



Paula Radcliffe is a British long distance runner. She started competing in ¹ _____ at the age of seven, but she did not start running marathons until she was nearly 30. When she ran her first London marathon, she set ² _____ well, and went on to win the race. The following year, not only did she win, but she also set a new world record of 2 hours, 15 minutes and 25 seconds. After her ³ _____ performance in these two races, she was selected for the British Olympic ⁴ _____ to run the marathon in Athens in 2004. People thought she was ⁵ _____ to win a gold medal, but she suffered a leg ⁶ _____ just two weeks before she was due to head ⁷ _____ Greece. She had to take a lot of medicine to ⁸ _____ in time for the competition. This set her health ⁹ _____ even further because the medicine affected her stomach. In the Athens Olympics she stopped running after 36 km and could not finish the race.

In the seasons that followed, Radcliffe fought a ¹⁰ _____ with more injuries, but managed to qualify for the Beijing Olympics in 2008. Unfortunately, her stomach failed her again, but she finished the race in 23rd position.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| 1 a athleticism | b athletics | c athletes | d athletic |
| 2 a off | b on | c in | d down |
| 3 a outspoken | b standing | c well | d outstanding |
| 4 a kit | b stadium | c team | d pitch |
| 5 a destined | b sunk | c towards | d gripped |
| 6 a hurt | b injury | c damage | d harm |
| 7 a for | b of | c on | d in |
| 8 a cover up | b discover | c catch up | d recuperate |
| 9 a aside | b back | c off | d down |
| 10 a fight | b struggle | c battle | d combat |

1 Complete the sentences, replacing the underlined words with an expression containing the word in brackets.

- 1 The bad weather delayed the departure of our flight. (back)
The bad weather _____ the departure of our flight.
- 2 My little brother always behaves in a silly way. (fool)
My little brother always _____.
- 3 The tourist was taking a risk when he tried to take a photo of the shark. (fear)
The tourist was _____ when he tried to take a photo of the shark.
- 4 The rain arrived and stayed for the day, so we couldn't go out. (in)
The rain _____ for the day, so we couldn't go out.
- 5 We started our journey early to avoid the traffic. (off)
We _____ early to avoid the traffic.
- 6 Josy laughed when we tricked her. (joke)
Josy laughed when we _____ on her.
- 7 I'm saving some money every month for a car. (aside)
I'm _____ some money every month for a car.
- 8 I didn't understand the message on my answerphone so I listened to it again. (back)
I didn't understand the message on my answerphone so I _____.
- 9 The school bus lets us get out outside our house. (down)
The school bus _____ outside our house.
- 10 She had to stay in hospital for three weeks to get better.
She had to stay in hospital for three weeks to _____.

2 Complete the text.

Last Wednesday David was serving a customer in the bank when two masked men ran ¹ _____ the bank firing guns. They told everyone to lie face ² _____ on the floor, and one of them headed ³ _____ the manager's office. He pushed the manager ⁴ _____ the door to the safe. 'Open it!' he shouted, but the manager refused. The robber set ⁵ _____ him at once, but David intervened and offered to open the safe. He walked ⁶ _____ the safe, then put his hand on the dial. The rest of the staff realized that David was playing for ⁷ _____ until the police arrived, so they played ⁸ _____ with his plan. Five minutes later the bank robbers were arrested. David said he had managed to play it ⁹ _____ because of his ¹⁰ _____ instinct.

7 Complete the dialogue.

Tony Do you ¹ _____ any team sports, Ben?

Ben Yes, I do. I ² _____ basketball.

Tony I don't play any team sports, but I ³ _____ athletics and I ⁴ _____ swimming once a week. Do you play basketball often?

Ben Yes, I do. In fact, there ⁵ _____ a match yesterday.

Tony ⁶ _____ you win?

Ben Yes. The players on the other team ⁷ _____ very good.

Tony How many people are in your team?

Ben There are twelve of us, but one of our players ⁸ _____ an accident during yesterday's match.

Tony What ⁹ _____?

Ben ¹⁰ _____ he was running, he fell and broke his arm.

6 Complete the mini dialogues with the affirmative or negative past simple or past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 Why didn't you take an umbrella? (rain)
Because it _____.
- 2 Why did Hannah wake up? (hear)
Because she _____ a noise.
- 3 Why did he send the students home? (wear)
Because they _____ jeans.
- 4 Why did the teacher get angry? (do)
Because we _____ our homework.
- 5 Why didn't you get up? (forget)
Because I _____ to set my alarm clock.
- 6 Why did you leave the cinema? (like)
Because we _____ the film.
- 7 Why didn't your father answer his mobile? (drive)
Because he _____ his car.
- 8 Why didn't Mark stop? (see)
Because he _____ the traffic lights.
- 9 Why didn't you lend me your dictionary? (use)
Because I _____ it.
- 10 Why did they lose the match? (play)
Because they _____ very badly.

5 Find and correct the mistake in each line.

1 In 1996 David Beckham score one of the best
2 goals in history. It were the first match of the
3 season and Manchester United played
4 Wimbledon. Beckham's team were wining
5 2-0. Beckham was receiving the ball near
6 the halfway line and look up to see the
7 state of play. He seen that the Wimbledon
8 goalkeeper Neil Hutton didn't be in goal. He
9 was kicking the ball with his right foot and
10 it flied over Hutton's head into the net.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____

6 _____
7 _____
8 _____
9 _____
10 _____