

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 2 – 19th February 2026**

## **Japan wins its first-ever Olympic pairs skating gold**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260219-figure-skating-2.html>

### **Contents**

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

**X (Twitter)**



[X.com/SeanBanville](https://x.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260219-figure-skating-2.html>

Japan has won its first Olympic gold medal for pairs figure skating. Figure skaters Riku Miura and Ryuichi Kihara wowed a very supportive crowd. They were first in the pairs free skate competition. Their dynamic performance set a world record. After the first round, the pair did not look like getting a medal. They knew they would have to do something magical to get a medal. And they did that. Their routine was an amazing display of athleticism, speed, and technique. The spectators at the Milano Ice Skating Arena gave the pair a standing ovation.

The couple seemed shocked after winning. An out-of-breath Mr Kihara told reporters: "We were determined to nail it." He added: "It's still unbelievable. I never thought we could win gold today." The couple first skated together in 2019. Ms Miura said: "We have had so many experiences...and we have grown a lot, so I think that is the reason why we managed to win the gold medal." Their coach praised them. He said: "I think today they were able to create magic. They skated with their heart. Their connection really came through, and it was just pure magic."

Sources: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/olympics/2026/02/17/miura-kihara-gold-pairs/>  
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/carolineprice/2026/02/16/olympic-pairs-figure-skating-results-miura-and-kihara-break-world-record-for-historic-gold/>  
<https://www.nbcolympics.com/news/how-riku-miura-and-ryuichi-kihara-pulled-tear-filled-comeback-win-olympic-gold>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260219-figure-skating-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. pairs figure                    | a. crowd                |
| 2. wowed a very supportive         | b. ovation              |
| 3. their dynamic performance       | c. like getting a medal |
| 4. after the first                 | d. set a world record   |
| 5. the pair did not look           | e. of athleticism       |
| 6. they would have to do something | f. skating              |
| 7. an amazing display              | g. magical              |
| 8. a standing                      | h. round                |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The couple seemed shocked      | a. together in 2019  |
| 2. An out-of-                     | b. win gold today    |
| 3. We were determined to nail     | c. we managed to win |
| 4. I never thought we could       | d. breath Mr Kihara  |
| 5. The couple first skated        | e. magic             |
| 6. we have grown                  | f. after winning     |
| 7. that is the reason why         | g. a lot             |
| 8. today they were able to create | h. it                |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260219-figure-skating-2.html>

Japan has won its first Olympic gold (1) \_\_\_\_\_ figure skating. Figure skaters Riku Miura and Ryuichi Kihara (2) \_\_\_\_\_ supportive crowd. They were first in the pairs free skate competition. Their dynamic performance (3) \_\_\_\_\_ record. After the first round, the pair did not (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a medal. They knew they would have to do something magical to get a medal. And they did that. Their routine was (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of athleticism, speed, and technique. The spectators at the Milano Ice Skating Arena gave the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ ovation.

The couple seemed shocked after winning. An (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Mr Kihara told reporters: "We were determined (8) \_\_\_\_\_." He added: "It's still unbelievable. I never (9) \_\_\_\_\_ win gold today." The couple first skated together in 2019. Ms Miura said: "We have had so many experiences...and we have (10) \_\_\_\_\_, so I think that is the reason why we managed to win the gold medal." Their coach praised them. He said: "I think today they were able (11) \_\_\_\_\_. They skated with their heart. Their (12) \_\_\_\_\_ through, and it was just pure magic."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260219-figure-skating-2.html>

Japan has won its first Olympic gold medal for pairs figure skating. Figure skaters Riku Miura and Ryuichi Kihara wowed a very supportive crowd. They were first in the pairs free skate competition. Their dynamic performances set a world record. After the first round, the pair did not look like getting a medal. They knew they would have to do something magical to get a medal. And they did that. Their routine was an amazing display of athleticism, speed, and technique. The spectators at the Milano Ice Skating Arena gave the pair a standing ovation. The couple seemed shocked after winning. An out-of-breath Mr Kihara told reporters: "We were determined to nail it." He added: "It's still unbelievable. I never thought we could win gold today." The couple first skated together in 2019. Ms Miura said: "We have had so many experiences... and we have grown a lot, so I think that is there a reason why we managed to win the gold medal." Their coach praised them. He said: "I think today they were able to create magic. They skated with their heart. Their connection really came through, and it was just pure magic."

# THE WINTER OLYMPICS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260219-figure-skating-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the Winter Olympics in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Japan wins its first-ever Olympic pairs skating gold – 19th February 2026*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](https://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2602/260219-figure-skating-2.html>

Write about **the Winter Olympics** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]