

- 1** A: Did you see the 2008 Olympic Games on TV?
B: Yes, I did.
A: How old were you in 2008?
B: I was 11.
A: Did you watch the Paralympic Games as well?
B: What are they?
A: They're the Olympic Games for athletes with disabilities.
B: Do they take place every four years?
A: Yes, they take place after the Olympic Games.
B: Are the disabled athletes as good as ordinary athletes?
A: No, but some disabled runners and swimmers are only a little slower than the regular athletes. They produce some incredible performances.

- 2** A: What's your favourite event in the Olympic Games?
B: Athletics, I think. I love watching people run and jump.
A: What about throwing events, for example throwing the discus and throwing the javelin?
B: I watch them too, but they're not as exciting as the running events.
A: I think the most interesting events are gymnastics.
B: I never watch them. I like watching the team events, like basketball, football and volleyball.
A: Yes, I agree they're fun, but gymnastics are much more artistic.
B: How many different sports are there at the Olympic Games?
A: There will be/were 26 at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.
B: But of course there are many events for each sport. For example there are 34 different swimming events.

- 3** A: How did the basketball match go on Saturday?
B: It went really well. We won!
A: Great! Did you win easily?
B: No, we didn't. The other team were a little older than us, so we weren't as tall as them, but we were faster.
A: What was the final score?
B: It was 49:47.
A: Really? I bet that was really exciting.
B: Yes, they were winning by eight points at the end of the third period, but we came back and took the lead in the last ten minutes.
A: Did you play well?
B: We all played brilliantly! Now we're practising hard for the final next week.

- 4** A: You're not going to believe this. My sister's going to study in London for six months. She's leaving in two weeks.
B: Your sister? I didn't know she could speak English.
A: She can't! She speaks really badly, and she can't understand people if they speak quickly.
B: What's her pronunciation like?
A: It's worse than mine.
B: She'll have to learn English if she wants to survive for six months.
A: Yes, she's having English lessons now – 20 hours a week!
B: That's an awful lot of hours.
A: Yes, there's no way she's going to learn English in two weeks.
B: So what? She's doing her best. At the end of the day, that's what matters.