

4. Indian Women Shine at the Olympics

A grey rectangular title card with rounded corners, hanging from a horizontal line by two black loops. The text "Worksheet 1" is written in a black serif font.

Worksheet 1

COMPREHENSION

PT Usha was born on 27 June 1964. She has been associated with Indian athletics since 1979. She was born in the Kerala village of Meladi-Payyoli near Calicut and was afflicted by ill-health and poverty. In 1976, the Kerala State Government started a sports school for women, and PT Usha was chosen to represent her district, at a cost of ` 250 per month paid by the State. In 1979, she participated in the National School Games, where she was noticed by O.M. Nambiar, who coached her through most of the rest of her career. India Today describes athletic situation in 1979 as a time when 'athletics was very much a male sport and track-suited women a rarity.' Her debut in the 1980 Moscow Olympics was lacklustre. In the Year 1982 of New Delhi Asiad, she managed only silver medals in the 100 m and the 200 m, but at the Asian Track and Field Championship in Kuwait a year later, PT Usha took gold in the 400 m with a new Asian record. Between 1983 and 1989, Usha garnered 13 golds at ATF meets. She finished first in the semifinals in the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984, but faltered in the finals. She was, however, the first Indian woman to reach the final of an Olympic event by winning her 400 m hurdles semifinal. In the 10th Asian Games at Seoul in 1986, Usha won 4 golds and 1 silver medal in the track and field events, created new Asian Games records in all the events in which she participated. In 1985 at Jakarta, she had won the most medals (6) at a Single Championship. Her five golds at the 6th ATF Championship is also a record for the most number of gold medals by a single athlete in a Single International meet. PT Usha has won 101 International medals so far. She is employed as an officer in the Southern Railways.

A. Read the above passage and answer the following questions.

1. Where was PT Usha born?

2. Who was her coach?

3. How was the athletic situation in 1979 described by India Today?

4. When did Usha win her first gold medal and for what event?

5. What was significant about her performance at the 6th ATF Championship?

B. Use a dictionary and write the meanings of the following words.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1. represent | _____ | 2. debut | _____ |
| 3. lacklustre | _____ | 4. faltered | _____ |
| 5. garnered | _____ | 6. afflicted | _____ |

C. Fill in the blanks with suitable words mentioned in the passage.

1. PT Usha's childhood was afflicted by _____ and _____.
2. Athletics was very much a _____, _____ and _____ women a _____.
3. Between 1983 and 1989, she _____ 13 gold medals at ATF meets.
4. In 1986 at Seoul, she won 4 golds and 1 silver, setting new Asian _____ in all the _____ in which she _____.
5. She is an _____ in the _____ _____.

Worksheet 2

GRAMMAR

A. Underline the pronouns in the following sentences.

1. She jumped to her feet and ran.
2. The door was open and it led to a passage.
3. What are you thinking of?
4. These books belong to Suresh.
5. You must remember all that you learn.
6. Please give this pen to Savita.

B. Write the kind of two pronouns mentioned in the following sentences.

1. This is the house that Jack built.
() ()
2. Her parents have gone to meet their neighbours.
() ()
3. What is the name of the new teacher who will teach music?
() ()

C. Complete the following sentences with suitable pronouns.

1. The thief _____ stole the jewellery was punished.
2. _____ boy in the blue shirt won the race yesterday.
3. Do _____ know _____ pen was lost?
4. _____ went in a taxi to Agra.
5. I do not know the man _____ hit the dog.
6. Listen to _____ I am saying.
7. I watched the train till _____ disappeared in the distance.
8. _____ am going for a picnic today.
9. The wolf was hunting with _____ pack.
10. This book is _____.

Worksheet 3

VOCABULARY AND WRITING

A. The following are homonyms (one word with more than one meaning). Make two sentences with each to show the difference in meaning.

1. wave _____

2. land _____

3. beat _____

4. patient _____

5. mind _____

B. The following are homophones (two words that sound alike or similar). Make sentences with each word to show the difference in meaning.

1. mail _____
male _____
2. way _____
weigh _____
3. piece _____
peace _____
4. some _____
sum _____
5. lesson _____
lessen _____

C. There are some random letters in the following balloon. Make as many three-four letter words as you can from them, using a letter only once in each word. (Clue: more than 40 words can be made) Make at least 10 words.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ |

