
Wheel to Wheel Teacher's Notes **B1**

This B1-level short story was written by an American teenager. It would fit in well with a theme on the Paralympics.

Vocabulary and structures

- preterite
- would (past habit and conditional)
- past perfect
- used to
- comparatives and superlatives
- sports (athletics)

Interaction

- Have pupils examine the illustration/ photo. Have them guess where the scene takes place and the athletes' age-group.
- At this point you could introduce essential vocabulary: disabled, disability, wheelchair, race...

Reading + Writing

- Have pupils read the short story and do the comprehension activities.

Grammar: "Used to"

- The second set of activities has pupils practise the structure "used to + VB" and "didn't use to + VB".

Grammar: Comparatives and Superlatives

- Ask pupils to list and classify the sentences with adjectives in the comparative and in the superlative.
- He was the youngest but the fastest. -- superlative of superiority
- You must use your arms to make the wheels go as fast as you can. – comparative of equality
- Chase was moving his arms faster...

- comparative of superiority
- Chase pumped his arms faster and faster.
- double comparative
- With that he went faster than he had ever gone before. – comparative of superiority
- Then have them use the following adjectives in the double comparative: determined, strong, confident, happy.

Solutions

Understanding the Story

A.1. Chase's bedroom **2.** Chase **3.** male **4.** teenager: he "became a student at Mount Harmon High". **5.** 2 brothers; He is the youngest **6.** sad **7.** to be on the school track team **8.** He is looking out of his window thinking about the past. **9.** He would like to be running in the park. He used to run in the park with his two brothers and their father used to chase them. Chase was always the last to be caught. **10.** He is paralysed. **11.** A drunken driver hit him while he was crossing the street. **12.** last year **13.** He is paralysed, permanently, and he hasn't been to school since. **14.** He wants to go back to school.

B.1. Mount Harmon High School, the principal's office **2.a.** four **b.** Chase and his parents and the Principal **c.** They are together for Chase's registration. **3.** The school has a special bus for all students in wheelchairs and a disabled students track team **4.** interested, enthusiastic **5.** He signed up for the track team.

C.1. the stadium, on the athletics track **2.** two **3.** for a race **4.a.** a mile (1.609km) **b.** They have to, "race around the track"

in their wheelchairs.” **c.** to use electronic wheelchairs **d.** They are wheel to wheel. **e.** The boy from the other school is ahead, because Chase didn’t want to spin out of control and so he slowed down. **f.** Chase won: “he went faster than he had ever gone before”. **5.** proud **6.** Happy, because “he had finally realised his dream”.

Practising “used to”

A. Examples: he used to run with the other kids/ he used to spend a lot of time in the park/ he used to run very fast/ he used to have great fun running/ he used to run away from his father/ he used to be the last to be caught/ he used to hear his father tell him he would be in the Olympics one day/ he used to go to school

B. Chase didn’t use to sit in his bedroom for a long time/ he didn’t use to spend his time looking out of the window/ he didn’t use to cry about running/ he didn’t use to be in a wheelchair/ he didn’t use to be out of school for a long time