INTERMEDIATE UNIT 7

a summary

speakout WRITING TIP

When you write a summary, you need to explain the main ideas of a text in your own words.

Think about the questions *Who?*, *What?*, *Where?*, and *Why?*. Use them to make notes on the text that you can use for your summary.

1 Read the summary and answer the questions.

1 Who is the summary about?
2 Where does he come from?
3 What has he achieved?
4 Why is he also famous?

Usain Bolt is a Jamaican athlete. He is often called the fastest man in the world.

In 2008, Bolt became the first man to hold both the 100 metres and 200 metres world record at the same time. He is currently the Olympic and world champion at these distances. He is also the first man to win the Olympic gold medal in the 100 metres, 200 metres and 4x100 metres relay in consecutive Olympic Games.

Bolt is one of the most famous sportsmen on the planet, and he is the highest-paid athlete in history. He is also well-known for his particular way of celebrating his victories – a dance popular in Jamaica which is called *To Di World*.

2 The notes below were used to write the summary. Complete the notes using words from the summary above.

Usain Bolt

Introduction:
Jamaican [1] _____
[2] _____ man in world

Achievements:
1st man 2 have world [3] _____ at 100m & 200m
World/Olympic [4] _____ → 1st man 2 win 100m, 200m and 4x100m relay in consec. Olympics

Other information:
[1] _____ paid athlete ever
Special [6] _____ called "To Di World" dance from [7] _____

3A Read the notes below and make them shorter by removing unnecessary words, using abbreviations and using symbols and numbers to represent words.

B Divide the notes using subheadings. Use the notes on Usain Bolt as a guide.

Jack White

- Jack White is an American rock musician.
- He plays guitar, drums, keyboards and piano.
- He became famous in The White Stripes with his then-wife Meg White.
- The White Stripes released six albums including the No. 1 album Icky Thump.
- He now has a solo career and plays in other bands including The Raconteurs and The Dead Weather.
- Jack believes colour is very important and always wears a combination of red, white, and black.
- Jack was originally going to be a priest but he thought that the church wouldn't like him playing his guitar.

4 Choose and research a famous person and write notes about them. Use your notes to write a summary of 100–120 words.

Plan your writing

- Decide who you are going to write about, makes notes about them (*Who?*, *Where?*, *What?*, and *Why?*) and organise your ideas using subheadings.
- Remember to write a concluding statement.

Check your writing

- Have you included the most important information from your notes?
- Have you checked your grammar and spelling?
- Did you find any mistakes?

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