

Yusra Mardini: From swimming the Aegean Sea to Rio Olympics



You are going to hear the story of Yusra, a young Syrian swimmer who fled her country to escape war. How much do you know about the Syrian war? Do some research and answer the questions.

- * Where is Syria?
- * What is Syria's capital city?
- * When did the war start?
- * How did it start?
- * How is that movement called?

Preparation

Match the words to their definitions.

A coach

A disaster

To rely on

A border

Dignity

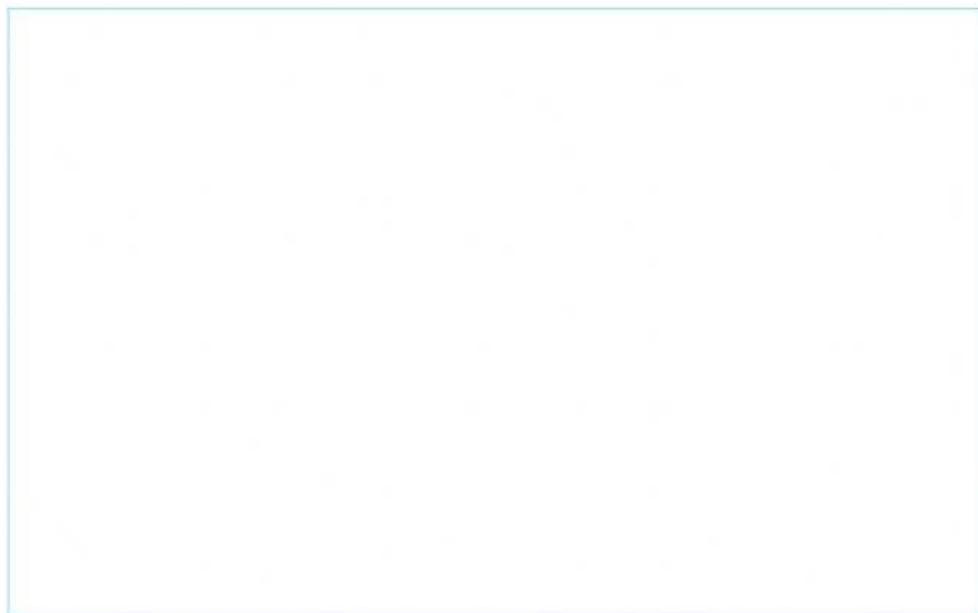
The Olympics

To escape

To board a boat

- * A sports trainer
- * A sports competition held every four years.
- * To get away
- * To get on a boat
- * A sudden accident that causes a lot of damage or kills a lot of people
- * To depend on
- * A line separating two countries
- * A sense you have of your own value and that other people respect you

Watch



Check your understanding

Circle the best option to complete these sentences.

- * Yusra used to have lots of friends, loved going to school and to the **gym** / **pool** / **extra classes**.
- * Her swimming coach told her she could compete in the **Olympics** / **FIFA World Cup** / **World Championship** one day!
- * Her life was in danger because of the **war** / **earthquake** / **flood**.
- * Yusra and her **little** / **middle** / **big** sister, Sara, travelled to **travelled to Turkey**. The plan was for her family to **stay in Syria** / **follow** / **go to another country**.
- * Yusra and her sister were **unable to swim** / **weak swimmers** / **strong swimmers** and helped to save the lives of everyone in the boat.
- * They swam and pulled the boat for more than **three and a half** / **four and a half** / **five and a half** hours.
- * Yusra made it to Europe and arrived at her new home in **Turkey** / **Germany** / **Greece**.
- * Yusra is proud to be a goodwill ambassador for the **UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)** and she represents people who are all fleeing **violence** / **disease** / **natural disasters**.