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普通高中课程标准实验教科书

英语

(选修 I)

(供高中三年级第二学期使用)

11

Senior
Student
Book



[中国] 河北教育出版社
[加拿大] DC加拿大国际交流中心 合作编写

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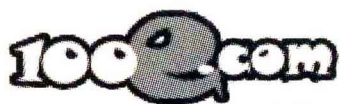
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[中 国] 河 北 教 育 出 版 社 合作编写
[加 拿 大] DC 加 拿 大 国 际 交 流 中 心

©河北教育出版社

河北教育出版社出版(石家庄市联盟路 705 号)
沂水沂河印务有限公司印刷 山东省新华书店发行

890 × 1252 毫米 1/16 8 印张 184 千字 2006 年 6 月第 1 版

2006 年 6 月第 1 次印刷 印数: 1 - 3800 定价: 9.95 元

ISBN 7 - 5434 - 6040 - 8/G · 4059

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出版者的话

亲爱的同学们，这套《普通高中课程标准实验教科书·英语》是河北教育出版社和 DC 加拿大国际交流中心共同组织国内外富有英语教学经验的专家、教授、教研员及一线教师根据普通高中《英语课程标准》（实验）编写而成的，供普通高中一至三年级学生使用。

这套教材充分吸收世界上最先进的外语教学理念和实践经验。它尊重语言学习的客观规律，注重强调在进一步发展学生综合语言运用能力的基础上，着重提高学生用英语获取信息、处理信息、分析问题和解决问题的能力，特别注重提高学生用英语进行思维和表达的能力，培养学生的综合语言运用能力和创新精神，符合当代高中学生的年龄、心理和认知特点。

这套教材语言信息含量大。它涉及人文、地理、自然、科学等各个领域，兼顾了多种学科知识的相互交叉、相互渗透，反映了当代社会、经济、科技、教育等各个领域发展的新动向，有助于提高学生整体的文化素养。

这套教材内容丰富，体裁多样，语言地道，富有时代感。它展现中西方国家的不同文化背景，注重中外文化的介绍与比较，以培养学生理解和包容多种不同文化的胸怀，增强学生继承、发扬民族文化，同时又借鉴、吸取其他优秀文化的意识，有助于学生形成跨文化交际的意识和基本的跨文化交际能力，有利于帮助学生形成正确的世界观、价值观，提高学生整体的人文素养。

这套教材注重以学生为主体，设计了许多有意义的实践活动，鼓励学生通过积极尝试、自我探究、自我发现和主动学习等学习方式，形成自己的语言学习的过程与方法。它把对学生学习策略、学习方法的指导融入到学生的自我评价过程中，有利于学生对自己的学习过程进行积极的反思，调整学习策略，培养自主学习能力，从而为终身学习打下基础。

这套教材分为必修课程、选修课程系列Ⅰ和系列Ⅱ三大板块。其中必修课程共有 5 个模块（即英语 1～英语 5），供高中一年级至二年级第一学期使用；选修课程系列Ⅰ为顺序选修课程，是在必修课程模块的基础上顺序开设的课程，共有 6 个模块（即英语 6～英语 11）；选修课程系列Ⅱ为任意选修课程，供学生在高中阶段根据自己的兴趣和爱好选修。这套教材包括《教科书》、《教师用书》、《互动学案》以及录音磁带等。同时，我们还提供了丰富的网络资源。如与教材配套的电脑家教版（下载地址：<http://www.100e.com/lesh011.asp>），以及教学论坛（www.sowerclub.com）。

在本套教材的编写过程中，加拿大阿尔伯塔大学教育学院在教材的课程设计、编写方面给予了许多帮助。对此，我们表示感谢。

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Unit One

EXPERIENCING THE OLYMPICS

Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around or give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it.

– Michael Jordan

One man can be a crucial ingredient on a team, but one man cannot make a team.

– Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential ... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.

– Eddie Robinson

The real hero doesn't say that he is one.

