

Complete the text about Michael Phelps with the words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need.

### Michael Phelps – Most Successful Swimmer of All Times

appearance    dominated    experienced    failed    flag    inspired  
legendary    medals    nation    popular    record    relay  
retirement    successful

Michael Phelps, the most successful swimmer of all times, ended his career after his last (1) \_\_\_\_\_ at the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. He won a total of 28 Olympic medals, 23 of them in gold. In the 2008 Beijing games he broke Mark Spitz's (2) \_\_\_\_\_ record, winning 8 gold medals at a single Olympics. In the 2016 Olympic Games, Phelps won 5 gold (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and one in silver. His last competition was the butterfly leg in the 4X100 m men's (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

After the event Michael Phelps, at the age of 31, declared the end of his so (5) \_\_\_\_\_ career. The American swimmer came back from (6) \_\_\_\_\_ after the 2012 Olympics in London. In Rio, he was chosen to lead America's Olympic team into the stadium and carry the (7) \_\_\_\_\_.

Born in Baltimore, Michael was the youngest of three children. He began swimming at the age of 7. By the time he reached 10 he had already held a national (8) \_\_\_\_\_ for swimmers of his age in the 100-meter butterfly event. In 2000 he became the youngest male to join the US Olympic swimming team in 68 years. At his first games in Sydney, Phelps finished fifth in the 200m butterfly event. In the following years Phelps (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the swimming world. He competed in 6 single events, including butterfly, freestyle and backstroke as well as the medley races. Phelps not only became the world's best swimmer, but also (10) \_\_\_\_\_ other Americans. At the Rio games, the United States was the world's most successful swimming (11) \_\_\_\_\_.

Now, Michael Phelps wants to spend more time working with his foundation, which he created after the Beijing Olympics to make swimming more (12) \_\_\_\_\_ among young people. He also wants more time with his family.