

Progress Monitoring Probe 13

Kerri Strug

When she was nineteen, Kerri Strug became known worldwide as the brave young woman who competed in the Olympics and helped her team in the overall gymnastics competition. During that competition, her team won the gold medal.	8
Kerri was born in Arizona and was very active as a child.	8
When she was young, she liked to walk through the house on her hands. She also sometimes sped through the house on her tricycle. At one point, her home had a large carpeted room with no furniture. Kerri used the room as her private gym, doing cartwheels, handstands, and flips. She was very disappointed when her parents moved furniture into it.	84
When Kerri was older, she had to make a difficult decision. She realized that she had the skills as a gymnast to make it to the Olympics. She also realized that to reach this goal, she would need to be taught by the best coach she could find. She found a skilled coach in Texas and decided to move there. Even though she lived with different friends, she was sometimes lonely while she was there. She called her parents often for support. Her parents were very proud of her and excited to talk to her about her work and life as a gymnast.	110
Her coach had Kerri practice eight hours a day, six or seven days a week. He also required her to stay on a strict training schedule and to go to bed at a certain hour. Luckily, her aunt and uncle lived nearby. When she occasionally went to visit them, she would enjoy a more relaxed schedule than during her training. She even got to stay up past her bedtime to watch television.	121

Kerri Strug (Continued)

After her experiences at the Olympics, Kerri worked to help children learn how to overcome difficulties to reach their goals. She gave talks about the dangers of drugs and alcohol and helped raise money for the Make-A-Wish foundation and Special Olympics. Kerri has written two books. One book, <i>Landing on My Feet, a Diary of Dreams</i> , tells about her life up until the Olympic games. <i>Heart of Gold</i> gives encouragement and advice for children to use to reach their own dreams.	295
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Total words: _____ – errors: _____ = words correct: _____

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