

GOLD AT LAST!

Note: The transactional processes suggested in CISCE curriculum are highlighted in grey.

Learning Outcomes

- To identify the talent, determination and hard work of the main character
- To note his achievements in the field of sports
- To glimpse into his personal life
- To relate to an athlete's motivation

Pre-reading

Whole class activity

Prediction

Ask students:

List out some of the qualities that are needed to achieve success in life.

While students are coming up with various words, make a web chart of the same on the board/ chart paper. You may give desired direction to the discussion by adding words that you think will be needed to comprehend the chapter better.

determination	keenness	hard work	wisdom
confidence	honesty	perseverance	discipline

Do you like playing a sport? What are some of the sports famous in India?

Ask groups to identify the games with which these famous sports personalities are associated and how many of them participate in team games:

Sachin Tendulkar, Vishwanath Anand, MS Dhoni, Mary Kom, Sania Mirza, PV Sindhu, Milka Singh, PT Usha, Mahesh Bhupathi, Leander Paes

Tell students to work together in their groups and come up with a list of sports which involve athletics.

READING

Students comprehend, scan for details

Read the whole text aloud slowly. /Play the audio track and let students listen to the narrative.

Draw the table on the board and ask students to copy it in their notebooks.

Group work

Tell students to look at the questions below and read the text again in their groups, this

time answering the questions given in the chart as they read.

Complete the following chart:

Name of the athlete:

Birth Place:

Family Background:

Who introduced him to sports:

What made him attracted to javelin throws:

What qualities did Neeraj display?

His first medal:

His first coach:

His achievements in 2012, 2016:

Two premier sports training facilities he trained at:

Achievements in 2018:

Rank in World javelin throw:

Achievements in Olympics and India:

This activity will help develop comprehension skills. It will also help students to analyse the text along with classmates and develop oral communication skills.

- *It was the 7th of August 2021 ... source of inspiration for Neeraj.*

Who did India bank on for the Tokyo Olympics? Who actually stole the show? How?

Close your eyes and imagine you are in Neeraj's place. What would you be feeling? You can say in your home language.

(Ans: Free response)

Who was the source of inspiration for Neeraj? What was odd about it?

- *Born to a family of farmers ... offered to coach Neeraj.*

Who inspired him to get into sports activities? How? What attracted him to javelin throw?

Living in Khandra, Neeraj chanced to see javelin throwers in Panipat and fell in love with the sport. Would you say this is good luck? Can you think of such an example in your or someone else's life?

(Ans: Free response)

How did the people of Khandra take to the sport? (They jeered at him) Did their attitude affect him? Why? What difficulties did he face

to get to the stadium for practice every day? (He had to travel in the wee hours of the morning by different modes of transport.) Why did Jaiveer Choudhary offer to coach Neeraj?

- *Soon, Neeraj won his first ... 2016 in Poland*
When did Neeraj get his first medal? Who was his coach at Panchkula? Besides javelin, what else did he train for? Why? (Stamina and strength) What were his strengths in character? (Determination and tremendous talent) What were his achievements in 2012 at Bangkok and Poland?

- *Seeing his outstanding performance ... Arjuna Award for his achievement.*

How did he get to train at the 'Mission Olympics Wing' of the Indian Army and the Army Sports institute at Pune? (Noticing his outstanding performance, the Indian Army took him as Junior Commissioned Officer in 2017 and he joined as 'Naib Subedar' in Rajputana Rifles.) Why was 2018 good for Neeraj?

- *Although Neeraj did very well in 2018... javelin throwers in the world.*

Why was there a year's break after these achievements? Name the competitions that helped Neeraj prepare for the Tokyo Olympics. What was his ranking at the Tokyo Olympics? Why is he not complacent or arrogant? (His love for the sport) What awards did he receive in India after the Olympics? What is his aim in future?

