

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 2

#159 Five Child Prodigies: Tiger Woods

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: Sports transcend national differences, and they are fun to play or just to watch. How much do you agree with that?

Qt 2: How many international sports players have impressed you most?

Qt 3: Are you into golf? Or do you see it as an exclusive sport belonging to the rich men's pack of games?

Qt 4: When you see a golf course, do you see an extensive stretch of green pasture, or a sizable supply of land for public housing? If you were a policy-maker, how would you balance such conflicting needs?

Vocabulary

- blown away (adjective): surprised or pleased.
- temper (noun): the tendency to become angry very quickly.
- pro (noun): a person who plays a sport as a job rather than as a hobby.
- birdie (noun): in golf, an act of getting the ball into the hole in one hit less than the expected number for that hole.

PART 2: Article for Reading

Returning to Qt 3: Are you into golf?

Does the name "Tiger Woods" sound familiar?

If Tiger Woods seems to have lingered around under the limelight for far too long, he probably has stayed just that long. At age 2, he started getting media attention. At age 8, he first won the Optimist International Junior Tournament. For decades, he has managed to win on and on.

Woods through the years: A child prodigy

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-2001-07-04-0107050012-story.html>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Learn all something about the "precociously talented" Tiger Woods when he was 14, and you will not be able to help but be impressed:

14-Year-Old Tiger Woods on Trans World Sport
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dHidiT6wqA>

PART 4: Writing Practice

This appears in the lengthy list of personal achievements posted in Part 2:

Turns pro and enters eight PGA events, winning two of them to finish 25th on the money list.

What is “pro”?

What happens when somebody “turns pro”?

First off, the word “pro” may mean different things when used in different contexts. “Pro,” as often used along with “con,” means an advantage to or a reason for doing something. For example:

One of the big pros of living in Hong Kong is the night life.

Or:

The pros and cons of living in Hong Kong should be weighed in.

This way “pro” means similarly to the “pro” in, for example, “pro-democracy demonstrations.” It means supporting or approving of something.

In the case of Tiger Wood, at age 20, when he “turns pro” he is maturing into a young man who plays golf as a job rather than as a childhood hobby. “Turn pro” literally means turn oneself into a professional.

Can you write a couple of sentences of your own using the word “pro” in its various meanings? Send your writing to: see.u@ccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.