

Read the story.

Now answer these questions.

- 1 What is the Comrades Marathon?
- 2 What happened on 16th June 1999?
- 3 Why did Nick Bester complain?
- 4 What was wrong with the photos of Sergio?
- 5 Why were the brothers disqualified?

Cover the text and look at your questions and answers. Tell **B** your story.

Now listen to **B**'s story.

Seeing double

The Comrades Marathon is an ultramarathon in which people run 89 km. It takes place in South Africa and it's the oldest and most famous ultramarathon. People who run it can win a lot of



money, so a lot of people compete every year. On 16th June 1999, a young man called Sergio Motsoeneng finished ninth and he got \$1,000 prize money. But Nick Bester, who finished in 15th place, said that he hadn't seen Sergio pass him. The officials checked that Sergio had been at all the stops and lots of people had seen him. It seemed that everything was OK, until a newspaper published two photos of Sergio. In the first photo, Sergio was wearing a yellow watch on his left wrist, but in the second photo he was wearing a pink watch on his right wrist. His legs looked different, too. Sergio had gone to a toilet after 45 minutes of running and changed places with his brother, Fika, who was waiting for him inside. They had changed places several times during the marathon. Both brothers were disqualified.

Read the story.

Now answer these questions.

- 1 What happened on 10th October 2011?
- 2 Why were the other runners surprised?
- 3 What did the organizers think was suspicious?
- 4 What did Rob Sloan confess?
- 5 Why was Steve Cairns angry?

Listen to **A**'s story.

Now cover the text and look at your questions and answers. Tell **A** your story.

The bus ride

On 10th October 2011, Rob Sloan won third place at the Kielder Marathon. He completed the 26.2 mile race in an impressive time of two hours and 51 minutes. The other runners were surprised because they didn't remember seeing Rob pass them, especially Steve Cairns, who had finished in fourth place. When they asked Rob, he was very angry and said that he



had run the whole marathon. The organizers checked the times and realized that Rob had run the second half of the marathon quicker than the first half. This was really suspicious. Some spectators also said that they had seen Rob get off a bus near the finish line. Rob confessed that he had decided to leave the race after 20 miles, because he was feeling very tired. But then he had seen a bus that was taking tourists to the finish line and got on it. He then jumped out of the crowd near the finish line and ran the final section of the marathon. The marathon organizers took his medal away and gave it to Steve Cairns, the real third place winner. Steve Cairns was still really angry, because he felt that Rob Sloan had stolen his moment of glory.