– Filipino Proverb



SECTION 1

EXPLORING NEW IDEAS

An Olympic Experience

Reading 1

Anne McGuire arrived in Athens with more doubts and fears than the youngest Olympic athlete. She knew she was fortunate to be a newspaper reporter at the Summer Olympic Games, but she was worried about this assignment. Could she do it well? She was a young and inexperienced journalist, just 21 years old, and she had never left Canada before. She was no expert on the world's champion athletes or their competitive sports. What's more, she was beginning to question the true meaning of the Olympic Games in a world full of conflicts.

Waiting at the Olympics press office for her security clearance, Anne searched for a friendly face in the crowd of reporters. Fortunately, she found Zheng Li. He was lining up in the queue ahead of her, waiting to submit his documents to the Olympics official, when they began a conversation. He told her he was a writer from Beijing who had worked for the Xinhua news agency for almost 10 years. "Were you in the Sydney Olympics?" he asked Anne.

Suddenly the pressure of her assignment overwhelmed her. Anne burst into tears. She looked up at the shocked Chinese reporter. He had a kind smile and a trustworthy face, and he listened to her as if he had been her friend for a lifetime. "I am so worried that I will do a poor job on this assignment," Anne said, trying to explain.



The opening ceremonies at the Athens Games

START YOUR ENGINES

Do you know who was the champion of the men's 110-metre hurdles in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens?

Zheng Li replied calmly, "I will help you find some stories you can write with enthusiasm in your own language, and I will show you what the Olympics can be at their best."

In the following days, Anne and Zheng Li attended every Olympic competition together. The young Canadian listened to her new friend's detailed explanations of each sport. She reported the facts properly, but she

doubted if she touched the hearts and minds of her distant readers with her stories.

"Tomorrow you will have the story that will change your opinion of the Olympics forever," Zheng Li said. "You will have to work independently, however, as this will be my most important story at the Summer Games, you can work beside me as long as you understand that I can't interrupt my work to answer your questions. We will be watching Liu Xiang."

On August 27, standing beside Zheng Li, Anne witnessed a miracle that began and ended within 12.91 seconds.



Liu Xiang stood at the starting line, waiting for the sharp sound of the starter's pistol. The expression on his face was pure concentration. He raced over the hurdles at what seemed to be the speed of light. A slim man, he had strength in every jump, every footstep.

A crowd of 70 000 people roared its approval as Liu Xiang raced ahead of Terrence Trammell of the United States and defending champion Anier Garcia of Cuba.

Forgetting herself, Anne leapt from her seat to cheer this young hero from China who was exactly her age.

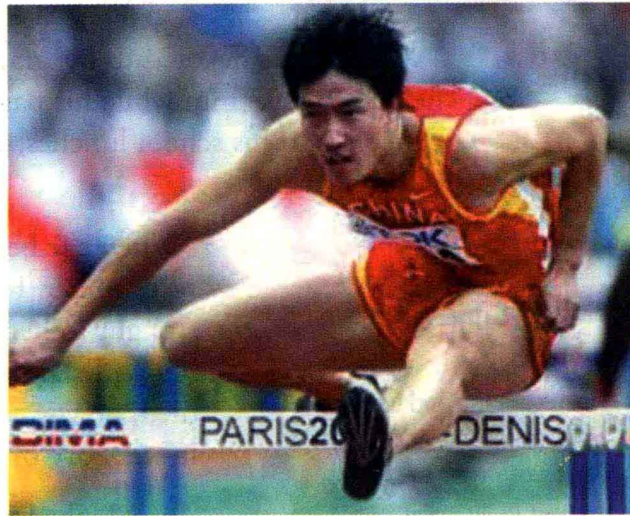
"Go! Go! Go!" she yelled with the crowd. When Liu Xiang crossed the finish line, Anne cheered as loudly as anyone else in the stadium. Anyone would guess she was born in China.

The runner's stunning victory in the 110-metre hurdles was the most electrifying performance she had ever seen.

