

He has just won first prize

E Listening Part 3 • Writing Part 2 | V feelings and opinions | L present perfect and past simple



Rahul wins National Spelling Bee

For the past five years the Hathwar family have travelled to Washington DC to watch their children in the top US spelling competition, the National Spelling Bee. Their elder daughter, Gayathri, has taken part since she was nine years old, and her younger brother Rahul has just won the first prize of \$40,000 at his first attempt.

Rahul and Gayathri studied hard to reach the final, which was shown on television all over the US. Mr Hathwar helped his children beforehand by making lists of words and

checking their meanings. He was confident they would do well. Rahul even stopped playing computer games and doing his other hobbies to concentrate on learning spellings.

'I don't regret it,' he says. 'The Spelling Bee has taught me to work hard. I didn't expect to come first so I was amazed at the result. I was so anxious when I arrived at the Television Centre I couldn't stop shaking.'

Gayathri admits she is a little disappointed that she has never won a prize but she is very proud of her brother's success.

Reading

1 How do you think the boy is feeling? What do you think he has done to win this cup? Read the newspaper article and check.

2 Are these sentences true (A) or false (B)?

A: YES B: NO

- 1 Gayathri and Rahul have each been in the Spelling Bee the same number of times.
- 2 Rahul is sorry he gave up his hobbies for the Spelling Bee.
- 3 Rahul was very nervous before he went on television.
- 4 Gayathri feels jealous because her brother has won the prize.

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