## The jumper with a blade

Markus Rehm is a long jumper from Germany. He runs down a track and then jumps into the sand — and he can jump really far! When Markus was a teenager, he had an accident while wakeboarding. After that, he lost part of his right leg.

Markus didn't stop doing sport. He started using a running blade — a special leg made from metal and plastic — to help him move.

He trained every day and soon became one of the best long jumpers in the world.

He has won gold medals at the Paralympic Games, and his jumps are sometimes farther than athletes without disabilities.

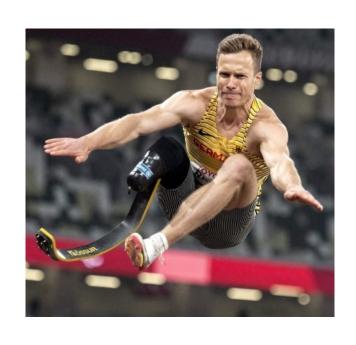
Markus wants to compete in events with non-disabled athletes, but some people say that his blade might give him an advantage.

Others say that Markus works just as hard and should be allowed to race.

Markus says, "I want to show the world what is possible when you don't give up."

## Glossary

- Paralympics a sports
   competition for athletes with
   disabilities
- Blade a fake leg for running and jumping
- Advantage something that helps you do better than others
- Wakeboarding a sport where you ride on water, pulled by a boat.



## Questions

- 1. What sport does Markus do?
  - Markus does
- 2. What happened to him as a teenager?
- 3. What special tool does he use?
  - He uses a
- 4. Why do some people say his blade gives him an advantage?
  - Some people think the blade gives him an advantage because...
- 5. What does Markus want to show the world?
  - **☞** Markus wants to show the world that...