It was only after the race that Anne learned that Liu Xiang was the first Chinese male athlete to win a gold medal in Olympic track and field competitions, and the first Asian in history to win the men's 110-metre hurdles. He had tied a world record for the event, and broken the previous Olympic record of 12.95 seconds.

She watched the Olympic champion take his victory run around the track. He held the Chinese National Flag as high as his arms would allow, smiling into the television cameras as if he could hear the applause of the Chinese people on the other side of the globe.

Anne looked around for Zheng Li. He was running with a group of reporters toward the gold medal winner.



The historic moment

When Liu Xiang had recovered his breath, he began to tell the gathered reporters about his experience in the race. A translator whispered the English words into Anne's ear. "I never expected that I could run inside 13 seconds, and I never expected that I could break the Olympic record," the winner said with tears in his eyes. "I am very, very excited."

He continued, "I was in very good shape today. When I was in the blocks, all I could think of was the sound of the gun. My race went wonderfully from the start to the end.

"It is an amazing experience being the Olympic champion. I want to thank my coach and my friends for all of their help. I think today the Chinese people showed the world they can run as fast as anybody else. Still this feels like a kind of miracle. I didn't dare to think I would get a medal of any kind here."

Anne watched as Liu Xiang walked to the podium, and bowed to receive his gold medal as the Chinese National Anthem played. He pulled the Chinese National Flag around his shoulders, and held out the medal as if he were showing it to one special person.



Reading 2

Later Anne waited in the press room as Zheng Li wrote his story for the readers in China. He looked like he could stay awake all night on happiness alone. After two hours of typing he closed the top of his laptop computer with a smile.

“Please tell me more about Liu Xiang,” she said.

Zheng Li told her the athlete was born in Shanghai, the son of a truck driver. His mother said he never stopped jumping and running as a child. He was already a champion athlete as a fourth grade pupil at Junior Sports School of Putuo District. The boy told his parents that some day he would compete in the Olympics.

With the help of his hurdle coach, Sun Haiping, the teenager began to win races in competitions around the world.

In one of his most exciting competitions, at the Golden Gala in Rome, Italy, Liu Xiang and champion hurdle runner Allen Johnson

of the United States ran with an identical time of 13.11 seconds.

“Everyone in China was hoping he would win the gold in Athens,” said Zheng Li. “China has won over 100 gold medals in the Summer Olympics since 1984, but not in these track and field events. We held

our breath waiting for this race.”

“Tell me more personal details about Liu Xiang’s life story,” said Anne, writing in her notebook. Zheng Li continued.



“Well, he was devoted to his grandmother, who helped to raise him while his parents worked. She put chocolate in his school lunches, and encouraged him to do his best.

SONG

The Olympic games

Verse

The high jump and the long jump,
the discus and the sprint,
don't close your eyes too soon,
it's over in an instant.

My favorite is the marathon.
To me it is the best.
It challenges everyone who tries,
to see if they're the best.

Chorus

The Olympics, yes the Olympics,
the very best in the world.
The Olympics, Yes the Olympics,
come see those flags unfurled.

Verse 2

The speed and the power,
the beauty and the Gold,
I want to see my country win,
do you think that I'm too bold?

But the Silver and the Bronze,
are really great to win?
I think that I could make it
if I practiced in the gym.

“When she became ill, he dedicated races to her. He went from one race straight to her hospital bed to show her a medal he had won. When she died, he vowed to win more medals in memory of her.”

Anne looked at her watch, and jumped up. Her story was due in an hour. “How can I ever thank you for helping me this week?” she said. “I will never forget you, Zheng Li. If my luck continues, I will see you in Beijing in 2008!”

They shook hands, and said goodbye. Anne opened her laptop and began to type with an enthusiasm that surprised her.

Her story began: The true spirit of the Olympic Games is alive and well in every home in China tonight, and in the heart of a young runner named Liu Xiang who won a gold medal to honour his grandmother, and his nation.



SECTION 2

MEANING IN CONTEXT

Practice Makes Perfect!

