The Last Leg (Channel 4, UK), "Matt Stutzman"

Introduction

1. What are the Paralympic Games?
2. Have you ever watched the Paralympic Games? Which sports have you watched?
3. Does your country have any famous Paralympians? What do you know about them?

Video

You are going to watch a clip from a British TV programme dedicated to the Paralympics. Before you watch, look at the vocabulary below and try to decide which sport the programme features:

adrenaline   skydiving   Guinness World Record   a target   a shot

to fire   an arrow   to land   a bow   to shoot

Watch the video and mark the following sentences true or false. Try to correct the wrong sentences.
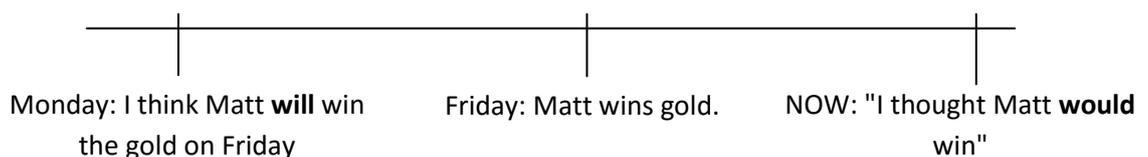
1. The Guinness World Record which Matt Stutzman holds, is only for people who have no arms.
2. Matt also has a Paralympic gold medal for skydiving.
3. Matt was unemployed when he first took up archery.
4. Matt's wife told him to take up archery.
5. Matt looked on the internet to learn how to shoot a bow.
6. Matt used his nose to type into his computer.
7. Matt found lots of results to his search.
8. Matt went to an archery shop for help.
9. Matt likes the candy *Skittles*.

Grammar: The Future of the Past

Look again at how Matt explains his skydiving adventure:

> I was trying to figure out adrenaline, like, how do you practise at home under adrenaline? And...you can't practise or simulate the Games at home, so I figured that if I jumped out of a plane...**I would actually land** by the target and shoot an arrow with a bunch of adrenaline pumping through me...**and I'd be able to** simulate...y'know...[the pressure of the Games].

Sometimes we need to report predictions or plans we formed in the past about a future event. The "future" event is relative to the original prediction and is also in the past:

Monday: I think Matt **will** win the gold on Friday   Friday: Matt wins gold.   NOW: "I thought Matt **would** win"

When we express these sorts of ideas (very common in reported speech), **will** changes to **would** and **am/are/is going to** change to **was/were going to**:

"I am going to get fit this year"	*am going to -> was going to*	"In January I said I was going to get fit but..."
"John's party will be great."	*will -> would*	"I thought John's party would be great but..."

Speaking

You are going to construct then tell a series of short stories. Before you speak use the table and the example to help you.

Prediction made before event:	Reported speech:
A time when you were surprised by a sports result:	
"England will beat Iceland." "Wayne Rooney will score." "The result will be 3-0." "It's going to be quite a boring match."	*I thought that England would beat Iceland.* *I thought Wayne Rooney would score.* *I thought the result would be 3-0.* *I thought it was going to be quite a boring match.*
A time when you were surprised by a sports result:	
A resolution you made but didn't follow:	
A time when a holiday turned out differently to how you expected:	

Now tell your stories using your pre-formed sentences from the second column to help you.