

Third conditional

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1 Read the text at the bottom of the page and tick the sentence, A or B, which best summarises Tom's feelings.

- A If Tom hadn't had his monkey with him at the Olympic Games, he would have felt more nervous.
 B If Tom hadn't had his monkey with him, he wouldn't have won a bronze medal at the Olympic Games.

2 Which of these statements do you agree with?

- 1 If Tom Daley hadn't had a lucky monkey, he might not have become a champion diver.
- 2 If Matthew Syed had lived in a different street, he wouldn't have become a table tennis champion.
- 3 Usain Bolt couldn't have been the world's fastest man if he hadn't grown up in Jamaica.
- 4 Serena Williams might have won fewer championships if her sister hadn't also been a tennis champion.

3 Look at the rules below and choose the correct words.

- 1 The third conditional is used to speculate about things in the *past/present*.
- 2 The 'if clause' *always comes first/can come first or second*.
- 3 *If* is always followed by the *past perfect/would have*.
- 4 *Might, could/may* and *will* can be used instead of *would*.

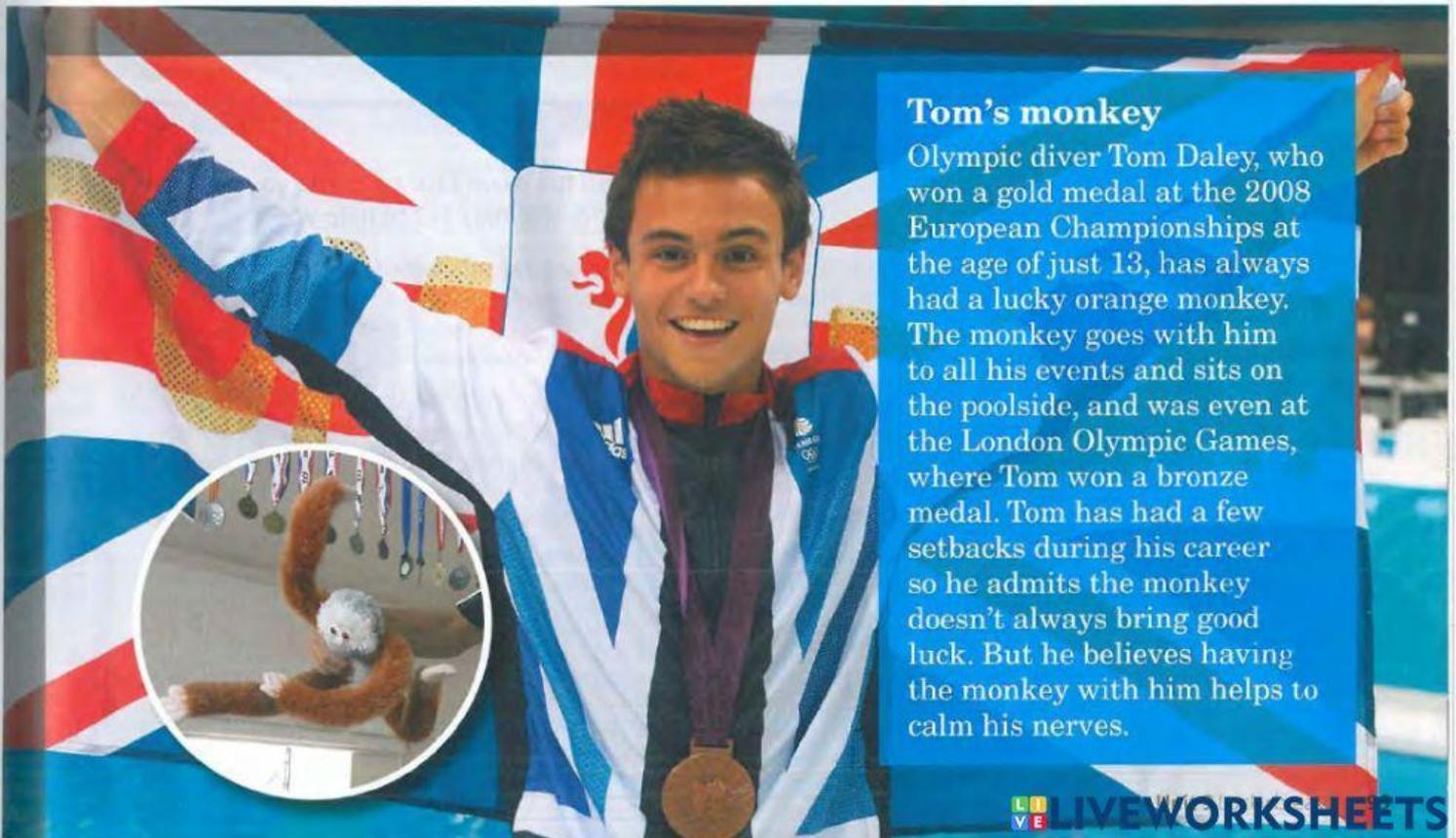
4 Rewrite the sentences using the third conditional.

- 1 Michael Johnson didn't win a fifth Olympic gold medal because he was injured.
Michael Johnson could have won
- 2 Ellie didn't train properly for the marathon so she wasn't able to finish the race.
If Ellie had
- 3 Lola and Marc met while they were doing a scuba diving course in Thailand.
Lola and Marc wouldn't
- 4 I went out jogging and fell over and broke my ankle on the ice.
If I hadn't

5 Complete the sentences so that they are true about you.

- 1 If I hadn't met
- 2 If I hadn't decided to
- 3 I'd have been very disappointed if
- 4 Things might have turned out differently if I

6 Compare your answers in pairs. Did you learn anything new about your partner?



Tom's monkey
 Olympic diver Tom Daley, who won a gold medal at the 2008 European Championships at the age of just 13, has always had a lucky orange monkey. The monkey goes with him to all his events and sits on the poolside, and was even at the London Olympic Games, where Tom won a bronze medal. Tom has had a few setbacks during his career so he admits the monkey doesn't always bring good luck. But he believes having the monkey with him helps to calm his nerves.