

# ENGLISH

Chapter 21  
Session B

**1st**  
SECONDARY

**HEROES**

---



 **SACO OLIVEROS**

# HELICOMOTIVACION





# Past time expressions

**7** **Reinforcement** Describe the time using the word *ago* and a word from the box.

day   hour   month   year

1 on Wednesday  
*two days ago*

2 on Saturday

3 in 2019

4 last September

5 when I was 10

6 in February

7 at 6:00 am




## A biography

Gertrude (Trudy) Ederle was born in New York in 1905. Her parents were from Germany and she was one of six children.

Trudy loved swimming and at the age of 12, she started training at the Women's Swimming Association. Swimming was not a popular women's sport at the time, but Trudy was a very talented swimmer. She broke eight world records and won an Olympic gold medal.

UNITED KINGDOM

LONDON

*North  
Sea*0 50 100 km  
0 50

When she was 19, Trudy Ederle became the first woman to swim the English Channel. Normally, this is a very difficult 34 km swim. The day Trudy swam, the weather was terrible and she swam a total distance of 56 km! It took her 14 hours and 34 minutes. Trudy was the first woman and her time was also two hours quicker than the men's record.

After her swim, Trudy was a hero in the United States, but her later life was quiet. She taught swimming to deaf children for many years and died in 2003.

# A biography

**1** Read the biography and circle the best title.

a The longest swim

**b A sports hero**

c Trudy loved swimming

## 2 Answer the questions.

- 1 Where was Trudy born? **She was born in New York.**
- 2 How many brothers and sisters did she have? **She had 5 brothers and sisters.**
- 3 Did a lot of girls swim at that time? **No.**
- 4 How do we know she was a talented swimmer? **She broke eight world records and won an Olympic medal.**
- 5 Why was Trudy's Channel swim difficult? **The weather was terrible.**
- 6 How many extra kilometers did Trudy swim? **22.**
- 7 Did the men swim faster than Trudy? **No.**
- 8 What was Trudy's connection with swimming later in her life? **She taught swimming to deaf children for many years.**

**3** Read descriptions a–f and choose the best one for each paragraph in the text. There are two you don't need.

**a** Trudy at the Olympics → **4th paragraph.**

**b** What Trudy did later → **2nd paragraph.**

**c** Trudy's swimming talent → **1st paragraph.**

**d** Trudy's family → **3rd paragraph.**

**e** Trudy's Channel swim

**f** When Trudy learned to swim



**4** Read the text and complete the time expressions we use when describing actions in the past. Write one word in each space.

1 in 1905

2 at the age of 12

3 When she was 19

4 after her swim

- 5** Write a biography of a person from history you admire. Follow the steps in the Skills boost

**THINK**

- 1 Choose a person.
- 2 Use the internet to make notes about their life and what they did. Remember to check the information on more than one webpage.

New York – 1905 – Germany – 6 children  
12: WSA – swimming not popular  
8 world records, Olympic gold

---

---

---

**PREPARE**

Prepare a draft and organize your notes into logical paragraphs. For example: early life and family, how they got started, most important things they did, later life

## WRITE

Write your biography. Use the example in exercise 1 to help you.

## CHECK

Read your biography. Answer the questions.

- 1 Do you include interesting information about the person? ☐
- 2 Do you use simple past verbs correctly? ☐
- 3 Do you use past time expressions? ☐
- 4 Is your writing organized into logical paragraphs? ☐

6

### Peer review

Read another student's biography. Is it interesting? Why?



8

**Challenge**

Complete the time expressions and write sentences that are true for you.

H  
O  
M  
E  
W  
O  
R  
K

- 1 I learned to swim when I was five years old.
- 2 I \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.
- 3 I \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 I \_\_\_\_\_ at the age of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 I \_\_\_\_\_ months ago.
- 6 I \_\_\_\_\_ last \_\_\_\_\_.

