

You're never too old...

WORKSHEET A

Below are four descriptions of impressive achievements by old people: three are true, one has been made-up. Can you identify which is not true?

1. Dorothy de Low, from Australia, is still playing table tennis for her country at the age of 100.

She was recently part of the Australia team in the 2010 World Veterans'

Championships in China. She plays in the over-80s age group, which means she sometimes plays against people who are 20 years younger than her.

When playing in the 2006 world championship in Germany she was asked to appear on TV chat shows, but said no because she wanted to get back to Australia as quickly as possible to take care of her garden.

2. Ed Puma, who lives in Seattle in the United States, is probably the fittest 95-year-old in the world. He jogs 10km most mornings and swims for an hour in the sea at least twice a week.

He started running marathons in his late 60s and did his first triathlon (a mixture of running, swimming and cycling) at the age of 78.

In 2002, at the age of 87, he decided to try the 'Ironman' long-distance triathlon in Hawaii, which consists of a 4km swim, an 180km cycle ride and a marathon (42km). He came 130th out of 159 competitors, finishing the race in just under 10 hours.

3. The English escapologist Ron Cunningham, also known as 'The Great Omani', was still performing in his 80s.

Earlier in his life, one of his most popular performances was to go on to the pier in his home town of Brighton, lock himself in chains, set his clothes on fire, jump into the sea to put out the flames, and then escape from the chains before he drowned.

He gave his very last show (again setting himself on fire and escaping from chains, but this time without jumping into the sea) at the age of 90.

Before he died in 2007, he wrote his own epitaph: 'They have put The Great Omani in a box, They're using nails instead of locks, But at the funeral don't despair, There's still a chance Omani won't be there.'

4. In 2007 an Australian woman called Olive Riley probably became the world's oldest blogger when she started writing a blog at the age of 107.

She died about a year later, aged 108, but not before she had posted around 70 entries. Several short films of her talking about various subjects, or singing songs, were also put on YouTube®.

Although she needed help with typing as her eyesight was not good, Olive herself decided what went into the blog.

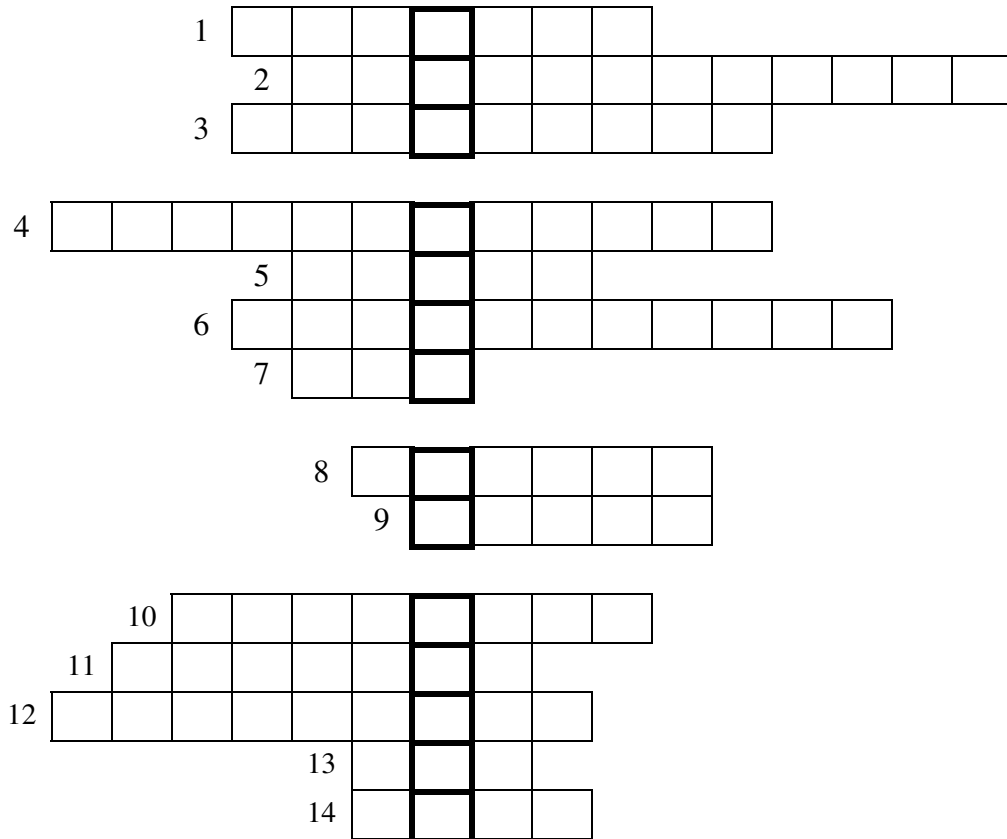
Because of her age her blog became quite popular and, in the last year of her life, put her in touch with lots of different people around the world.

