

## Filipino gymnast wins Olympic gold and free ramen

8th August 2024



A gymnast from the Philippines has won two gold medals at the Paris Olympics. He becomes only the second Filipino ever to win gold. Carlos Yulo, 24, won gold in the men's floor exercise and vault events. Mr Yulo will get more than medals. He will return to the Philippines as a hero. He has been promised many gifts. A real estate company will give him a fully-furnished two-bedroom apartment in Manila. The Philippine government will give him 10 million Philippine pesos\*. He will be showered with other gifts. These include free ramen, macaroni and cheese, and grilled chicken for life. And, if all that fast food gives him stomach problems, a medical clinic has offered him free colonoscopies for life.

Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. congratulated Mr Yulo. He wrote: "No words can express how proud we are of you, Carlos. You have achieved gold for the Philippines not once, but twice. Filipinos all over the world stood united, cheering and rooting for you." Yulo told reporters he was surprised at winning two gold medals. After he won his first medal, he said: "I was just hoping to perform well. I didn't really expect a medal." He was even more surprised at his second success. He stated: "It really felt like a bonus for me. I was so hyped because I had won that gold medal the day before." He added: "I dedicate this to all the Filipino people who supported me."

\*\$173,300

Sources: [bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com) / [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com) / [cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com)

## Writing

Olympics medal winners should get free food for life. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

gymnast / gold medals / vault / hero / gifts / real estate / ramen / stomach problems / congratulate / proud / cheering / surprised / success / bonus / dedicate / Philippines

## True / False

- 1) Carlos is only the second Filipino in history to win Olympic gold. T / F
- 2) One of Carlos' medals was for the parallel bars. T / F
- 3) The Philippines government will give Carlos \$10 million. T / F
- 4) Carlos can get free macaroni and cheese for the rest of his life. T / F
- 5) The Philippines' president said it was difficult to say how proud he was. T / F
- 6) The president said Filipinos worldwide were rooting for Carlos. T / F
- 7) Carlos said he hopped because he won a gold medal. T / F
- 8) Carlos dedicated his medals to all gymnasts worldwide. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>won</b>           | a. backed       |
| 2. <b>events</b>        | b. totally      |
| 3. <b>fully</b>         | c. praised      |
| 4. <b>gifts</b>         | d. competitions |
| 5. <b>problems</b>      | e. blessing     |
| 6. <b>congratulated</b> | f. victory      |
| 7. <b>perform</b>       | g. picked up    |
| 8. <b>success</b>       | h. presents     |
| 9. <b>bonus</b>         | i. difficulties |
| 10. <b>supported</b>    | j. do           |

## Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) How proud are you of your country's actions?
- c) Who are you proud of?
- d) How do you feel when you hear your national anthem at the Olympics?
- e) When was the last time you were hyped about something?
- f) What Olympic sport would you like to take part in?
- g) What do you think of the Paris Olympics?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Carlos Yulo?

## Phrase Match

1. He becomes only the second Filipino
  2. He will return to the Philippines
  3. a fully-furnished
  4. He will be showered
  5. a medical clinic has offered him free
  6. No words can express how
  7. Filipinos all over the world
  8. I was just hoping to
  9. I was so
  10. I dedicate this to all the Filipino people
- a. two-bedroom apartment
  - b. hyped
  - c. colonoscopies
  - d. perform well
  - e. with other gifts
  - f. as a hero
  - g. who supported me
  - h. stood united
  - i. ever to win gold
  - j. proud we are of you

## Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you think of the Olympics?
- b) How is your country doing at the Olympics?
- c) What is your favourite Olympics event?
- d) Who is your favourite Olympic athlete?
- e) What sports are you good at?
- f) What do you think of the gifts Carlos Yulo will receive?
- g) Would you prefer free ramen or free colonoscopies for life?
- h) What advice do you have for Carlos Yulo?

## Spelling

1. won gold in the men's floor sreeixec
2. He has been poeisdmr many gifts
3. a fully-freiushnd two-bedroom apartment
4. These udleicn free ramen
5. shtmoca problems
6. a medical liccin
7. You have ecdhviae gold for the Philippines
8. Filipinos all over the world stood inetud
9. I didn't really xectpe a medal
10. even more surprised at his second uscscs
11. I eitcdeda this to all
12. the Filipino people who ouptsdrep me

### Answers – Synonym Match

|      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. g | 2. d | 3. b | 4. h | 5. i  |
| 6. c | 7. j | 8. f | 9. e | 10. a |

## Role Play

### Role A – Gymnastics

You think gymnastics is the best Olympics event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their events. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): skateboarding, boxing or golf.

### Role B – Skateboarding

You think skateboarding is the best Olympics event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their events. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): gymnastics, boxing or golf.

### Role C – Boxing

You think boxing is the best Olympics event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their events. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): skateboarding, gymnastics or golf.

### Role D – Golf

You think golf is the best Olympics event. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their events. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): skateboarding, boxing or gymnastics.

## Speaking – Olympic events

Rank these with your partner. Put the best events at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Gymnastics
- Skateboarding
- Athletics
- Equestrian
- Cycling
- Boxing
- Golf
- Rowing

### Answers – True False

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | T | 2 | F | 3 | F | 4 | T | 5 | T | 6 | T | 7 | F | 8 | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.