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无论是组织者还是运动员，都在为伦敦 2012 做最后一刻的准备。对于许多参赛运动员来说，这将是他们运动生涯的顶峰。有些是第一次参加奥运，而有些已经是有丰富经验的老将了。请听 BBC 记者 Alex Capstick 发回的报道：

Not everyone has the same profile as Usain Bolt, but there are other Olympic athletes here in London who have gained **superstar status**, albeit within the confines of their own national boundaries. Take the Ukrainian **fencer**, Olga Kharlan, who caused a sensation in Beijing by almost **single-handedly** prising the team gold medal from the Chinese. She was just 18 then, and the former dancer and model is hoping for further success.

Another celebrity in his homeland but at the opposite end of the age scale, is 71-year-old Hiroshi Hoketsu. The Japanese **dressage rider** is **poised to** become the second oldest Olympian of all time. Still fit and lean he puts his **longevity** down to an avoidance of oily food.

China **topped** the medals table four years ago and another strong performance is expected. Their star turn could come in the aquatic centre. Sun Yang is considered the finest distance swimmer in the world. Standing at an imposing two metres tall he might even **eclipse** the serial champion Michael Phelps.

Finally to **track and field** and Caster Semenya who will be making her Olympic debut. The South African wasn't allowed to celebrate her 800 metres world title in 2009 as doubts over her **gender** emerged. She said that's now all behind her and if she wins a medal in London she will dedicate it to Nelson Mandela who helped her through those tough times.

Questions

1. What sport does Olga Kharlan do?
2. What kind of food does Japanese sportsman Hiroshi Hoketsu think is bad for his health?
3. What medal does Sun Yang hope to win in this year's Olympic games?
4. What country is Caster Semenya from?

Glossary 词汇

superstar status	超级明星的地位
fencer	击剑手
single-handedly	只靠一人的力量， 单枪匹马
dressage rider	花式马术运动员
poised to	准备（做什么）
longevity	长寿
topped	达到最高点
eclipse	超越
track and field	田径运动
gender	性别

Answers to the questions

1. What sport does Olga Kharlan do?

Answer: *Fencing.*

2. What kind of food does Japanese sportsman Hiroshi Hoketsu think is bad for his health?

Answer: *Hiroshi Hoketsu avoids oily food.*

3. What medal does Sun Yang hope to win in this year's Olympic games?

Answer: *Swimming. Sun Yang is considered the finest distance swimmer in the world.*

4. What country is Caster Semenya from?

Answer: *South Africa.*