

Skimming a sports page

Answers

LINKS TO:

Stage 2, Module 10

Learning Object 2: Me too

Exercise 1

Answers:

1.1 Comment on the main features of the text.

1.1.1 Title and author

The title and author help us to determine the focus of the text and the source of the information.

1.1.2 Table of contents

The table of contents or menus help us to determine the scope of the text: what kinds of information it includes.

1.1.3 Headings and subheadings

Headings and subheadings allow us to predict the content of each section.

1.1.4 Index or menus

Indexes help us to locate information in the text, and identify what sort of information is included.

1.1.5 Illustrations and diagrams

Illustrations and diagrams help to clarify, summarise or add information.

1.2 Summarise the information you can glean from the text by skimming it.

1.2.1 Paragraph 1:

The first paragraph introduces the idea that sport is very popular in Indonesia. At the national level it is governed by the Indonesia National Sport Committee or KONI. Indonesia celebrates National Sport Day each year on 9 September.

1.2.2 Paragraph 2:

This paragraph provides information on the National Sports Week, or PON, which is held every four years for athletes throughout Indonesia. The various provinces take it in turns to host the PON Games.

1.2.3 Paragraph 3:

This paragraph informs us how the concept of modern sport was introduced during the Dutch colonial era and how the sports of soccer and badminton have been popular throughout this time.

1.2.4 Paragraph 4:

This paragraph provides a list of the ten most popular sports in Indonesia and is based both on participation levels and public interest.

1.2.5 Paragraph 5:

This paragraph focuses on the popularity of soccer in Indonesia and discusses the two Indonesian domestic leagues, the Indonesian Super League (*Liga Super Indonesia*), and the Premier Division (*Divisi Utama*). It also outlines the promotion and relegation process between the two leagues.

1.2.6 Paragraph 6:

This paragraph focuses on Indonesia's success in badminton at the Olympic Games, and other major world badminton tournaments. Players who have won Olympic Gold Medals and become household names in Indonesia — because of the sporting glory they have brought to the nation — are also mentioned.

1.2.7 Paragraph 7:

This paragraph looks at Indonesia's achievements in other major world badminton tournaments such as the All England Championships and the Thomas and Uber Cups. Some mention is made of the career of Indonesia's greatest-ever badminton player, Rudy Hartono, and his achievements on the world stage.

1.2.8 Paragraph 8:

The final paragraph contains speculation about the possible reasons for the popularity of soccer and badminton throughout the Indonesian archipelago.

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1.3 Do you think this article contains information that is useful for Peter’s assignment?

Yes, I think Peter would find this article very useful for his assignment. It provides a brief, historical perspective on organised sport in Indonesia, and particularly focuses on Indonesia’s performances on the world badminton stage. Indonesians take pride in their country’s achievements in badminton. The stars of this sport have become celebrities throughout the country.

and in larger cities facilities such as these are often located in five-star hotels on a user-pays basis. Indonesia has had no success in world-competition swimming, which further adds to my surprise that swimming is ranked so highly.

I also know that many Indonesians like to play chess as a pastime, but I would not have imagined that it enjoyed such widespread popularity as a competitive sport.

Finally, I was surprised to see boxing ranked in the top-ten sports in Indonesia. However, I discovered, in my online research, that Indonesia has had four world boxing champions. This explains why the sport is so popular in Indonesia.

Once an Indonesian athlete achieves world-dominance in a sport, it immediately raises the profile of that sport within the country.

Exercise 2

Sample answers:

2.1.1 How can people who are not Indonesian infer that sport is popular in Indonesia?

People outside Indonesia can infer that sport is popular in Indonesia from the number of sporting organisations in Indonesia, and the number of people who play sport.

2.1.2 Research and describe the role of the Komite Olahraga Nasional Indonesia (KONI)?

KONI is the central governing body for sport in Indonesia, and is made up of representatives from all the major sporting associations. Its biggest event is the *Pekan Olahraga Nasional (PON)*, a quadrennial national sports event, where athletes from across Indonesia compete. It is the biggest sporting event in Indonesia.

2.1.3 How do we know that sport plays an important role in Indonesian society?

The importance of sport to Indonesian society is demonstrated by the annual celebration of *Hari Olahraga Nasional* (National Sports Day) on 9 September.

2.1.4 When was the concept of competitive sport introduced to Indonesia? Which sports are the most popular?

The concept of competitive sport was introduced to Indonesia during the Dutch colonial period, with the sports of soccer and badminton gaining the widest public support.

2.1.5 From your knowledge of both Indonesian society and of popular sports within Indonesia, are you surprised by the sports included in the list of the ten most popular in Indonesia?

I am surprised that *renang* (swimming), *catur* (chess) and *tinju* (boxing) rank so highly in the list of popular sports. Olympic-sized public swimming pools are not common in Indonesia,

2.1.6 What can you infer about the strength of the soccer league in Indonesia?

Seeing that the winner of the Indonesian Super League in 2011–12 came from Jayapura in West Papua was a major surprise, because this is the least developed region in Indonesia. I would have expected a team based in the capital of Jakarta to be the league champion. The fact that the highest-placed Jakarta club finished third in the league is a sign that the Indonesian Super League is geographically strong throughout Indonesia.

2.1.7 Why do you think the article goes to great lengths to name every single Olympic gold-medal-winning Indonesian badminton player?

The article names every Indonesian Olympic gold-medal-winning badminton champion to emphasise two important facts. First, Indonesia has won at least one gold medal in every Olympic Games since badminton became an Olympic sport in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. And second, all these gold medallists are household names and their achievements are a matter of immense national pride.

2.1.8 Does Indonesia have any sporting icons? Identify them and summarise their achievements.

The only Indonesian sporting icon that could be compared to Donald Bradman would be the legendary badminton player, Rudy Hartono. He played the sport before it became an Olympic event and at the height of his career he won the All-England Championship for seven consecutive years between 1968 and 1974. Having lost the title in 1975, he won it for an eighth time in 1976. There is little doubt he would have achieved Olympic glory had badminton been an Olympic sport during his era.

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2.1.9 What other reasons does the article suggest for the widespread popularity of soccer and badminton in Indonesia?

The article suggests that soccer and badminton are accessible to all Indonesians, because all you need is a ball to kick around an empty field, or a racket and shuttlecock to hit around any back street or laneway. In other words, the cost of playing both these sports at a social, non-competitive level is negligible.

2.2 Which information from the text do you think is most important for Peter to include in his assignment? What is your opinion?

I think that Peter should focus on the two most popular sports in Indonesia, that is, soccer and badminton. He could write about how these sports can be conveniently played anywhere at any time with negligible costs for the equipment. After this introduction, he could focus on the sport of badminton, a sport in which Indonesia has a proud international record of achievement. As part of this he could also focus on some of the badminton stars who have become household names throughout Indonesia.