

Chapter 11: The Epitome of Will Power

Fill in the blanks

1. Mary Kom was born on _____ in a poor farming family in Manipur.
2. Inspired by boxer _____ victory at the 1998 Asian Championships, Mary Kom took up boxing.
3. Mary Kom joined the _____ for intensive boxing training.
4. Within just _____ months of starting boxing, Mary Kom became state champion.
5. She won her first national title at the first Women's National Boxing Championship in Chennai in _____.
6. The _____ government appointed Mary Kom as Sub-Inspector of Police in 2005.
7. After marriage and birth of her twins in 2007, Mary Kom took a _____ year break from boxing.
8. In her 2008 comeback, Mary Kom won the _____ Women's World Championships in China.
9. AIBA honored Mary Kom with the title "_____" for her exceptional skills.
10. Mary Kom launched her official website _____ in 2010.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What was the primary reason Mary Kom decided to take up boxing?
 - a) Her family's financial struggles forced her to seek a professional sport for income
 - b) The Manipur government offered special incentives for tribal girls to join sports

c) Her school teachers identified her natural talent for combat sports during athletics

d) She was inspired by Dingko Singh's Asian Championship win and women's boxing at National Games

2. How did Mary Kom's early training shape her boxing career?

a) She learned traditional Manipuri martial arts before switching to Western boxing techniques

b) She joined Sports Authority of India for intensive training, winning state champion within 3 months

c) She trained secretly for years before getting official coaching recognition

d) Her parents opposed her training, forcing her to practice in hidden locations

3. What was significant about Mary Kom's 2008 comeback?

a) She became the first Indian woman to qualify for Olympic boxing trials

b) She transitioned from amateur to professional boxing with this victory

c) After a 2-year maternity break, she won the 5th Women's World Championships

d) This marked her shift from boxing to coaching younger athletes

4. Which of these best describes Mary Kom's attitude during her career break?

a) She maintained determination to return, saying "I can't imagine life without boxing"

- b) She considered permanent retirement to focus on family responsibilities
- c) She temporarily switched to athletics while recovering from childbirth
- d) She established a boxing academy during this period

5. What was unique about Mary Kom's 2010 website launch?

- a) It was the first by an Indian woman athlete to directly connect with global fans
- b) It primarily focused on recruiting young girls from Manipur into boxing
- c) It coincided with her retirement announcement and memoir publication
- d) It served as platform to criticize gender inequality in sports funding

6. How did the Manipur government recognize Mary Kom's achievements?

- a) By naming a stadium after her in Imphal
- b) By offering her a political position in sports ministry
- c) Through appointment as Sub-Inspector of Police in 2005
- d) Through financial rewards for each international medal

7. What makes Mary Kom's championship record exceptional?

- a) Maintaining unbeaten record for over a decade internationally
- b) Winning medals in both amateur and professional circuits
- c) Competing successfully across multiple weight categories
- d) Being first Indian woman to win four consecutive World titles

8. Which awards reflect Mary Kom's national recognition?

- a) Nobel Peace Prize and UNESCO Fair Play Award
- b) Arjuna Award, Padma Shri and Khel Ratna
- c) Olympic Gold Medal and Asian Games MVP
- d) Dronacharya Award and Dhyan Chand Award

9. What was Mary Kom's perspective on women's boxing in Olympics?

- a) She criticized the IOC for delayed inclusion of women's events
- b) She felt indifferent as she planned to retire before 2012
- c) She was thrilled and committed to do her best for India
- d) She worried about inadequate preparation time for Indian boxers

10. What best describes Mary Kom's legacy?

- a) A trailblazer who overcame poverty and gender barriers through determination
- b) A talented athlete who benefited from early institutional support
- c) A regional champion who gained unexpected international fame
- d) A sports administrator who reformed Indian boxing systems

What do you know about boxing?

1. How many rounds are there in an amateur boxing match?

- a) 3 rounds
- b) 5 rounds
- c) 10 rounds
- d) 12 rounds

2. Which of these is not a boxing move?

- a) Jab
- b) Hook
- c) Slap
- d) Uppercut

3. In which year did women's boxing first feature in the Olympics?

- a) 2008
- b) 2012
- c) 2016
- d) 2020

4. What weight is a boxing glove usually?

- a) 8–10 ounces
- b) 12–16 ounces
- c) 20–24 ounces
- d) 1 kilogram

5. What color is the boxing ring's canvas?

- a) Blue
- b) Red
- c) White
- d) Green