

Unit 11

A Complete the text with these words.

ball bull's eye catch corner court gate hurdle missed pull run

- 1 You should carry on trying if you want to achieve your goals; don't let your dreams fall at first _____.
- 2 Antony has high connections in this business. He's a good person to have in your _____.
- 3 I'm counting on you not to drop the _____ on this one; don't let me down.
- 4 You've been missing a lot of practice sessions. There's no way you'll be able to _____ up with the rest of the team.
- 5 If you don't follow the rules, you _____ the risk of being disqualified from the race.
- 6 We made our offer – now the ball is in their _____. Let's wait and see how they respond.
- 7 She is a great gymnast, but because of her recent injuries she _____ out on competing in this year's Olympics.
- 8 We'd better hurry up with the trials if we want to be the first out of the _____ with this new cutting edge sports gear.
- 9 When he was caught using illegal substances, he was forced to _____ out of the race.
- 10 You really hit the _____ with this proposal – it was exactly what we were looking for.

B Choose the correct answers.

- 1 You need to practise for many hours a day if you ___ to become a champion swimmer one day.
a sharpen b hone c aspire
- 2 Jeremy has always wanted to be a sports ___ and he is happy now that he landed his dream job.
a commentator b interpreter c reviewer
- 3 It is my first time ___ an interview with a world class athlete, and I'm more than a little nervous.
a conducting b leading c taking
- 4 He is a great athlete. In fact, he is considered a living ___ by some.
a hero b legend c myth
- 5 I love the sport and spend hours practising, but I just don't seem to have what it ___ to become a professional athlete.
a needs b takes c wants
- 6 It was just a school championship, we didn't expect the newspapers to ___ it.
a cover b consider c refer
- 7 Every Sunday afternoon, Tom is at the pitch ___ for his team.
a applauding b reviving c rooting
- 8 Leonidas of Rhodes is believed to have ___ the record for most individual Olympic medals won for 2,168 years before it was broken by Michael Phelps in 2016.
a kept b committed c held

C Rewrite the sentences in reported speech using the words in bold.

- 1 'Let me show you the way to the changing rooms,' she said.

OFFERED

She _____ to the changing rooms.

- 2 'When did you take part in your first completion?' he asked.

KNOW

He wanted _____ part in my first completion.

- 3 'Don't attempt the jump before you are properly warmed up,' the coach said.

WARNED

The coach _____ the jump before I was properly warmed up.

Not For Sale

4 'Shall we watch the game on TV tonight?' he said.

ASKED

He _____ the game on TV that night.

5 'You should try out for the team. I know you can make it,' she said.

ENCOURAGED

She _____ for the team.

6 'I'm sorry I was late for practice,' he said.

APOLOGISED

He _____ late for practice.

7 'Have you ever been to a live sporting event?' he asked.

WANTED

He _____ ever been to a live sporting event.

8 'Why don't you play some one on one?' he asked.

SUGGESTED

He _____ one on one.

9 'I'll teach you how to play softball,' she said

PROMISED

She _____ how to play softball.

10 'It's not fair – you were cheating!' she said.

ACCUSED

She _____ cheating.

11 'Don't forget to take your tennis racket again,' my mother said.

REMINDED

My mother _____ tennis racket.

D Complete the text with the correct form of the words in brackets.

The whole world watched as, on 14 August 2016, Olympic medalist Qin Kai got down on his knee and asked his fellow athlete He Zi ¹ _____ (become) his wife, just as she was waiting to receive her silver medal for diving. She had tears in her eyes as she accepted, but not everyone believes the proposal made her happy.

Later she told reporters that she and Qui Kai ² _____ (date) for nearly six years, but that she ³ _____ (not / expect) him to propose on that day. Her fellow athletes, waiting to receive their medals, seemed genuinely happy for her but not surprised. They said that Qin ⁴ _____ (warn) them about what he ⁵ _____ (plan) to do and they had agreed to participate.

The audience watching, however, seemed to have mixed feelings about the proposal. Comments posted on Facebook and Twitter accuse Qin of ⁶ _____ (try) to steal her moment of glory. Others claim that he ⁷ _____ (belittle) her by insinuating that ⁸ _____ (get) married to him is more important than her ⁹ _____ (win) an Olympic medal. However, there are also those who consider it a very romantic gesture and that Qin ¹⁰ _____ (simply / shout) his love from the rooftops and that that was a good thing. They claim that public proposals are common in China and that as they were both athletes the Olympic games ¹¹ _____ (make) sense as the perfect place to propose.

At the end of the day, when it comes to relationships, ¹² _____ (it / matter) what total strangers say on social media?