

NMT Task 3 practice (4)

Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (1-6). There two choices you don't need

1 Jim Thorpe

Considered one of the best all-round athletes in history, American Jim Thorpe won gold medals in the pentathlon and the decathlon at the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm. However, since he had been a semi-professional baseball player before the Olympics, he was later disqualified. After the Olympics he went on to successful careers in both baseball and American football. In 1982, almost 30 years after his death, the International Olympic Committee recognised Thorpe's victories in Stockholm, and his Olympic medals were returned to his family.

2 Fanny Blankers-Koen

As a young sprinter from the Netherlands, Fanny Blankers-Koen competed in her first Olympics in 1936. The outbreak of World War II prevented two Olympic Games organisations from taking place, but the big **opportunity for** Fanny Blankers-Koen came in 1948. Then, at the age of 30 and a mother of two, Blankers-Koen won four gold medals and was given the nickname 'the flying housewife.' In 1999, she was voted 'Female Athlete of the Century' by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

3 Jackie Joyner-Kersey

Jackie Joyner Kersee won Olympic medals in an amazing four consecutive Olympics starting in Los Angeles in 1984. At the Olympics in Seoul, in 1988, she scored 7,291 in the heptathlon, setting a world record for the event which still stands today. After retiring from sport, she established the Jackie Joyner-Kersey foundation to encourage young people from poor neighbourhoods to participate in sport.

4 Serhii Bubka

Ukrainian athlete Serhii Bubka broke the world record for pole vault an amazing 35 times. Bubka began his athletic career in 1981 competing for the Soviet Union but represented his native Ukraine from 1991 until his retirement in 2001. Since then, Bubka has held a variety of posts with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and in 2005, Bubka became president of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine.



5 Usain Bolt

Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt has been called the **fastest** man in the world. In addition to eight Olympic Gold medals, he has won an amazing eleven gold medals at the IAAF world championships, more than any man in history. He was a member of the Jamaican relay team which holds the world record for the 4x100 m relay, and his individual world records for the 100 m and 200 m, both set in 2009, have yet to be broken.

6 Haile Gebrselassie

Ethiopia's Haile Gebrselassie has set 27 world records and is one of the most successful long-distance runners in history. As a child, Gebrselassie ran ten kilometres to and from school every day and, as a result, he continued running with his left arm bent like he's holding books. He began as a junior world champion in 1992 and since then won eight gold medals in both the indoor and outdoor world championships as well as two Olympic gold medals in the 10,000 metres.

Which of the athletes _____?

- A. was chosen to receive a special honour for athletic achievement
- B. represented more than one state in international competitions
- C. won medals in four different Olympic Games
- D. holds the world record for most Olympic medals in athletics
- E. developed a unique style at an early age
- F. participated in sports outside athletics
- G. retired from sport earlier than expected
- H. has won more World Championships than anyone else in athletics