

<b>Title:</b>	The 2018 Winter Olympics	
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<b>Text:</b>	<p>Conversation in many of the classes this week has focussed on the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, Korea.</p> <p>Though, I've never done any of the sports being televised or lived in a country where they are particularly popular, it has been quite absorbing trying to judge the rank of each competitor as they complete their turn by comparing the times, distances and scores. My personal favourites so far have been the Ski Jumping, Short and Long Course Speed Skating and the Half-Pipe Snowboarding.</p> <p>More events are yet to come before the Games close on 25th February, and I'm especially looking forward to the Alpine Skiing and Bobsleigh events.</p> <p>It's difficult to imagine Tonga entering many Olympians in the Summer Games, and even harder to imagine what event they may enter in the Winter Olympics.</p> <p>More amazing than that, the Tongan representative in Pyeongchang, Pita Taufatofua, 34, has also competed in the Summer Olympics!</p> <p>His ambitions are modest though. He finished 114th in the free cross-country event, some 23 minutes behind the gold medallist.</p> <p>The Winter Paralympics will open two weeks after the current Games finish on 9th March and consists of six events including hockey and curling.</p> <p>For more information, click on this link. <a href="https://www.pyeongchang2018.com/en/index">https://www.pyeongchang2018.com/en/index</a></p>
<b>Discussion:</b>	<p>Which events have you found the most and least interesting? Tell us why.</p> <p>Was there one Olympian who really impressed you?</p>
<b>Words and usage:</b>	<p>Absorbing.</p> <p>If something causes you to concentrate deeply, such as when playing a board or computer game, watching a TV drama or reading a book, we say it is absorbing. Other similar words are compelling and captivating. We could also use the adjective compulsive, as in 'the Speed Skating was compulsive to watch.'</p>
<b>Resources:</b>	<p><a href="https://translate.weblio.jp">https://translate.weblio.jp</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com">Oxford Dictionaries. http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com</a></p> <p><a href="https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org">The British Council website. https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org</a></p>
<b>Practice idea:</b>	<p>Write your ideas on what a typical day of a Winter Olympian might involve.</p>
<b>Listening link:</b>	<p><a href="#">The 2018 Winter Olympics - audio</a></p> 

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Conversation  
card:

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What has been  
your best sporting  
achievement?

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