| B2 | Taking Part in the Olympics | LIU039 |
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**Complete the text about taking part in the Olympic Games. Fill in the blanks from the word list on the right. There are TWO words you will not need.**

For many athletes taking **(1)** _____ in the Olympic Games is the peak of their career. It is an event which takes **(2)** _____ only every four years and athletes are prepared to do whatever is **(3)** _____ and sacrifice anything to make their dream come **(4)** _____.

While few athletes have the **(5)** _____ to take part in Olympics twice or even three times in their life many only have a once-in-a-lifetime shot at gold, silver and bronze medals.

In the months and years before the Olympics they try to **(6)** _____ for the games in national and international **(7)** _____. Once selected by their national Olympic committees they prepare with the help of **(8)** _____ developed training schedules so that they can perform best when the day arrives.

When athletes take part in the Olympics they stay at the Olympic Village, in itself a small town which **(9)** _____ thousands of athletes, coaches and officials from all over the world. They are **(10)** _____ training facilities, roam through souvenir shops and cafes and socialize with **(11)** _____ from other countries.

The opening **(12)** _____ is an event which most describe as something really special. Thousands of athletes parade into the stadium, **(13)** _____ their country's flag and wear their official Olympic outfit.

However, winning a gold medal is surely the most **(14)** _____ moment of an athlete's career, when you stand on the podium, seeing your flag **(15)** _____ and hearing the national anthem played. Then you finally know that all the **(16)** _____ made, and hardships endured in the previous years have **(17)** _____ off.

**accommodates**
**ceremony**
**chilling**
**competitions**
**display**
**highly**
**medals**
**national**
**necessary**
**offered**
**opportunity**
**paid**
**part**
**participants**
**place**
**qualify**
**raised**
**sacrifices**
**true**

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