Post-reading

Pair work

Imagine you are to interview Neeraj. List questions that you will ask him so that you get interesting and useful information. Then, conduct an interview with your partner.

1. Preposition of place.

Write on the board: *The dog is in the tub. – The owl is on the branch. – The bear is sleeping under the tree.*

Ask students:

What are prepositions of place?

Elicit that they tell us where a person, place, an animal or a thing is. They answer the question 'where'.

2. Preposition of time.

Explain that a preposition of time gives information about time.

It tells us a particular period of time within which something occurs.

It answers the question 'when'.

Example: *I have dinner at eight o'clock.*

We are in school from 8 to 4.

She plays the piano for an hour every day.

3. Preposition of direction

Write on the board:

The athletes ran towards the finish line.

The boat sailed against the tide.

They climbed up the ladder.

Explain with the help of the sentences that prepositions of direction show us in which direction something or someone is. They tell us which direction a person, an animal or a thing is going in.

They answer the question 'which direction'.

Proceed to more prepositions with the help of the input given in the Reader.

Activity

Classroom Treasure Hunt

- Divide the class into two groups.
- Instruct Group 1 to create a treasure hunt map within the class for Group 2.
- Tell them to write 5 clues using prepositions of direction.
- Allow them to hide the clues in different places in the class.

Example of clues:

Walk towards the blackboard.

Along the wall, you will find a clue.

Walk through the third row and below a chair you will find your fifth clue and so on.

Instruct them to hand over the clues to Group 2 and cheer them as they solve the clues.

Repeat the activity with Group 2.

VOCABULARY**collocations, idioms derived from sports**

Follow the inputs in the Reader.

Activity

1. Tell students to make sentences with: *amateur sport, competitive sport, endurance sport, individual sport*.
2. Tell students the idiom and allow them to guess the meaning and the sport it has come from. Then encourage them to make meaningful sentences with the idioms.

Idiom	Meaning	Game
<i>across the board</i>	equal for everyone	cards
<i>ball is in your court</i>	it's your decision or responsibility to do something now	tennis
<i>get a head start</i>	start before all others	horse racing

SPEAKING**Debate**

This task can be used for *assessment as learning*. Students become confident to support their beliefs and politely persuade, and convince others, while they communicate using the right words and expressions.

Divide the class into two groups for the debate.

Give them a few minutes to prepare the points for the debate. Follow the inputs in the Reader to help you prepare.

Explain

The concept: What is a debate? A debate is a discussion on a given topic. It involves two sides: one supporting the idea and the other opposing it.

The rules of a debate:

- A debate opens with the team that supports the idea presenting its arguments, followed by a member of the opposing team presenting its opposing views.
- Each team gets an opportunity for rebutting the arguments of the opponent.
- Speakers should speak slowly and clearly and avoid shouting.

LISTENING**While listening — biography****Pre- listening**

Ask students: *What is a biography?*

Elicit answers from the class and help them to work out a definition (A biography is a detailed description of a person's life. It involves more than just the basic facts like education, work, relationships, and death; it portrays a person's experience of these life events.)

Tell students that they are going to listen to an audio about a famous sports person. Inform them that the recording will only be played twice. Tell them that they need to be very attentive as facts have to be accurately recorded. Allow them to read the questions before hearing the passage.

Listening

Play the audio. Let the students listen carefully. Instruct them to fill in their answers. Play the audio once again. Give students sufficient time to write their answers.

Post-listening

Play the audio track one more time so that they may include any missed out information.

WRITING

Biography

Explain that a biography is a written account of a person by someone else.

Encourage students to work in pairs and write a few details about their partners. Let them then share the information with the class.

Ask students to map the biography with the help of the answers to the following questions.

General Details

Name of the person

Where are they from (country, state, region)

What you know about them (hobbies, other interests, and any fascinating/ absorbing incidents)

STUDENTS' BOOK ANSWER KEY

Gold at Last!

Pre-reading

A.