A. Understanding the text

Multiple choice

Reading 1

1. Anne McGuire met Zheng Li in _____.
a. Beijing b. Canada c. Athens
2. Zheng Li was as _____ as Anne was _____ in covering the Olympic Games.
a. inexperienced, experienced
b. experienced, inexperienced
c. discouraged, encouraged
3. Before the race on August 27, 2004, the champion in the 110-metre hurdles was _____.
a. Terrance Trammell from the United States
b. Allen Johnston from the United States
c. Anier Garcia from Cuba
d. Liu Xiang
4. Liu Xiang was the _____ Chinese athlete to win an Olympic medal in track and field competitions.
a. fourth b. third c. second d. first
5. That day, Liu Xiang _____.
a. broke the world record of 12.95 seconds
b. tied the Olympic record of 13.11 seconds
c. set a new Olympic record of 12.91 seconds
d. set a new world record of 12.91 seconds
6. When Liu Xiang was interviewed after the race, he spoke in _____.
a. English b. Chinese
c. Shanghai dialect d. Cantonese

Reading 2

1. As a 4th grader, Liu Xiang was a champion athlete of _____.
a. Putuo District b. Pudong District
c. Shanghai c. China
2. Liu Xiang was emotionally attached to _____.
a. his father b. his mother
c. his grandmother d. his coach

3. Judging from the end of the text, Anne _____.
a. was so excited and touched that she didn't know how to write
b. was so inspired by Liu Xiang's story that she began her story right away
c. would not be able to come to Beijing for the 2008 Olympic Games

B. Considering the issues

The title of the text is "An Olympic Experience." Whose experience is the text about? Liu Xiang's? Zheng Li's? Anne McGuire's? Yours? Why do you think the text is titled this way?

C. Learning words and expressions in context

1. *Inexperienced and trustworthy.*

Starting from this unit on, new or challenging words will no longer be accompanied by definitions or explanations. Instead, you are expected to work out the meanings of new words either from their context or by looking them up in your dictionary.

For example, you can guess the meanings of the two new words in the text, *inexperienced* and *trustworthy*: experience – experienced – inexperienced
trust + worthy – trustworthy

2. *Phrases and expressions.*

Study the following list of phrases, expressions and/or collocations from the text:



burst into...
 at one's best
 as long as
 tie/break a record
 speak up
 be devoted to

Fill in the blanks with what is listed above. Make changes when necessary.

- a. After the joke was told, the whole room ____ laughter.
- b. Liu Xiang ____ his grandmother.
- c. In Athens, Liu Xiang ____ of 12.95 seconds.
- d. You will surely get somewhere in your English ____ you work hard.
- e. Come and see the Jiuzhaigou Valley ____.
- f. Why do women not ____ for themselves?

3. Compare the words *search* and *research*.

Look at this sentence from Reading 1: "Waiting at ... Anne *searched* for a friendly face in the crowd of reporters." What does *search* mean in different contexts in comparison with *research*?

They were stopped and *searched* by the police.

He glanced around the room, *searching for* a place to sit.

I *searched* everywhere but couldn't find my key.

Finally I found the key after a long *search*.

"Where has Danny gone?"

"*Search me!*"

Dr. Smith will be here talking about his *research* on air pollution.

The historical background of the novel had been carefully *researched*.

Jenny is doing some *research* on the Olympic history.

D. Listening practice

Listen to a report on an American Olympic hero sharing her experiences. Circle the correct answers.

