



Tiger Woods: Hello World

Listening Questions 1:

1. How old was Tiger Woods when he started playing golf?
2. What was his best score as a 3-year-old?
3. What were the terms of his first contract with Nike?
4. What is his ethnic background?

Listening Questions 2:

1. What did Tiger Woods achieve when he was 24?
2. Who is the only person to win more majors than Tiger Woods?
3. What happened to him in late 2009?
4. How many tournaments did he win in 2010 and 2011?

Transcript 1:

You may not know the name Eldrick Woods, but you probably know him by his nickname, Tiger.

Tiger Woods is arguably the most famous golfer in the world for both his professional success and his personal problems. He was born and raised in the Orange County area of California in the United States. His father, Earl, started teaching him how to play golf when he was only one-year-old. When he was 2, he appeared on a TV talk show and showed the host how he could drive a ball and putt. At the age of 3, he managed to shoot 48 for nine holes.

As a teenager, he won numerous tournaments and he won numerous awards for being the best amateur player of the year. In 1994, he enrolled at Stanford University and won several tournaments in his 2-year college career. He turned pro at the age of 20 in August of 1996 and at his press conference to announce his decision, he famously said "Hello world." Nike built an entire advertising campaign around that quote after signing Woods to a 5-year, \$40 million contract.

He also signed endorsement deals with other companies such as General Motors, Titleist, and American Express. He was guaranteed tens of millions of dollars before he even played his first tournament as a professional. One of the reasons he was so marketable was his ethnicity. Woods is a mixture of Thai, Chinese, Dutch, African-American, and Native American, which made him stand out from the mostly Caucasian players on the PGA tour.



Transcript 2:

As a professional, Tiger Woods went on to have one of the most successful careers of all-time.

In professional golf, there are 4 major championships: the Masters, the US Open, the Open Championship, and the PGA Championship. As of July 2015, only 6 players had ever achieved the career Grand Slam, which means winning each of the major championships at least once. Tiger Woods was the youngest to achieve it, which he did when he was only 24 years old. Only Jack Nicklaus had won more major titles than Tiger Woods (18 to 14). Also as of July 2015, Woods had won 79 PGA Tour events, which is second-best all-time to Sam Snead, who won 82. However, he had not won a major since the 2008 US Open.

In November 2009, a tabloid accused him of having an affair with a nightclub manager. Two days after that, Woods had a car accident on his street in the middle of the night. In the weeks after that, more than a dozen women claimed to have also had affairs with Woods. In December, he admitted cheating on his wife. Following his admission, Accenture, AT&T, Gatorade, and GM all cancelled their sponsorship deals with him. Woods and his wife, Elin, got divorced in August 2010.

In 2010 and 2011, he did not win a single tournament. He rebounded in 2012 and 2013, winning 8 tournaments, but none of them were majors. Although it once seemed likely that he would break Jack Nicklaus' record of 18 major titles, with zero majors in 7 years, it is highly questionable now.