



1 READING

a Ask and answer the questions.

- 1 What famous sport events do you know?
- 2 Which sportsmen and women do you like? Why?
- 3 Look at the man on the left in the picture and answer the questions.
 - a What sport does he do?
 - b Where's he from?
 - c Where is he in the picture?
 - d What would you like to know about him?

Write two questions.

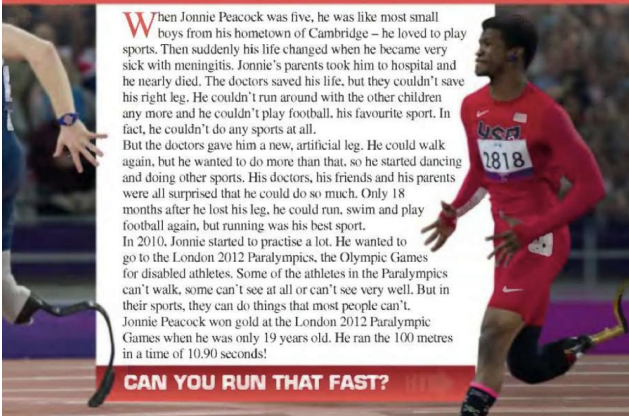
b Read the text and check your answers. Does it answer your questions?

c Read the text again. Answer the questions.

- 1 What was his life like until he was five?
- 2 How did his life change when he was five?
- 3 Why were his doctors, friends and parents surprised?
- 4 What does the text say about some of the Paralympic athletes?
- 5 Why is Jonnie famous?

d Underline the parts of the text that surprise you. Tell a partner.

JONNIE PEACOCK
CHAMPION RUNNER



When Jonnie Peacock was five, he was like most small boys from his hometown of Cambridge – he loved to play sports. Then suddenly his life changed when he became very sick with meningitis. Jonnie's parents took him to hospital and he nearly died. The doctors saved his life, but they couldn't save his right leg. He couldn't run around with the other children any more and he couldn't play football, his favourite sport. In fact, he couldn't do any sports at all. But the doctors gave him a new, artificial leg. He could walk again, but he wanted to do more than that, so he started dancing and doing other sports. His doctors, his friends and his parents were all surprised that he could do so much. Only 18 months after he lost his leg, he could run, swim and play football again, but running was his best sport. In 2010, Jonnie started to practise a lot. He wanted to go to the London 2012 Paralympics, the Olympic Games for disabled athletes. Some of the athletes in the Paralympics can't walk, some can't see at all or can't see very well. But in their sports, they can do things that most people can't. Jonnie Peacock won gold at the London 2012 Paralympic Games when he was only 19 years old. He ran the 100 metres in a time of 10.90 seconds!

CAN YOU RUN THAT FAST?

2 GRAMMAR

can / can't, could / couldn't for ability

a Complete the sentences from the text. Check your answers.

- 1 He ____ run around with the other children any more.
- 2 Only 18 months after he lost his leg, he ____ run, swim and play football again.
- 3 Some of the athletes in the Paralympics ____ walk.
- 4 But in their sports, they ____ do things that most people ____.
- 5 ____ you run that fast?

b Complete the rules with the words in the box.

past question present

To talk about ability, we use *can / can't* for the _____ and *could / couldn't* for the _____.

To make a _____, we change *You can ...* to *Can you ...*?

c Look at the question. Which two answers are correct?

Can you run that fast?

- a Yes, I do. b Yes, I can. c No, I can't. d No, I don't.

d **Pronunciation** Listen to the sentences in 2a and answer the questions.

- 1 One word has a long sound. Which is it?
a *can* b *can't* c *could* d *couldn't*
- 2 Can you hear a /l/ sound in *could* and *couldn't*?