A	B	W	H	P	J	B	O	X	I	N	G
G	L	Q	J	V	Z	A	W	O	S	S	K
H	K	A	B	A	D	D	I	Y	R	F	L
U	R	D	N	M	Q	M	G	H	O	B	H
A	P	Z	T	B	W	I	H	P	D	G	Q
J	A	V	E	L	I	N	T	H	R	O	W
U	Q	W	Z	X	B	T	V	W	C	L	K
D	T	Y	K	H	J	O	B	I	D	F	P
O	X	E	W	O	X	N	Z	A	Q	C	B

B. Free response

Comprehension

- A. 1. Neeraj could perform well on the day of the finals because he was confident of his ability and did not let the fact that he was playing in the Olympics affect his concentration.

2. Satish Chopra made Neeraj join a gym in order to keep him healthy and fit.
3. People often jeered at Neeraj because instead of choosing a common sport, Neeraj had chosen javelin throw, a sport about which very little was known.
4. Jaiveer recognised Neeraj's talent when he saw Neeraj throw the javelin to a distance of 40 metres without any training.
5. Neeraj received the Arjuna Award because he was the first Indian javelin thrower to win the gold at the Asian Games.

- B.**
1. The entire nation celebrated Neeraj's success as he won India's first medal in the track-and-field events in the Olympics. The medal had come after a wait of more than 100 years and that too a gold medal.
 2. As a child, Neeraj had no interest in sports. It was his father, Satish Chopra, who had first introduced him to sports and made him join a gym in Panipat to keep him healthy and fit. It was while he was running at the Shivaji Stadium in Panipat that Neeraj chanced to see some javelin throwers practising there. He was immediately attracted to the sport and tried his hand at throwing the javelin.
 3. After seeing Neeraj's outstanding performance, including his performance at the World U20 Championships 2016, where he set the world record with a throw of 86.48m, the Indian Army took him as a Junior Commissioned Officer in 2017. Neeraj joined as 'Naib Subedar' in the Rajputana Rifles. This gave him the opportunity to train at the 'Mission Olympics Wing' of the Indian Army, as well as at the Army Sports Institute in Pune, two premier sports training facilities. This level of training helped Neeraj win gold in both the Commonwealth Games and the Asian Games in 2018.
 4. In 2019, Neeraj injured his elbow and had to wait for more than a year for it to heal. Thus, he could not participate in any international competition that year. This could have easily demotivated him, as the previous year had been a very good one for him. But Neeraj did not let this minor setback adversely affect his game. He took it in his stride and did not lose hope. He continued to practise diligently. As a result, when Neeraj returned to competitive sport in January 2020, he was easily able to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics.

- C.** As a young child, when Neeraj opted to take up javelin throw, many people who were sceptical about this little-known sport, jeered at him and made fun of him, but this did not deter Neeraj from following his dream. He had made up his mind to excel at it and was willing to do whatever it took to be the best in it. Every day, he would set off in the wee hours of the morning and travel miles by bus or by taking a lift in a tractor or a bike to reach the stadium to practise the sport he loved. Again, when Neeraj injured his elbow in 2019 and had to wait for more than a year for it to heal before he could participate in any international competition, he did not lose hope. In fact, he practised so diligently that he went on to qualify for the Olympics.

Grammar

- A.** 2. behind 3. amongst 4. into 5. except 6. without
B. 2. a 3. b 4. a 5. b 6. b

Vocabulary

- A.** 1. Regular 2. heavy 3. strong 4. gentle 5. fast 6. outdoor
B. 1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. f 6. e

Speaking

Free response

Listening

Listening text

Dhyan Chand was born on 29 August 1905 in Allahabad. He graduated from Victoria College, Gwalior in 1932. He started playing hockey while serving in the army. He played several matches within India and emerged as a very strong player. By the mid-1920s, he became the rising star in Indian hockey. He was selected as the captain of the Indian hockey team. Under his leadership, the team went on to win the Olympic gold medal in 1928, 1932 and 1936.

