

T14

Unit 2, Reading and critical thinking, exercise 4

At the top of her game

This week's TALENTED TEEN is Brighton Zeuner.

Brighton is 13. Like any other 8th grade student in the USA, in the evenings she usually does homework or listens to music in her bedroom. She likes Beyoncé. She hardly ever has free time but she loves watching videos on YouTube.

But Brighton, from Encinitas, California, is also an X-Games champion skateboarder. And not in a junior competition. No – Brighton is the world champion and competes against women twice her age. Amazing, right?

But the future looks even more exciting for Brighton. The big news is that skateboarding is now an Olympic sport! To prepare for the next X-Games and the Olympics, Brighton trains every morning before school and in the afternoon she always practises in her local skate park.

Is it difficult to be famous when you're so young? Brighton says she is sometimes nervous when she gives interviews or before competitions, but it's all part of doing the sport she loves. And the great thing about Brighton is that she's a skateboarding superstar but she's also a normal person like you or me.

Commenter 1: That's so cool! What an amazing example.

Commenter 2: Let's hope Brighton gets the gold at the Olympics!

Commenter 3: It's great that Brighton can still have a normal life.