1. Peggy Fleming won an Olympic gold medal _____.
 a. when she was 19 b. at the age of 15
 c. Monday night
2. She won the medal in _____ in _____.
 a. USA, 1998 b. France, 1968
 c. Japan, 1998 d. Korea, 1984
3. According to Peggy, the good things that happened to her had given her _____.
 a. strength b. comfort
 c. confidence d. fear
4. The bad things that happened to her had given her _____.
 a. strength b. comfort
 c. confidence d. fear
5. Peggy learned she had breast cancer in _____.
 a. 1968 b. 1998 c. 1984
6. Peggy won a championship when she was _____.
 a. 9 years old b. 15 years old
 c. a college student d. suffering from cancer
7. Peggy's mother was an _____, and her father was an _____.
 a. athlete, artist b. artist, athlete
 c. athlete, athlete d. artist, artist

E. Active interaction

Situational dialogue: The Olympic Moment

Li Ming: Did you stay up to watch the Olympics last night? Did you see Liu Xiang's race? It was amazing!

Xiao Mei: Of course I watched. Everyone in our house was in front of the TV set. We were so quiet during the race. Nobody breathed.

Li Ming: Same at our place. It was so quiet that you could have heard a pin drop!

Xiao Mei: But when he crossed the finish line, it was a madhouse. Everyone was whooping and hollering!

Li Ming: My mother even did a dance. But did you see the medal ceremony afterwards? Liu Xiang held his medal up as though he wanted to present it to some special person.

Xiao Mei: I noticed that too. My brother said it might be for his grandmother. He was very close to her. When she died, he promised to win medals in her honour.



Li Ming: Well, he certainly did that. A gold medal! I think that medal was for all of China, though. Don't you?

Can you talk about Olympic sports? Try a conversation about role models.

Xiao Mei: Maybe it was for his grandmother and also for all of China. His grandmother would have been very proud. And who isn't proud in China today?

Li Ming: That medal was for Liu Xiang too, I bet. He worked hard for it. He trained for years and years. So let's not give his medal to anyone but him.

Xiao Mei: I think it was meant for you and me, Li Ming! He was saying, "Hey, Li Ming and Xiao Mei, come to the Beijing Olympics in 2008 and I'll try to run an even faster race for you." That's my opinion.

Your turn!

Work in pairs. Role-play the dialogue, and then create your own.



F. Constructing meaning through writing: The Moment of Glory

You have read about the exciting moment when Liu Xiang walked to the podium, and bowed to receive his gold medal, with the Chinese National Anthem playing and the Chinese National Flag being raised. How do you feel about this medal ceremony? How do you feel about Liu Xiang, about China, about the Olympics, and about yourself?

Write a composition about that moment of glory or any other scene of a Chinese athlete receiving his/her medal. You can write as a Chinese reporter witnessing the event, or as a TV viewer. Your writing should include:

- ✓ description of the medal ceremony
- ✓ how the medal winner reacted
- ✓ how you felt when the Chinese National Anthem was being

played and the Chinese National Flag was being raised

- ✓ what you promised yourself during and after the ceremony

G. Putting your skills to use

Your assignment – Interviewing an Olympic hero

The unit project is for you to conduct an interview with an Olympic hero.

Work in pairs. One of you acts as a journalist/interviewer, and the other pretends to be an Olympic hero who has brought honour to China as a nation. The interview can be on anything: the hero's Olympic achievements, personal life or future plans.

First, you should come up with a written plan identifying what you are going to talk about. You are most encouraged to write down a dialogue, and then practise your oral interview based on what you have written.

Try to make your interview natural, interesting, and meaningful.

Act out the interview in front of your group or class.

Check yourself!

Check to see where you are in **learning strategies** according to the following criteria. Grade yourself with A, B, C, D or F.

- ❖ I can make notes using key words, abbreviations, symbols, numbers, etc. ()
- ❖ I can transfer skills in one area to another area. For instance, I transfer my skills in learning Chinese to learning English. ()
- ❖ I learn and internalize new language items in different ways and from different angles, paying attention to not only the forms and patterns of new language items, but also to their meanings and usage. ()



