

ENGLISH CORNER MENU

Learning English Through Discussion

Tour De France

Over the last 21 days, over 219 cyclists have been riding through France covering a distance of 3,430 km. The Tour de France is regarded as one of the greatest bike races in the world. An Australian, Cadel Evans, won the race – the first Australian ever to win the Tour De France.

HOT TOPICS

1. Have you been watching the Tour De France? What is your favourite sports event to watch?
2. What sporting event is your country famous for?
3. Have you ever competed in a sporting event? Did you or your team win a medal?
4. Riding in the Tour De France bike race takes a lot of determination. Many times the riders go into the 'red zone' where they feel they cannot keep going and want to give up – good riders push through this and find the strength and energy to stay in the race. When have you been in the 'red zone'. How did you keep going?

Today's story is about another race, the Race of Life. It is from the Bible (1 Corinthians 9:24 – 27). Paul is writing to people in a town (Corinth) in Greece.

You have all been to a stadium and seen the athletes race. Everyone runs but only one of the athletes wins a prize. All good athletes train hard. They do it for a gold medal that tarnishes and fades. You want a medal that lasts forever. So run to win! Run the race of life to the finishing line. Give it everything you have! Don't run without a goal.

Discussion

1. What medal are you wanting in the race are you running now?
 - a. getting a good TOEIC/IELTS/Cambridge score?
 - b. finding a job?
 - c. finding a husband/wife/boyfriend/girlfriend?
 - d. finding a share house?
 - e. loving God and other people?
 - f. losing weight, staying healthy?
 - g. making lots of money.....
 - h. being successful
2. What are you doing to train for your race in order to win your medal? For example, going to free English classes to get the medal of a good TOEIC score... handing out my resume to different places.....to get the medal of a good job....
3. When you finish your race, for example getting a good TOEIC score, a job, making lots of money....which medal will last forever? Which medal will fade and tarnish...?
4. Ask your teacher about the race they are running and what type of medal they are running for.

Vocabulary

Event: activity

Medal contender: a good chance of winning a medal

Medal: Gold (1st) or Silver (2nd), Bronze (3rd) prize.

Tarnishes: When a metal is not cleaned, it loses its shine.

Fades: Lose its colour of brightness

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