

10D Someone that I admire

1 Is there someone that you admire? It could be a friend, a family member, or someone famous. Why do you admire him or her? Discuss in pairs.

I admire my aunt. She's a surgeon, and she saves people's lives. It's a really difficult and important job.

2 A Read Hannah's description. Who does she admire and why?

B Read the description again and answer the questions.

- 1 What does Michaela look like?
- 2 What happened when she was three years old?
- 3 When did she move to the Dutch National Ballet?
- 4 Who does Michaela help?
- 5 What difficult situation did Hannah have?

A PERSON I ADMIRE

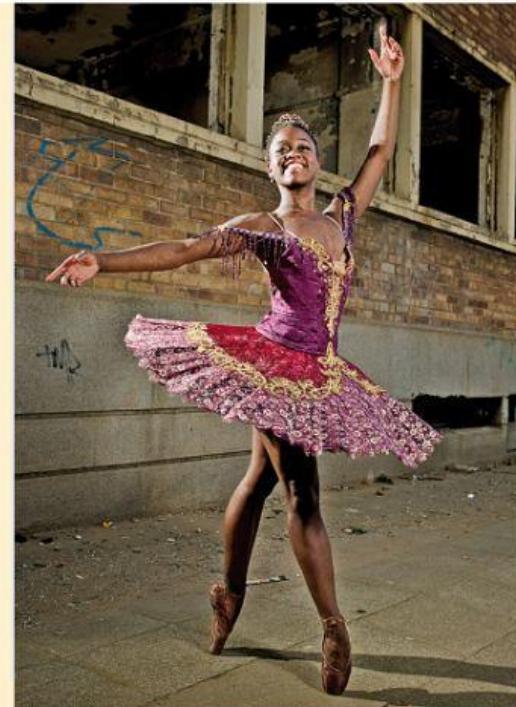
Michaela DePrince

Michaela DePrince is a ballet dancer from Sierra Leone. She's unusual in the world of ballet because there aren't many ballerinas from her country. She is slim and confident and has a beautiful smile.¹

From a young age, Michaela's life was extremely difficult. When she was three years old, she lost both her parents in the civil war in Sierra Leone. But she survived her difficult past, and today she's one of the most talented young ballet stars in the world. She became the youngest dancer at the Dance Theatre of Harlem in New York when she was just seventeen and, in 2013, she moved to the Dutch National Ballet.²

I admire Michaela because she's a very strong and brave person. As well as ballet dancing, she spends a lot of time helping young people who have problems in their lives.³ When I didn't get the grades that I needed to study medicine in college, Michaela's story inspired me, and I didn't give up.

By Hannah Lee



Skill writing a description of a person

When you write a description of a person, organize your ideas into paragraphs, for example:

Paragraph 1: where the person is from, his/her job, appearance, and personality

Ed Sheeran is a singer and musician from England. He has red hair and blue eyes, and is very popular.

Paragraph 2: information about his/her life and achievements

He was born in 1991 in Yorkshire. When he was a child, he learned to play the guitar. He made his first record when he was thirteen. Today, he is popular all over the world.

Paragraph 3: why you admire him/her

I admire him because he writes beautiful and honest songs, and he's very talented.

3 Read the Skill box. Complete 1–3 in the description of Michaela DePrince with sentences a–c.

- a She shows that there is always hope for a better future.
- b In 2016, she danced in Beyoncé's visual album, *Lemonade*.
- c For a ballerina, she's not very tall.