

# Identity and nationality

How would you identify yourself?

- English?
- British?
- European?
- Other nationality?
- Citizen of the world?

Imagine an alien came to Earth. How would you identify yourself?

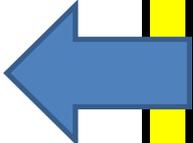
Give your answer in full sentences and explain your choice.

# Learning Objectives

- Look at identity and the different ways people might choose to describe themselves.
- Identify where the athletes competing as part of the refugee team have come from and some of reasons that have forced them to leave behind their home countries.
- Describe the qualities they think are meant by the phrase “mentally in good shape”, for athletes and for others.

# What is a...

- Refugee
- Immigrant
- Asylum  
Seeker
- Expatriate



Explain what these words mean and try to create your own definitions. Do this without using a dictionary.

# Definitions

- Refugee: a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster
- Immigrant: a person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country
- Asylum Seeker: a person who has left their home country as a political refugee and is seeking asylum in another.
- Expatriate: a person who lives outside their native country

# Who would you rather talk to?

- Who would you rather talk to? A refugee who has fled a war zone or an athlete competing in this summer's Olympic games in Rio? Whose experiences sound more interesting to you?
- Write your answer down



The man pictured, Popole Misenga, is both a refugee and an athlete. He will compete in the Rio Olympics as a Judoka. Popole is originally from Bukavu, an area of the Democratic Republic of the Congo badly affected by armed conflict from 1998 to 2003. He was a professional Judoka in the DRC, but sought asylum in Brazil during the World Judo Championships in 2013.

# Self identity

- Do you think Popole thinks of himself first as an athlete or as a refugee?
- Which identity might be on his mind more of the time?
- Which identity might determine what he does on a daily basis?

# The Olympics

Which nation will Popole Misenga be representing at the Olympics?

He is not competing for his place of origin, DRC, or his new country Brazil.

Instead he is part of a new team made up of ten refugees from different parts of the world.



# The Refugee Olympic Team

- The Refugee Olympic Athletes team will compete as a group, just as other nations do. The refugee team will also parade as a group in the opening ceremony at the Maracanã Stadium in Rio de Janeiro on 5 August 2016. Discuss the likely atmosphere. *Do you remember the opening of the London games in 2012?*
- For many people, athletes and spectators, it is a very moving event as proud athletes march together, celebrating their achievement in competing. Imagine the emotion in the team as people of different nations walk together, united because they have been separated from their homes for reasons such as conflict or fear of persecution

1. Might this team change the way that some people think about refugees? Explain why.
2. Why do you think that a new team has been formed based on people's status as refugees?

# International Olympic Committee President, Thomas Bach:

- *“These refugees have no home, no team, no flag, no national anthem. We will offer them a home in the Olympic Village together with all the athletes of the world. The Olympic anthem will be played in their honour and the Olympic flag will lead them into the Olympic Stadium.*
- *This will be a symbol of hope for all the refugees in our world, and will make the world better aware of the magnitude of this crisis.*
- *It is also a signal to the international community that refugees are our fellow human beings and are an enrichment to society.*
- *These refugee athletes will show the world that despite the unimaginable tragedies that they have faced, anyone can contribute to society through their talent, skills and strength of the human spirit.”*



# Talent, Skill and strength of human spirit

*'These refugee athletes will show the world that despite the unimaginable tragedies that they have faced, anyone can contribute to society through their **talent, skills and strength of the human spirit**'.*

What is more important? Where you come from? Or your talents, skills and spirit?

# The rest of the team

Name	Sport	Country of origin	Host country
Rami Anis	Swimming	Syria	Belgium
Yiech Pur Biel	Athletics 800m	South Sudan	Kenya
James Nyang Chiengjiek	Athletics 400m	South Sudan	Kenya
Yonas Kinde	Athletics marathon	Ethiopia	Luxembourg
Anjelina Nada Lohalith	Athletics 1500m	South Sudan	Kenya
Rose Nathike Lokonyen	Athletics 800m	South Sudan	Kenya
Paulo Amotun Lokoro	Athletics 1500m	South Sudan	Kenya
Yolande Bukasa Mabika	Judo	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Brazil
Yusra Mardini	Swimming	Syria	Germany
Popole Misenga	Judo	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Brazil

Who knows which continents the host countries are in?

# Matching task

## Country

1. Syria
2. South Sudan
3. Ethiopia
4. Democratic  
Republic of  
the Congo

## Description

- a) a country in central Africa, the largest in the sub-Saharan region, with its capital Kinshasa, it is rich in natural resources but has seen conflicts over recent decades that have led to millions of deaths.
- b) a middle-eastern country with a conflict, now in its fifth year, which has seen millions of people leave their homes and is regarded as one of the largest and most complex humanitarian crises in the world.
- c) a country in north east Africa, created in 2011 with its capital Juba, it is currently experiencing conflict, has many separated families and has received food and humanitarian aid by airdrops in remote areas.
- d) a country in the horn of Africa still affected by a conflict with neighbouring Somalia which lasted several decades until 2009.