

SPORT FACT / MYTH ACTIVITY

Teacher Answer key

Statement 1

Most women's sport coverage in the media is on days when there is little news regarding men's sports. According to the research conducted by the University of New South Wales on media coverage of women in sports, female coverage is directly related to news in men's sports. On days when there is lots of news on men's sports, female sport receives little coverage.

Myth Fact ●

Statement 2

Australian female athletes have always been able to compete in the Olympic games.

Women were only allowed to start competing in the Olympic games in 1912, when Fanny Durack and Mina Wylie became the first female athletes to compete in the Summer Olympics. Australian men have been competing in the Summer Olympics since 1896.

Myth ● Fact

Statement 3

The average salary of a female AFL player is \$10,000. The average salary of a male AFL player is \$300,000.

The top two players of each women's AFL team receive about \$25,000 for the season, high-profile players receive \$10,000, and everyone else \$5,000.

Compare that with the

top men's players: the average player earns over \$300,000, meaning you could buy an entire women's team for the cost of a single male player.

Myth ● Fact

Statement 4

Women in sport make up only 9% of all sports coverage in Australian television news.

In 2012 a report by the University of New South Wales Journalism and Media Research Centre and Media Monitors found that coverage of women in sport made up only 9% of all sports coverage in Australian television news. 10% of coverage was non-gender specific.

Myth Fact ●

Statement 5

There are significantly fewer women than men earning an income from sport in Australia. The lack of sponsorship for female athletes was highlighted when Sally Pearson, the 100-metre hurdles gold medallist at the 2012 London Olympics, lost sponsors after the games.

Myth Fact ●

Statement 6

Peta Searle had to give up coaching football after being offered a \$5000 contract.

At this stage Searle had to resign from her position with the VFL Demons as she needed to resume teaching again for more financial security.

Myth Fact ●

Statement 7

Members of the national women's soccer team, the Matildas, earn just \$500 per international game, while members of the male national team, the Socceroos, earn more than \$6500 per game.

The men's team made more money in one game at the World Cup than the women would have if they made it to the final. Comparing the two teams' success, the Matildas are currently fifth in the world, while the men sit at 50.

Myth Fact ●

Statement 8

The Australian women's hockey team, the Hockeyroos, have won more gold medals than the male hockey team, the Kookaburras.

The Hockeyroos won gold medals in 1988 at the Seoul Olympics, in 1996 in Atlanta, and at the Sydney games in 2000. The Kookaburras won gold in Greece in 2004.

Myth Fact ●