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WHAT IN THE WORLD?

Sample Pages

CANADA SHINES IN PYEONGCHANG

What is the main purpose of the article? (1 mark)

What is the author's attitude towards the Canadian athletes? (1 mark)

What is the author's attitude towards the PyeongChang Winter Olympics? (1 mark)

What is the author's attitude towards the South Korean athletes? (1 mark)

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What is the author's attitude towards the South Korean athletes? (1 mark)

CAPE TOWN'S WATER CRISIS

What is the main purpose of the article? (1 mark)

What is the author's attitude towards the Cape Town water crisis? (1 mark)

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QUIZZES

THE CANADIAN READER

1. The first person to be elected as Canada's first Prime Minister was _____.

2. The first person to be elected as Canada's first Prime Minister was _____.

3. The first person to be elected as Canada's first Prime Minister was _____.

4. The first person to be elected as Canada's first Prime Minister was _____.

5. The first person to be elected as Canada's first Prime Minister was _____.

ANSWER KEY



Canadian athletes came home with a treasure trove of precious medals when the 2018 Winter Olympic Games ended on February 25 in PyeongChang, South Korea. Canada's count of 1 gold, 8 silver, and 20 bronze placed us third behind Norway (9 medals overall) and Germany (11 medals) among the 92 nations competing at this year's event.

With a final count of 29, we beat our previous record of 26 medals won at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

"This has been a phenomenal performance for Canada, obviously our best ever by a significant margin," Anne Merklinger, head of Own the Podium, told a reporter. "It gives Canadians so many reasons to celebrate."

HEARTSTOPPING WINS . . .

The torch started early in the Games when Canadian superstar freestyle skier Michael Kingsbury competed for gold in men's moguls on February 12. Observers say Mr. Kingsbury is the most successful moguls skier in history. He has won more than half the World Cup events he has entered – and this year alone he has won 13 races. Yet he had never won Olympic gold. He placed second to earn a silver medal at the Sochi Olympics in 2014.

This time, the 25-year-old from Deux-Montagnes, Quebec, was the second last skier out of a field of six to perform the final run. His family watched, knowing that his score of 89.69 was pure gold if the last skier – Dutch Hans of Japan – didn't beat him. When Mr. Har's time came in at 8:29, Canadian fans erupted in excitement.

. . . PUSHING PAST INJURIES . . .

Canadians were also rooting for 4x1 cross-country skier Kelsey Serwa of Kelowna, B.C. The 28-year-old, who has had three knee surgeries and who suffers from arthritis, powered through the finish line to win a gold medal.

"It is very cool," she said of her win. "It is very surreal to be the best in the world at something you put your heart into."

"I have an amazing support team around me who, from my head to my body, made sure everything was good. Our skis were rockers today."

. . . STELLAR DEBUTS . . .

Meanwhile, Kim Boutin, a 23-year-old speed skater from Sherbrooke, Quebec, had a stunning debut in PyeongChang. The Olympic newcomer, who earned the honour of carrying Canada's flag at the closing ceremony, won three medals – silver in the 500-metre race and bronze in both the 500 and 1000.

Ms. Boutin originally placed fourth in the 500-metre race, but moved up to third when South Korea's Minjeong Choi was disqualified for interference. Unfortunately, some South Koreans proved to be poor sports. Scores of them attacked Ms. Boutin on social media for winning this bronze medal – some even issuing death threats.

DEFINITIONS

ARTHRITIS: painful inflammation and stiffness of the joints

DEBUT: a person's first performance in a capacity or role

OWN THE PODIUM: a Canada not-for-profit group to prepare Canadian athletes to reach medal finishes at the Olympics

SKI CROSS: a downhill skiing contest for four to six competitors on a winding course that includes jumps

SURREAL: elements that combine in a strange, dreamlike way

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