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Grade 7
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Title: Outstanding Olympics

The Olympics are one of my favorite events. When they come around every two years, the world comes together to cheer on their country. I love watching the athletes' focus and dedication. It's especially exciting when your country wins! Gymnastics and snowboarding are some of my favorites. I go to tumbling and love snowboarding so it's exciting to watch and see all of the amazing things I could do someday.

Sometimes just watching the Olympics gives me chills. My brain is whirling with thoughts, good and bad. For example, "What if they slip? What if they bounce over the line on the floor?" But mostly when I watch it it's just a happy feeling for those people who came to fulfill their dream, do what they love most, represent their country, and make their family proud. Imagine how devastating it would be if you had trained for this year's Olympics only to have it postponed an entire year due to the pandemic. That would be heartbreaking! I can't imagine what they must be going through.

Personally, I've never done anything that involve the Olympics. Sometimes I wish I was involved with it though. I would call it my "mark on the world." That's why I want to be an Olympic torch bearer. It's being famous, but not so famous that it's overwhelming. You came and did something remarkable on this world. You left a "mark." That's why I think the Olympics are so great. So many people get to be involved and make their mark.

To be an Olympic torch bearer would be a great honor. This person is typically athletic, proud to represent their country, and runs for 0.621 thousandths of a mile. I said run, but you can fly in an airplane, take a boat, surfboard, bike, and much more. Running is the most common. There is a torch ceremony at the end of the running where they light the cauldron in the country where the Olympics are being held. I read about torch bearing in a book. The book inspired me to be one. I researched and you have to be over the age of 12. "Perfect" I thought. "I'm the perfect age to qualify." I did

more research and read article after article, but as it turns out, they already had the torch in Tokyo, Japan! I'll just have to wait ten more years until I can qualify. They had to cancel the torch lighting ceremony due to the world-wide pandemic. They also wish to resume this wonderful tradition next year. The distance the torch bearer runs is short. But if you were the person running with the torch, the phenomenal torch, wouldn't you cherish every millisecond of it? This is a once in a lifetime opportunity. I was sad when I couldn't go this year. I hope I will be able to make this dream happen in the future.

The Olympics can be life-changing. You can get hurt tremendously and

that will certainly not be good for you. But the Olympics aren't all that bad. It's a great opportunity to be bold and show off your talents and skills to the world.

Due to this worldly pandemic, they had to cancel the Olympics this year. They are hoping that they will continue the games next year. Hopefully the virus will be gone, or under control by then. Having to cancel the Olympics has made athletes disappointed. MyKayla Skinner says, "It hit me that I only had five more months to push hard toward the Olympics and now that

finish line is so far away, it's just so devastating." With this sudden, shocking, change in the world that has confused these athletes from what they are used to. Let's just hope that the athletes can compete soon.

Athletes and the athletes trainers both have many things in common. But there is one thing that rules over all. Never give up. I can only imagine what it must be like to be these flawless athletes' trainers. Having to be the trainer to lead these athletes to what others see as perfection. It would be hard to be a trainer, but from what I've seen on TV, is that the trainers do an outstanding job.

After training/coaching for years you think that you would be exhausted

and want to quit. No. These people are the opposite. They push themselves past the limits. They go past what I see as perfection. In 1904, James B. Connolly showed us what it's like to reach that goal. He was the first gold medalist in the modern Olympics. Athletes strive to get better and better.

From what I have learned from sixth grade is that you have to have the right kind of mindset. That's exactly what these athletes have. They don't think, "this is too hard can I go home?!" No, instead, they think, "this is too hard, but too hard is what I need." They come from all over the world on people's television with medals hanging around their necks. Their faces are beaming with pride, cheeks flushed from the effort of competing. It all becomes worth the effort and dedication.

We have so much to learn from the Olympics. We learn how to be persistent, dedicated, and we learn how to set goals. There are many ways to be involved and to cheer on your country. That is why I love the Olympics and look forward to future Olympics and my chance to be involved.

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