

Name:

Day One

An American Story

Part 1: Silent read

➔ Learn about who carried the American flag at the Summer Olympics. Read silently.

Each Olympics begins with opening ceremonies. Athletes parade with their teams. One athlete from each country is chosen to carry the flag. At the 2008 Summer Olympics, the American flag was carried by Lopez Lomong. Lopez's life story made him the perfect choice.

Lopez is a U.S. citizen, but he was born in Sudan. When he was six years old, he was kidnapped. These kidnapers trained children to be soldiers. Fortunately, with the help of some older boys, Lopez escaped. The group of kidnapped boys ran for the Kenyan border. They ran for days. When they reached Kenya, Lopez was taken to a refugee camp. He stayed in that location for the next 10 years.

In 2001, Lopez was adopted by a couple in Tully, New York. He signed up for the Tully High School cross country team. Other runners were amazed by his speed. In college, he was a national champion. In 2008, he qualified to run the 1500-meter race at the Beijing Olympics. It was a great achievement.

Lopez did not win a medal at the Beijing Games. But he felt no disappointment about that. Being the flag bearer for his country was enough excitement for him. "It's more than a dream," he said. "In America, everyone has a chance to do all these things."



Day One

// one minute

An American Story

Part 2: First timed read

WPM _____

Each Olympics begins with opening ceremonies. Athletes parade with their teams. One athlete from each country is chosen to carry the flag. At the 2008 Summer Olympics, the American flag was carried by Lopez Lomong. Lopez's life story made him the perfect choice. 43

Lopez is a U.S. citizen, but he was born in Sudan. When he was six years old, he was kidnapped. These kidnapers trained children to be soldiers. Fortunately, with the help of some older boys, Lopez escaped. The group of kidnapped boys ran for the Kenyan border. They ran for days. When they reached Kenya, Lopez was taken to a refugee camp. He stayed in that location for the next 10 years. 61
72
87
100
115

In 2001, Lopez was adopted by a couple in Tully, New York. He signed up for the Tully High School cross country team. Other runners were amazed by his speed. In college, he was a national champion. In 2008, he qualified to run the 1500-meter race at the Beijing Olympics. It was a great achievement. 132
145
160
170

Lopez did not win a medal at the Beijing Games. But he felt no disappointment about that. Being the flag bearer for his country was enough excitement for him. "It's more than a dream," he said. "In America, everyone has a chance to do all these things." 185
199
215
217

Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

What hardships did Lopez overcome?

Where was Lopez born? _____

Day One

An American Story

Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Each Olympics begins with opening ceremonies. // Athletes parade with their teams. // One athlete from each country / is chosen to carry the flag. // At the 2008 Summer Olympics, / the American flag was carried by Lopez Lomong. // Lomong's life story made him the perfect choice. //

Lopez is a U.S. citizen, / but he was born in Sudan. // When he was six years old, / he was kidnapped. // These kidnapers trained children to be soldiers. // Fortunately, / with the help of some older boys, / Lopez escaped. // The group of kidnapped boys ran for the Kenyan border. // They ran for days. // When they reached Kenya, / Lopez was taken to a refugee camp. // He stayed in that location for the next 10 years. //

In 2001, / Lopez was adopted by a couple in Tully, / New York. // He signed up for the Tully High School cross country team. // Other runners were amazed by his speed. // In college, / he was a national champion. // In 2008, / he qualified to run the 1500-meter race / at the Beijing Olympics. // It was a great achievement. //

Lopez did not win a medal at the Beijing Games. // But he felt no disappointment about that. // Being the flag bearer for his country / was enough excitement for him. // "It's more than a dream," / he said. // "In America, / everyone has a chance to do all these things." //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.