

“Gold Rush” (TFK) Article

Week 2, Day 1: Read, **Annotate** (write in the margins: questions, circle unknown words, connections, main idea of each paragraph, etc.), and Summarize the article.

Week 2, Day 2: Re-read, **Annotate** using a new color to find the answer to each question. Next to the text annotation, write the question number. Answer the questions on a new page in complete sentences.

1. When and where di the 2016 Summer Olympics take place? Where will the next Summer Games be held?
2. How many medals has U.S. swimmer Michael Phelps won all together?
3. Determine the significance of the following statistics, or numbers, from the article: **121** , **1,000** , **two-seconds** , **4,350**

Week 2, Day 3: Read “Winning Words” and Complete the Activity

Prompt: Choose three (3) character traits of an Olympic athlete (e.g., determination, persistence, confidence). In three (3) separate paragraphs; explain how the trait helps an athlete succeed, and how the trait can help students succeed as well.

Week 2, Day 4: Writing Piece: Cite evidence (quote) from the article to support you answer. **Write Multiple Paragraphs (at least 3)**. **Use at least one piece of evidence from the article to support your response.**

Name _____ Date _____

Winning Words

What have U.S. Olympic athletes learned from their success? Read the quotes on this page. Then reflect on their meaning. The activity below will help you get started.

"Before you can achieve, you must believe in yourself."

—Katie Ledecky, U.S. Olympic swimmer who set two world records in Rio and took home four gold medals and one silver medal

"You can't put a limit on anything. The more you dream, the farther you get."

—U.S. swimmer Michael Phelps, the most decorated Olympian of all time, with 23 gold medals, 25 medals overall

"Confidence comes with training, conditioning, and practice, practice, practice."

—Simone Biles, the first American gymnast to win four gold medals at a single Olympic Games

"Nobody should expect more of you than you expect of yourself."

—Carmelo Anthony, the only male basketball player in Olympic history to win three gold medals

Think About It

1. Which quote do you think is the most inspiring? Put a check next to it. Explain your choice.

Live It

2. What does the quote tell you about the athlete and his or her values? Explain. (Values are a person's principles, or standards of behavior.) _____

3. Do you share the athlete's values? Explain.

Achieve It

4. What is one of your dreams? _____

5. What does the quote teach you about how to achieve your dream?

Gold Rush

The world's top athletes came together in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to compete in the 2016 Summer Olympics.

SEPTEMBER 09, 2016

By Glenn Greenberg with TIME and AP reporting

On August 21, a colorful closing ceremony in Maracanã Stadium, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, marked the end of the 2016 Summer Olympics. The United States dominated the 16-day international competition, bringing home 121 medals, 46 of them gold.

In his fifth—and final—Olympics, American swimmer Michael Phelps, 31, added to his trove of medals. He is the most decorated Olympian of all time. Phelps won five gold and one silver, bringing his career total to 23 gold, three silver, and two bronze. “I’ve had 24 years in this sport and I’m happy with how things finished,” Phelps said after his final race.

The U.S. women’s swim team achieved historic victories too. In the 4 x 100-meter medley relay race, swimmers gave the U.S. its 1,000th all-time gold medal. Katie Ledecky, 19, beat her own world records by nearly two seconds in both the 400-meter and 800-meter freestyle. She took home four gold medals and one silver. “I hit all my goals right on the nose,” she said.

Many nations had reason to cheer. Dmitriy Balandin, 21, of Kazakhstan, won his country’s first swimming medal in the men’s 200-meter breaststroke. Joseph Schooling, 21, won Singapore its first gold. He defeated Phelps, his childhood idol, in the 100-meter butterfly.

Dreams Come True

U.S. women gymnasts came away with seven medals. Simone Biles, 19, won four gold and a bronze. In addition to team gold, Laurie Hernandez, Madison Kocian, and Aly Raisman earned silver. Biles had the honor of carrying the U.S. flag at the closing ceremony. “Every single day that I’ve had here has been like a dream come true, and it just keeps on getting better,” she said.

The Games held many memorable moments. Kosovo, Fiji, Vietnam, and Puerto Rico, which is part of the U.S., celebrated first-ever gold medals. The athletes representing the Refugee Olympic Team received big cheers. Distance runners Nikki Hamblin, from New Zealand, and Abbey D’Agostino, from the U.S., did not win medals in the 5,000-meter event, but earned the Fair Play award. In a qualifying race, the runners stumbled and fell, and then helped each other finish.

Jamaican sprinters Usain Bolt, 29, and Elaine Thompson, 24, showed that they are the world’s fastest. Thompson won the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints. Bolt became the first man to win the “triple triple.” He has won gold in the

100-meter, the 200-meter, and the 4 x 100– meter relay in three Olympics. “I am the greatest,” he said.

Games to Come

The 2016 Olympics are over, but the spirit of competition lives on. From September 7 to 18, Rio is hosting the Paralympic Games. The spotlight will shine on 4,350 athletes with disabilities. Athletes from 176 countries will compete in 23 sports.

The 2020 Games will be held in Tokyo, Japan. Many athletes have already started training for their events. Will Biles compete in Tokyo? “That’s a really long ways away,” she said on TV. “We’ll see.”