

ACTIVITY TALKING POINT



Look at the photograph and discuss in trios.

What does sportsmanship mean to you and how can it be demonstrated in our daily lives?

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Now read the following news clip and discuss the questions:

Really touching ending to the Italian Under 23 Fencing Championships final.

Gaia Traditi, leading 12 touches to 9, seriously injured her right ankle at the most crucial moment, struggling to even stand.

Her opponent, Emilia Rossatti, could have seized the opportunity, with only 17 seconds left, to take advantage of her injured opponent (and dear friend) and make a comeback. Instead, she did something that is destined to become one of the most beautiful and unforgettable moments in fencing history: she stepped back on the piste, forfeited the assault, let the remaining seconds slip away, and effectively handed the gold to Traditi.

That's how it ended, with a hug between the two fencers, first on the piste and then on the podium, welcomed by a standing ovation from the audience.

A beautiful moment of sport and friendship, as well as an important lesson at all levels for young people everywhere.

DISCUSS:

- 1. Why do you think Emilia Rossatti decided to forfeit the assault and let the remaining seconds slip away, even though she could have taken advantage of her injured opponent?**
- 2. What can we learn from this story about sportsmanship and friendship?**
- 3. Have you ever witnessed a moment of sportsmanship like this in your own life? How did it make you feel?**
- 4. How can this story inspire us to treat others with kindness and respect, both in sports and in our everyday lives?**
- 5. Do you think it's important to prioritise friendship and respect over winning at all costs? Why or why not?**