

Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

You have found a mini-biography of a sportsperson on a website. Read the mini-biography.

Text 2 Mini-biography

Katie Ledecky

'I just like to swim fast. I don't know about the distance.'

① At just 19 years old, Katie Ledecky made a permanent mark on the 2016 Rio Olympics as the most-decorated female athlete, winning four golds and one silver, and smashing two world records in the 400- and 800-metre freestyle. Before accomplishing this impressive feat, the unstoppable American swimmer already took the 2012 London
5 Olympics by surprise. She stole the 800-metre freestyle gold by more than four seconds as the youngest participant in the games.

② It was not long after her Olympic debut that Ledecky broke the 800- as well as the 1500-metre freestyle world records at the 2013 FINA World Championships. She improved her time and broke her own record just a year later. Then, she took down the
10 400-metre freestyle world record at the 2014 National Championships at Irvine, California, and managed to break her own record again in Australia. Between 2013 and 2015, she won a total of 14 gold medals at the FINA World Championships and the Pan Pacific Championships, and broke the world record 11 times.

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15 **3** Ledecky's unprecedented achievements were years in the making. With the goal of qualifying for the Olympics in mind, she worked closely with her coach, Bruce Gemmell, to make her dreams come true. Her schedule included waking up at 4 a.m. every morning for training, swimming a total of 70,000 yards every week and following a diet of nutritious foods. To honour her hard-earned achievements, she was inducted into the Washington DC Sports Hall of Fame in 2017.

20 **4** Born on 17 March 1997, Ledecky was encouraged by her mother and elder brother to enter the pool when she was six years old, and she has never stopped swimming ever since. After high school, she decided to go to Stanford University, one of the most respected colleges in the US. She took a gap year to concentrate on training for the Rio Olympics and started her college life following the games. She is now studying, while
25 continuing to compete nationally and internationally. With such a promising start in her swimming career, the future is certainly hers for the taking.

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Comprehension 2 *Your sister wants to know more about Katie Ledecky. Answer her questions using information from the mini-biography. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.*

1 What does 'the most-decorated female athlete' mean in line 2?

2 Find another phrase in paragraph 1 that refers to Katie Ledecky.

3 How old was Ledecky when she won her first Olympic medal?

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---|
| A 13 years old | C 17 years old | A B C D |
| B 15 years old | D 19 years old | <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> |

4 In which event did Ledecky win her first Olympic medal?

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---|
| A 200-metre freestyle | C 800-metre freestyle | A B C D |
| B 400-metre freestyle | D 1500-metre freestyle | <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> |

5 According to paragraph 2, are the following statements **True (T)**, **False (F)** or **Not Given (NG)**?

Statements	T	F	NG
i) Ledecky broke many of her own world records.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ii) Ledecky participated in the 2015 FINA World Championships.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
iii) Ledecky holds 11 world records.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6 The writer described Ledecky's routine to show that _____.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| A she is better than other swimmers | |
| B she is dedicated to swimming | |
| C her coach is very strict | A B C D |
| D she works as hard as other swimmers | <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> |

7 What do you think the writer means by 'the future is certainly hers for the taking' (line 26)?

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- 8 Order the events in Ledecky's life. Number the events (2–5). The first event has been done for you.

Katie Ledecky's life

She breaks the 1500-metre freestyle world record. _____

She starts to learn swimming. 1 _____

She wins a gold medal at the London Olympics. _____

She starts going to Stanford University. _____

She is named a Washington DC Sports Hall of Fame inductee. _____

- 9 Match the subheadings (A–D) with one of the paragraphs on the left. Write the correct letter on the line next to the paragraph number.

Paragraph no.	Subheadings
i) Paragraph 1 _____	A The making of a great swimmer
ii) Paragraph 2 _____	B The beginning and the future
iii) Paragraph 3 _____	C Breaking world records
iv) Paragraph 4 _____	D Who is Katie Ledecky?

- 10 Complete the following profile using information from the mini-biography.

Name:	Katie Ledecky	Birthday:	(i) _____
Occupation:	(ii) _____	Education:	(iii) _____
Olympic medals:	(iv) _____ golds (v) _____ silver	World record(s):	(vi) _____ (vii) _____ (viii) _____

- 11 Find words from Text 2 with the following meanings.

- i) an achievement that needs skill, strength or courage (paragraph 1) _____
- ii) the first public appearance of a performer or sports player (paragraph 2) _____
- iii) never happened, been done or been known before (paragraph 3) _____
- iv) showing signs of being good or successful (paragraph 4) _____