Dhyan Chand is considered one of the greatest hockey players in the world. He was often hailed as a magician or a wizard of hockey. In 1956, the Indian Government honoured him with the Padma Bhushan. He passed away on 3 December 1979. A very important sporting award is named after him and his birthday is celebrated as the National Sports Day every year.

1. Allahabad
2. army
3. captain
4. Olympic
5. magician
6. Padma Bhushan
7. National Sports Day

Writing

Free response

Dictionary Work

word	type of word	definition/meaning
1. affect	verb	to cause a change in someone or something
2. tough	adjective	strong; not easily broken or made weaker
3. improve	verb	to make something better
4. stamina	noun	the physical and/or mental strength to do something that might be difficult and/or takes a lot of time
5. competition	noun	a situation in which someone is trying to win something or be more successful than someone else
6. outstanding	adjective	much better than what is usual

ANSWER KEY TO WORKSHEET 7

- A.** 1. about 2. between 3. round 4. across
5. below 6. with 7. on 8. between
- B.** 1. heavy 2. big 3. Regular, balanced
4. familiar 5. bright
- C.** 1. a. revived b. modern
2. a. back to the Indus Valley Civilisation.
b. they are mentioned in the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and the Vedas.
c. it describes archery, duels and games played on horseback in great detail.
d. a lost sport till Peshwa Bajirao II's teacher revived it in the 19th century.
e. the Mughals popularised it in India.

QUESTION BANK

Gold at Last!

A. Answer in brief.

1. Why did Jaiveer Choudhary offer to coach Neeraj?

Ans: At the Sports Authority of India centre at Panipat, the javelin thrower and sports coach, Jaiveer Choudhary, noticed that Neeraj had immense potential. It is for this reason he offered to coach Neeraj.

2. What was his ranking at the Tokyo Olympics? Why is he not complacent or arrogant?

Ans: Neeraj's performance in the Tokyo Olympics made him enter into the position of World Number 2. His love for the sport kept him free from complacency and arrogance.

B. Answer in detail.

1. Who was the source of inspiration for Neeraj? What was odd about it?

Ans: At the Tokyo Olympics, his two main competitors were Jakub Vadlejch and Vitezslav Vesely of the Czech Republic. It was strange that their coach, Jan Zelezny, world record holder and Olympic champion in javelin throw, had always been a major source of inspiration for Neeraj.

2. Who inspired Neeraj to get into sports activities? How? What attracted him to javelin throw?

Ans: Neeraj's father, Satish Chopra, first introduced him to sports to keep him healthy and fit. Neeraj was made to join a gym in Panipat. While running at the Shivaji Stadium in Panipat, Neeraj chanced to see some javelin throwers practising. This attracted him to the sport and so he tried his hand at throwing the javelin.

3. What were his achievements in 2012 at Bangkok and Poland?

Ans: Neeraj became the national champion (under 16) in javelin in 2012. He won his first international medal in the Youth Olympics Qualification in Bangkok and became the first Indian track-and-field athlete to set a world record with a throw of 86.48m at the World (under 20) Championships 2016 in Poland.

C. Choose the correct answer.

What qualities helped Neeraj win the gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics?

- a. Rigorous practice and good health
- b. Stamina and strength
- c. Talent and determination

Ans: c

D. Read the lines and answer the questions.

As the 23-year-old winner stood on the victory stand with the gold medal round his neck and the Indian national anthem was being played, an entire nation celebrated his success.

- a. Who is the winner?
- b. Where did he win the gold medal?
- c. Why was he given the gold medal?

Ans: a. The winner was Neeraj Chopra.

b. He won the gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics.

c. He was awarded the gold medal for the men's javelin throw.

E. Answer in detail.

Why did Neeraj not participate in sports competitions in the year 2019? What do you think he must have felt, and what did he do?

Ans: Free response