

The Kenyan skier who had never seen snow

Do you know where Kenya is?

Vocabulary

1. famous 2. competed 3. trained 4. refused 5. cross-country 6. experiment

True Story

In 1996, Nike started a unique _____. They wanted to see if Kenya's _____ runners could become Olympic skiers. They chose Philip Boit, who had never seen snow before. Philip moved to Finland and _____ hard for two years.

At the 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics, Philip _____ in the _____ race. It was rainy and difficult, so he finished last. However, the winner, Bjorn Daehlie, _____ to leave. He waited twenty minutes at the finish line to hug Philip. They became best friends, and Philip even named his son Daehlie. It is a wonderful story of friendship.

Quiz

1. What year did Nike start the experiment?
2. Where did Philip Boit move to train?
3. How long did Philip train before the Olympics?
4. What did Bjorn Daehlie do after winning the race?

True or False

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| 1. Philip Boit had seen snow before moving to Finland. | True False |
| 2. Bjorn Daehlie won the cross-country race. | True False |
| 3. Philip named his son after Bjorn Daehlie. | True False |

Conversation

- A: Wow, Philip, you've come a long way from Kenya!
- B: I know, Bjorn! I've never even seen snow before this.
- A: And now you're an Olympic skier! That's amazing.
- B: Thanks! But I still finished last.
- A: Doesn't matter. You did great, and we're friends now!
- B: Yes! Please come to Kenya. Let's run a marathon together!

Discussion

1. Have you ever tried skiing or snowboarding?
2. Which is more difficult, skiing or ice skating?
3. Do you think (Shohei Otani) could play (cricket)?
4. Would you like to live in another country? Which one?