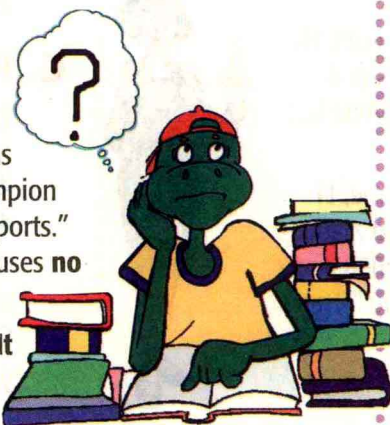
SECTION 3

FOLLOW THE RULES

Grammar Refresher

A. Danny's questions:

- Look at the sentence: "She was **no** expert on the world's champion athletes or their competitive sports." Why do you think the author uses **no** rather than **not an**?
- Now examine this sentence: "It was only after the race **that** Anne learned **that** Liu Xiang was the first Chinese male ..." What kind of sentence is it? What's the relationship between "It" and the first "that-clause"? What is the grammatical function of the second "that-clause"?
- Read this sentence: "When I was in the blocks, **all** I could think of was the sound of the gun." What's the grammatical relationship between "all" and "I could think of"? Can you use another word to replace the word **all**?



B. Connectors (II)

In Module 10, we learned a few types of connectors. Here are some more.

Identifying connectors: *specifically, namely*

Clarifying connectors: *in other words, that is*

Exemplifying connectors: *for example, for instance, in particular, especially, as an example, to illustrate*

Alternative connectors: *alternatively*

Similarity connectors: *in the same way, similarly, likewise*

Concession connectors: *even so, nevertheless*

Contrast connectors: *in contrast, however, in fact, on the other hand, though*

Summary connectors: *to summarize, in summary, in short, all in all, briefly, in a word*

Sequential connectors: *first, first of all, at first, to begin with, to start with, later, then, next, after that, secondly, subsequently, eventually, lastly, at last, in the end, finally, to conclude, in conclusion*

Your turn!

- Now work in pairs. Make sentences of your own using the connectors listed above. Remember to use appropriate connectors in your writing.
- Multiple choice
 - I realize she can be very troublesome, but I think you should apologize for being so angry with her _____.
 - all the same
 - once in a while
 - in actual fact
 - all the time
 - She said she didn't like it, but _____ I thought it was very good.
 - personally
 - exactly
 - generally
 - likely
 - Terrorism in the world means more deaths and heavier losses and _____ it is our duty to fight against it.
 - therefore
 - altogether
 - otherwise
 - moreover
 - We succeeded _____ good organization.
 - in place
 - in face of
 - by reason of
 - in return for

C. Preposition clusters

In English, there are quite a number of multiword preposition clusters that are composed of three or more words. Examples:

in + noun + of in + the + noun + of

in case of	in the course of
in favour of	in the process of
in charge of	in the name of
in place of	in the event of

on + noun + of on + the + noun + of

on behalf of	on the basis of
on top of	on the part of
on account of	on the face of

Other combinations include:

by means of	for the sake of
in addition to	in return for
with respect to	with the exception of



Remember the above listed preposition clusters and try to use them in your oral and written work.

D. Comprehensive exercise (I)

In the following passage, there is one error or mistake in each line. Find the error or mistake and give your correction in the space provided. For example:

"Can I quote you that?" Anne asked, happy that she had her story. Zheng Li laughed as he started down the stair.

Corrected version:

"Can I quote you \wedge that?" Anne asked, happy that she had her story. Zheng Li laughed as he started down the stair.

_____ on _____

_____ stairs _____

Anne was struggling to write her column one day then a e-mail arrived from her editor in Canada. "Anne," it said, "we need a quick story about 'Olympic fever' in China. Chinese team won 32 gold medals in Athens and Beijing will be hosting the 2008 Olympics. What is happened to the Chinese Olympic athletes? Are they treated for heroes? I need 400 words in the next few hour. Can you do it?"

E. Brain teasers

1. Questions without answers

If you try to fail, and you succeed, which have you done?

Why is it that rain drops, but snow falls?

Doesn't "expecting the unexpected" make the unexpected expected?

How do "Keep Off The Grass" signs get there?

If the Number 2 pencil is the most popular, why is it still number 2?