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WORKSHEET B

Exercise 1

Complete the crossword below. If all the words are correct, the name of the blog that Olive Riley started at the age of 107 will read from top to bottom.



1. Ron suggested in his _____ that he might be able to escape from his coffin.
2. The _____ of Dorothy, Ron and Olive are all impressive.
3. Olive wasn't very interested in _____ on TV chat shows.
4. Ron was an _____.
5. Dorothy recently played table tennis in _____.
6. Ron gave his last _____ when he was 90.
7. Like many very old people, Olive could not _____ very well.
8. In many of his performances Ron had to escape from _____ chains.
9. There are _____ of Olive on YouTube.
10. The table tennis championships that Dorothy plays in are for _____.
11. Ron told people not to _____ when he died.
12. Dorothy plays table tennis for _____.
13. Ron often _____ himself on fire.
14. Another person had to help Olive _____ her blog.

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WORKSHEET C

Exercise 2

Fill in the gaps to complete the text.

Dorothy de Low, from Australia, is (1) **s** _ _ _ **l** playing table tennis for her (2) _ _ _ _ _ **y** at the age of 100.

She was recently part of the Australia team in the 2010 World Veterans'

(3) **Ch** _ _ _ **ion** _ _ **ip** in China. She plays in the (4) **o** _ _ _ -80s age group, which means she sometimes plays (5) **a** _ _ _ _ **s** _ people who are 20 years younger than her.

When playing in the 2006 world championship in Germany she was asked to appear on TV (6) _ _ **at** _ _ _ **ws**, but said no because she wanted to get back to Australia as quickly as possible to (7) _ **a** _ **e** _ **a** _ **e** **o** _ her garden.

The English escapologist Ron Cunningham, also known as 'The Great Omani', was still (8) **p** _ _ _ _ _ **ing** in his 80s.

Earlier in his life, one of his most popular performances was to go on to the pier in his home town of Brighton, (9) **l** _ _ _ himself in chains, set his clothes on fire, jump into the sea to put out the (10) **fl** _ _ _ _ , and then escape from the chains before he (11) _ **r** _ **wn** _ _ .

He gave his very last show (again setting himself on fire and escaping from chains, but this time without jumping into the sea) at the age of 90.

Before he died in 2007, he wrote his own epitaph: 'They have put The Great Omani in a (12) _ _ **x**, They're using (13) **n** _ _ **l** _ instead of locks, But at the funeral don't despair, There's still a chance Omani won't be there.'

In 2007 an Australian woman called Olive Riley probably became the world's oldest (14) **bl** _ _ _ _ _ when she started writing a blog at the age of 107.

She died about a year later, (15) **a** _ _ **d** 108, but not before she had posted around 70 (16) **entr** _ _ _ . Several short films of her talking about various subjects, or singing songs, were also (17) _ _ **t** on YouTube.

Although she needed help with typing as her (18) _ **yes** _ **g** _ **t** was not good, Olive herself decided what went into the blog.

Because of her age her blog became quite (19) _ _ _ _ **lar** and, in the last year of her life, put her (20) _ **n** **to** _ _ _ _ _ **i** **h** lots of different people around the world.