

Read the following passage and then answer the questions:

The South African swimmer, Natalie Dutoit (born January 29, 1984), has always been a very determined person. When she was a child, she suffered from asthma. Her parents decided that swimming would be good for her health and took her to swimming lessons from the age of six. Natalie didn't like swimming at first. She was frightened of water and held onto the side of the pool. But she wanted to learn to swim and she didn't give up. Bit by bit she became more confident and, by the age of ten, she was breaking all the records for her age group. By the age of fourteen, she was one of South Africa's most promising young swimmers.

But when she was eighteen, Natalie had a serious scooter accident. Her left leg was very badly injured and doctors had to cut it at the knee. Natalie showed great courage and determination after the accident. Most people take a year to walk with an artificial leg but Natalie practised in the hospital corridor and was walking in five hours. She started swimming again just six weeks after the accident.

Natalie took part in the Commonwealth Games at Manchester. She broke two world records and won gold medals in the 50-meter and 100-meter disabled freestyle swimming events. She also got into the finals of the 800 meter freestyle event for able – bodied swimmers. A year later, Natalie's goal became to compete against able-bodied swimmers in the next Olympics in Athens. "I'm still the same person and I can reach the same goals," she said.

Natalie, who believes people can learn from every experience in life, says she does get sad sometimes but she doesn't want pity. She says the best thing for her mood is to get into water. "I'm not sociable, "she says, "and in the water I can get away from everyone.

Natalie is not just a great swimmer. She is also an excellent speaker who fights for the rights of disabled people in South Africa and the rest of the world. She says governments should make it easier for disabled people to study, get jobs and do sport. Her determination to overcome her own problems will certainly give courage to other people.



A - Fill in the table below about Natalie Dutoit.

(1.5x4= 6marks)

Age	Main Event
6 years
10 years
18 years
19 years

B. Mark the following statements true (T) or false (F) according to the passage.

- 1- Natalie enjoyed swimming right from the beginning. ()
- 2- After the accident, she stopped competing in any international games. ()
- 3- She wants governments to help disabled people. ()

C. Now answer the following questions.

1. What was Natalie's problem when she was a child?

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2. How long did she take to walk with an artificial leg?

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3. What did she win?

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4. What does she do when she is unhappy?

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