

SPEAKING & VOCABULARY: sport

- 1 Work in pairs. Match at least one sport to each verb.

catch hit jump kick
pass run serve throw

athletics baseball boxing football
gymnastics rugby volleyball waterpolo

- 2 Can you think of one more sport for each verb?
- 3  2.26 Listen to someone describing how to play a sport. Which sport is the person talking about?
- 4 Now choose a different sport and describe it using the verbs in exercise 1.
- 5 Work in groups. Look at the sports in exercise 1 and discuss the questions.
- Which two sports are the most popular in your country?
 - Which two sports is your country best at?
 - Which two are the most enjoyable to do?
 - Which two are the most interesting to watch?

READING

- 1 Read the article about a world champion sportswoman and answer the questions.

- 1 What sport does she compete in?
- 2 Is she famous in her home country?

- 2 Read the article again. Which topic 1–6 is not mentioned in the article?

- 1 Louise's sporting successes
- 2 why Louise chose paragliding
- 3 why it is important to be accepted as an Olympic sport
- 4 the process for acceptance as an Olympic sport
- 5 sports which have recently become Olympic sports
- 6 Louise's paragliding ambitions

Louise's Olympic dream

Louise Crandal has been named **European Champion twice** and has won the **Women's World Cup on two successive occasions**. Louise's sport is one of a small number of sports where men and women sometimes compete together. In 1998, she was awarded her first international championship gold medal in Argentina, beating all the men to do so. But despite her huge success, hardly anyone has heard of her.



- 15 ■ The reason lies with her chosen sport: paragliding. If she were a swimmer or a gymnast, Louise would be a household name. However, she fell in love with paragliding and not athletics. She first discovered the sport in 1992 when she was working in Switzerland as a waitress. Three years later, she entered her first competition.
- 20 ■ Paragliding first became popular in the 1970s and it is estimated that there are already 400,000 paragliders in Europe alone. The first world championships were held in 1979 and paragliding schools can now be found around the world. Paragliders say that they do their sport simply for the love of flying, but the World Paragliding Association is busy trying to
- 25 get the sport accepted as an Olympic sport. This will immediately make paragliding even more popular. It will help athletes to find sponsors and it will attract more people to the air.
- 30 ■ To be accepted as an Olympic event, a sport must be played in at least 75 countries on at least four continents (for women's sports 45 countries on three continents). The new sports that have been introduced in recent Olympic Games reflect changing fashions around the world. Snowboarding was introduced in Nagano in 1998, and the first Olympic Taekwondo

- 3 Complete the sentences with words from the article.

- 1 Can you name two athletes who are h_____ names in your country?
- 2 In which sport would you like to c_____ in the Olympic Games?
- 3 What was the last sporting e_____ that you went to?
- 4 Which companies are the best-known s_____ of sport in your country?

- 4 Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions in exercise 3.

competitions were held in Sydney in 2000. Air sports such as paragliding, hang-gliding and skydiving are becoming increasingly popular. Official competitions for paragliding are held in more and more countries each year, and there is reason to hope that paragliding will be added to the Olympic list before long.

When that happens, Louise will finally become a household name – at least in her native Denmark. But in the meantime, what will she be doing when the Olympics are being shown on TV? The one thing she enjoys most, of course: flying.



GRAMMAR: passive

1 Complete the table with examples from the article.

active	passive
present simple <i>They hold official competitions.</i>	(1) Official competitions _____.
present continuous <i>They are showing the Olympics on TV.</i>	(2) The Olympics _____.
past simple <i>They introduced snowboarding.</i>	(3) Snowboarding _____.
present perfect <i>They have named Louise European champion.</i>	(4) Louise _____.
future simple <i>They will add paragliding to the Olympic list.</i>	(5) Paragliding _____.
modal verbs <i>People must play a sport.</i>	(6) A sport _____.

2 Choose the correct form to complete the sentences.

- Where *did the first modern Olympics hold / were the first modern Olympics held* in 1896?
- How many times *have the Olympics cancelled / have the Olympics been cancelled* because of war?
- Approximately how many gold medals *are awarded / award* at the Olympics?
- Which country *has won / has been won* the most gold medals since the Olympics started?
- How many different sports *can watch / can be watched* at the Olympics?
- When *did the Olympics see / were the Olympics seen* on TV for the first time?
- How many people *watch / are watched* the Olympics on TV?
- Which sport *introduced / was introduced* as an Olympic event in 1996?
- When *did the Olympic flag use / was the Olympic flag used* for the first time?

3 Match the answers in the box to the questions in exercise 2. Check your answers on page 129. Now turn the answers into full sentences.

Athens	beach volleyball	the United States
3	28	300
1920	1960	4 billion

- The first modern Olympics were held in Athens.*
- Work in pairs. Write three similar quiz questions about sports in your country. Use passives where possible. Then test your classmates.

Use the passive

- to talk about an action when the agent (the person or thing that does the action) is unknown or unimportant.
- to emphasize what happened rather than who did it.

If we want to name the agent, we use *by*.

