

## Free writing

# YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR

You don't have to be an adult to do something incredible. In some countries, like Britain and Australia, young people who have done amazing things are honoured in Young Person of the Year Awards. The winners have all been chosen for their exceptional achievements and the hard work they have put into reaching their goals, but their stories are very different. Here are some facts about two of the award winners.

## Young Australian of the Year 2011

Jessica Watson, Australia

### Background:

born 1993,  
was shy, dyslexic,  
childhood - spent years on the family houseboat,  
inspired by sailing story at the age of 12.

### Nominated because:

at 16, intense training and preparation,  
youngest to sail alone around the world in her boat,  
'Ella's Pink Lady',  
7-month voyage,  
daily blog followed by millions,  
experienced bad weather and boat almost capsized three times,  
sailed home to heroine's welcome.

### Furthermore:

wrote best seller book about journey 'True Spirit',  
consultant in film 'True Spirit' about her round the world trip.

### Impression:

inspiring, courage and determination, role model.

## Young People of the Year 2014

Joel Davis, Islington, London, Great Britain

### **Background:**

- born 1995,
- from a poor family,
- helped sick mother,
- struggled with reading at school,
- didn't get any help,

### **Nominated because:**

started a tutoring service with Homework Help, where:  
- more than 170 children get help,  
- poor children achieve higher grades,  
- his idea is now copied by others,  
winner of £500 for his initiative.

### **Furthermore:**

set up a website to spread the idea to others.

### **Impression:**

Inspiring young man, smiling, role model.

Imagine that you have interviewed ONE of these award winners.

Write an article (350-450 words) for a youth magazine. Use the information above and your own imagination.

Include

- something about her/his background
- why she/he was nominated
- something interesting you learned about the person
- your impression of the person you interviewed.