

## Select Readings, Second Edition Elementary, Chapter 11 Test

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

### An Able Swimmer

In 2008, a huge earthquake<sup>1</sup> hit parts of Sichuan province in China. The earthquake was one of the biggest in China and in the whole world. The earthquake destroyed buildings, roads, and transportation. Many people were badly hurt, and many died. Some were students, who were at school when the earthquake hit.

One student, Dai Guohong, lost both of his legs in the earthquake when the roof of his school fell on him and his classmates. Even though he was very badly hurt, Dai Guohong tried hard to get well again.

Guohong, who was then 18 years old, decided to try swimming because doctors told him it would make his body stronger. Now Guohong is getting ready to swim in the Paralympics<sup>2</sup> in London, England, with hundreds of other athletes with disabilities.

Guohong says that before he started swimming, he was confused about what happened to him. He says he only wanted to stay in his room alone. He didn't want to talk to anyone, and he often became angry with his mother, father, doctors, and nurses. He says that swimming changed his life.

Before he lost his legs, Guohong was not a good swimmer. But with help from a disabled sports coach and a lot of practice, Guohong is now a very strong swimmer, even without his legs. "When I started swimming, I liked it right away because it made me feel free. Suddenly, I felt like I wasn't disabled anymore," says Guohong.

In 2010, Guohong won the gold medal<sup>3</sup> in the men's 100-meter breaststroke<sup>4</sup> in China's national disabled swimming competition.

Guohong is excited about going to the Paralympics in London. He doesn't know if he will win a gold medal at the Paralympics or not, but he doesn't mind. When he comes back home, he wants to go back to school, work hard, and try more new things.

1. Which of these happened FIRST?
  - A. Dai Guohong practiced with a disabled coach.
  - B. Dai Guohong lost his legs in a big earthquake.
  - C. Dai Guohong was angry and wanted to stay in his room alone.
  - D. Dai Guohong won a gold medal for swimming.
2. Which of these happened LAST?
  - A. Dai Guohong practiced with a disabled swimming coach.
  - B. Dai Guohong lost his legs in a big earthquake.
  - C. Dai Guohong was angry and wanted to stay in his room alone.
  - D. Dai Guohong won a gold medal for swimming.

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<sup>1</sup> **earthquake** when the ground shakes, often strongly

<sup>2</sup> **Paralympics** an international competition for disabled athletes

<sup>3</sup> **gold medal** first prize

<sup>4</sup> **breaststroke** a style of swimming

3. Where was Dai Guohong at the time of the earthquake?
  - A. at home
  - B. on his way to school
  - C. at school
  - D. on his way home from school
  
4. After the earthquake, Dai was angry at all of these people EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. his parents
  - B. doctors
  - C. nurses
  - D. his coach
  
5. In 2008, Dai Guohong was \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
  - A. 15
  - B. 18
  - C. 21
  - D. 22
  
6. Dai says swimming makes him feel 'free.' What does he mean?
  - A. When he swims, he feels like he has his legs again.
  - B. When he swims, he's always with a lot of other people.
  - C. When he swims, he feels like he's getting stronger.
  - D. When he swims, he feels his coach is happy.
  
7. Which of these is true in the passage?
  - A. Dai won a gold medal for swimming in 2010.
  - B. Dai won a gold medal for swimming at the Paralympics.
  - C. Dai has been to London for swimming competitions before.
  - D. Dai plans to stay in London and go to school.
  
8. The Paralympics is an international sports event for \_\_\_\_\_ athletes.
  - A. disable
  - B. disabled
  - C. disability
  - D. disabilities
  
9. Dai is \_\_\_\_\_ if he will win a gold medal at the Paralympics.
  - A. certain
  - B. excited
  - C. unsure
  - D. free
  
10. Dai says he wants to do all of these things after the Paralympics EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. try new things
  - B. learn another sport
  - C. work hard
  - D. go to school