*The modern Olympics were started **by** Pierre de Frédy.*

(We only name the agent when the information is important or unusual.)

Make the passive with the appropriate tense of the verb *to be* + past participle.

*How **are** Olympic sports **chosen**?*

*The 2008 games **are being held** in China.*

*Tickets **must be bought** a long time in advance.*

➤ SEE LANGUAGE REFERENCE PAGE 114

VOCABULARY: nouns & adjectives (describing people)

- 1 Match the adjectives in the box to the sentences.

agile ambitious determined enthusiastic
intelligent powerful ruthless talented

- 1 He will not let anything stop him from doing what he has decided to do.
- 2 He's always really interested in and excited by his sport.
- 3 I've never known anyone who wants so much to be successful.
- 4 She can really move very quickly and very easily.
- 5 She has so much natural ability.
- 6 She is very, very strong.
- 7 She thinks clearly and quickly.
- 8 The only thing that is important to him is success. He doesn't mind if other people suffer in the process.

- 2 Make nouns from the adjectives in exercise 1. Use a dictionary to help you.

agile agility

- 3 Work with a partner. Discuss these questions.

- Think of a well-known sports personality. Which of the words in exercises 1 and 2 can you use to describe this person?
- What special qualities do you think children need to become very successful at sport?


READING & LISTENING

- 1 Read the article below about a child sports star. Choose the best summary 1–3 of the article.


- 1 An Olympic gymnast wants her parents to get divorced.
- 2 An Olympic gymnast wants her parents to give her more money.
- 3 An Olympic gymnast wants to be able to control her own life.

- 2 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.

- What sacrifices do you think Dominique has had to make to become an Olympic star?
- Do you think that winning an Olympic medal is worth all these sacrifices?

- 3  2.27 Listen to a psychologist talking about child sports stars and answer these questions.

- 1 Which two sports do they talk about?
- 2 Does the psychologist think the child star phenomenon is a positive one? Why or why not?

- 4  2.27 Listen to the interview again and put the points below in the order they are mentioned.

- Child sports stars can have health problems when they get older.
- Child sports stars do not have a normal childhood.
- It's important for tennis players to be successful before they are sixteen.
- Sometimes, it is the parents of the sports star who get the money.
- Sports stars are getting younger and younger.
- The first child sports stars appeared in the 1970s.

Olympic gymnast calls for a divorce

A teenage gymnast who won an Olympic gold medal for the USA wants a 'divorce' from her parents.

Dominique Moceanu, seventeen, wants to be legally declared an adult to stop her parents having any control over her or her money. 'I kill myself training and going to school,' said Moceanu. 'They haven't been working since 1996. Where does their income come from? Me.'

She added that the problems were more than just about money. 'I never had a childhood,' she said. 'I always had to be in the gym. I used to think, 'Don't you guys know anything besides gymnastics? Can't you be my mom and dad instead of me being your business?'



GRAMMAR: verbs with two objects

Some verbs can have two objects: an indirect object and a direct object.

	indirect object	direct object
His parents bought	him	a tennis racket.
The judges gave	Nadia	ten points.

You can also put the direct object immediately after the verb. You need a preposition (*to* or *for*) before the indirect object.

*His parents bought a tennis racket **for** him.*

*The judges gave ten points **to** Nadia.*

Note that in passive sentences both the direct and indirect objects can become the subject of the sentence.

active:

Her dad taught her the basics of the game at a very young age.

passive 1: indirect object as subject

She was taught the basics of the game at a very young age.

passive 2: direct object as subject

The basics of the game were taught to her at a very young age.

➤ SEE LANGUAGE REFERENCE PAGE 114

1 Rewrite the sentences by putting the indirect object before the direct object.

1 *They gave their daughter some skis for her second birthday.*

1 They gave some skis to their daughter for her second birthday.

2 Every day, they showed films about skiing to her.

3 Before bed, they read stories about the mountains to her.

4 They also bought a house in the mountains for her.

5 They found the best ski instructor in the world for her.

6 They promised all sorts of rewards to her.

2 Rearrange the words to make sentences.

1 *He was given a lot of support.*

1 a given he lot of support was .

2 game he of taught the the was rules .

3 father's he his medals shown was .

4 bought equipment expensive for him most the was .

5 drugs given he special was .

6 a judges lot money of offered the to was .

3 Work in pairs. Answer the questions for you. Give details about what and who.

When was the last time you ...

- bought something for somebody?
- lent something to somebody?
- made something for somebody?
- were given a present?
- were shown some photographs?

I bought an MP3 player for my boyfriend.

SPEAKING

1 Work in groups. Discuss these questions.

- Why do so many countries want to host the Olympic Games?
- Has your country ever hosted the Olympic Games?
- If yes, when? Which city was the host?

2 Work in groups. Choose a city in your country which you think could host the Olympic Games. Then make a list of five reasons why it would be an ideal location.

3 Explain to the class which city you think it should be and why.

Useful language

We believe ... is ideally suited because of its ...

It would make the ideal host thanks to its ...

In addition, it has ...

What's more, it can offer ...

In conclusion, we are confident that ...