If people from Poland are called Poles, why aren't people from Holland called Holes?

2. Catch the humour if you can

Father: Aren't you first in anything at school?

Son: Sure, Dad. I'm first out when the bell rings!

Teacher: Name two cities in Kentucky.

Fred: Okay. I'll name one Fred, and the other Harry.

Teacher: When did George Washington die?

Fred: It was just a few days before they buried him.



A Doctor in Court

Lawyer: Doctor, before you signed the death certificate, did you check for a pulse?

Doctor: No.

Lawyer: Did you check for blood pressure?

Doctor: No.

Lawyer: Did you check for breathing?

Doctor: No.

Lawyer: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you signed the certificate?

Doctor: No.

Lawyer: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

Doctor: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar. But now that you mention it, it is possible that he could have been alive and practising law somewhere.



SECTION 4

READING FOR EXCELLENCE

WHILE YOU READ

Do you know what Paralympics means?

Chantal Petitclerc

Did you see the woman in a wheelchair, wearing a Canadian uniform, who won five gold medals in Athens in 2004? Her name is Chantal Petitclerc. She is a sports hero in Canada. She is also a hero to people with disabilities who dream of becoming athletes.

Chantal, who lives in the French-speaking province of Quebec, lost the use of her legs when a barn door fell on her when she was 13. Her spinal cord was injured, but her spirit was not. A coach at her school persuaded her to learn to swim. That was the beginning of her amazing career as a disabled athlete.

When Chantal was 18, she entered a wheelchair race, using a homemade wheelchair. She finished last, but she had so much fun that she knew she wanted to become a wheelchair athlete. She began to train hard.

Fortunately, there are many training facilities and coaches in Canada for wheelchair athletes. These athletes train to compete in the Paralympic Games, Olympic-style events that are held in connection with the Olympics. These games are a fast-growing part of the Olympics. In 1960, for example, there were 400 disabled athletes taking part in Paralympic competitions at the Olympic Games in Rome. In 2004, there were 4 000 competitors in the Paralympics in Athens. Two of their competitions, including the women's 800-metre wheelchair race, were included as demonstration sports in the Olympic Games.

The star of the Athens Paralympic Games, without doubt, was Chantal Petitclerc. She won five gold



A Canadian sports hero

medals, setting world records in 100m, 400m and 1 500m wheelchair races.

When the competitions were over, the Canadian team selected

Chantal to carry the country's flag in the closing ceremonies. "I had my best Games ever, and carrying the flag is a great symbol of what I accomplished here," Chantal said.

One of her dreams is to compete in the

Paralympics in Beijing in 2008. She has another dream too. Someday, she hopes, Paralympic competitions will be recognized as Olympic Games. When that happens, disabled athletes like Chantal will receive the honours due to world-class heroes. Don't you think it's time?

Note: *Paralympic* (*paraplegic* + *Olympics*) is a series of contests for athletes with disabilities that are associated with and held following the summer and winter Olympic Games, called also *Paralympic Games*.

AFTER YOU READ

Understand and discuss:

1. How did Chantal become disabled?
2. Have Paralympic competitions been fully recognized as Olympic games? Why not?



Anne McGuire Reporting from Beijing

BEIJING — China's state media has hailed its Olympic heroes, highly praising their historic performance as bringing "honour to the motherland."

Under a banner headline reading "Five Star Red Flag — I Am Proud of You," the leading *People's Daily* called the country's efforts in Athens "unique." The editorial said: "The Chinese athletes worked hard to achieve an unprecedented result and realize a historic breakthrough in Chinese Olympic history."

China claimed 32 gold medals in Athens, four more than its previous best in Sydney. The total number of its medals amounted to 63, with 17 silver and 14 bronze, also four more than its record in Sydney. The nation finished second behind the United States for its highest finish at an Olympics.



China went to Athens aiming to consolidate its position from Sydney as the third most powerful Olympic nation behind the United States and Russia, but the Russians were left far behind with just 27 gold medals.

