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**Headline** 'Most Olympic Gold Medals in 2000 years'**Grammar Focus** Mixed (includes past perfect tense)**Level** Upper Intermediate – CEFR B2**ANSWER KEY** Page 1*My Notes*

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 7. C  |
| 2. C | 8. A  |
| 3. B | 9. B  |
| 4. A | 10. A |
| 5. C | 11. B |
| 6. A | 12. C |

**ANSWER KEY** Page 2**ANSWER KEY** Page 3● **Vocabulary**

- |      |                |
|------|----------------|
| 1. E | 1. unlike      |
| 2. H | 2. compete     |
| 3. G | 3. victory     |
| 4. B | 4. flying fish |
| 5. D | 5. relay       |
| 6. A | 6. crown       |
| 7. C | 7. individual  |
| 8. F | 8. record      |

● **How Much Do You Understand?**

1. F (*He probably first won a crown when he was 24.*)
2. F (*He competed in 4 Olympic Games over 12 years.*)
3. T
4. F (*He first began to swim at the age of 7.*)
5. T
6. F (*The article says his nickname is 'the Flying Fish'.*)

**News Sources:**

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