"The nation's pride has been realized by the Chinese team," said the *China Youth Daily*. "Every Chinese person will feel proud and be excited by their performances. The victory is a strong stimulant to the nation... We are proud of our glorious result and we are going to be more proud in the 2008 Beijing

WHILE YOU READ

Did you get the bigger picture of the performances of Chinese Olympic athletes in Athens in 2004?

Olympics and many other Olympics to come," it added.

The English-language *China Daily* called the performance a "miracle." However, it quoted Yuan Weimin, head of the delegation in Athens, as saying China still had work to do. "Though China is in

the second place in the gold medal standings, we are not a sports superpower, and though I wish we were, we still lag far behind," said Yuan.

"In important events there is still a considerable gap between us and the United States, Russia and even Germany," he added. "We are still comparatively weak in track and field and swimming, two premier sports at the Olympic Games."

AFTER YOU READ

Understand and discuss:

1. In which Olympic events is China still weak?
2. What should China do to become a sports superpower?

Olympic Legends

Wrestler, six-time Olympic victor

One of the most legendary athletes in the ancient world, Milo of Kroton, wore the victor's crown at Olympia no less than six times. Born in southern



Italy, where Greece had many colonies, Milo won the boys' wrestling contest in 540 BC.

He returned eight years later to win the first of five wrestling titles in a row, which seems incredible by modern standards. Rarely do modern-day Olympians compete in more than two or three Olympiads over the course of a career.

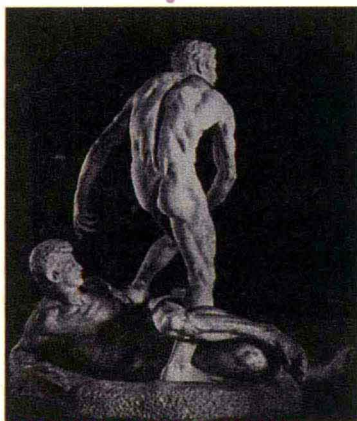
According to our ancient sources, Milo enjoyed showing off his strength. For instance, he would clasp a pomegranate in his hand and have others try to take it away from him. Even though he was holding it so tightly that no one could remove it, he never damaged the fruit. Sometimes, he would stand on a greased iron disk and challenge others to push him off it.

Other times, the wrestler would stand with his right arm at his side, his elbow against him, and hold out his hand with thumb pointed upwards and fingers spread. No one could successfully bend even his little finger.

Milo excelled even in warfare. When a neighbouring town attacked Kroton, Milo entered the

battle wearing his Olympic crowns and led his fellow citizens to victory.

A follower of the famous philosopher Pythagoras, Milo once saved his friends. It happened that the roof of the hall where the Pythagoreans were meeting began to collapse. Milo stood and supported the central pillar until the others escaped to safety and then dashed out, saving himself.



Ancient Olympic wrestlers

In the end, however, all of this fame and strength did not save Milo from a less than glorious death. Milo was wandering through the forest when he found an old tree trunk with wedges inserted into it. In an attempt to test his strength, Milo placed his hands and, perhaps his feet, into the cleft of the trunk and tried to

split apart the wood. He succeeded in loosening the wedges, which fell out, but the trunk closed on his hands, trapping him. There, according to the tale, he fell prey to wild beasts.

UNIT CLOSING

Danny's Olympic Quiz

Choose the correct answers.

1. What do the Olympic rings symbolize?
 - a. Five Olympic events.
 - b. A chain that links all of the continents of the world.
2. What's the Olympic Motto?
 - a. Citius, Altius, Fortius (Latin words meaning "Faster, higher, stronger").
 - b. I'm going to win at any cost.
3. What's the Olympic Promise (Oath)?
 - a. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well.
 - b. In the name of all competitors I promise that we shall take part in these Olympic Games with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship.
4. When and where did the first modern Olympic Games take place?
 - a. 1900, Paris.
 - b. 1896, Athens.
 - c. 1908, London.