

Precious by name, precious by nature

Brian Snyder



- 1 Precious Perez seems your typical teenager. She attends Chelsea High School where she walks in hallways with hundreds of fellow students to travel from class to class. But Precious is actually not like many of her peers. She has been blind since birth. In subject after subject, Precious adapts visual lessons to her own needs. She listens as the rest of her Spanish class watches a movie in that language; she relies on the history teacher to read out the notes he writes on the board; she works with her lab-mates in chemistry class as they observe a liquid coming to a boil.
- 2 During the week, Precious trains with her goalball team. The game, a team sport for players who are blind, involves a three-pound rubber ball with bells inside it that the athletes attempt to throw, bounce or roll past their opponents. Using the sounds of the bells to judge the position and movement of the ball, competitors try to block it from getting past them. Pads, especially on the elbows and knees, protect the players as they dive after the ball.
- 3 Precious has accomplished an impressive amount for a teenager. She is one of just 10 students in the local Handel and Haydn Society, an organization that specializes in Classical music. The 18-year-old has also written more than 100 songs of her own. Precious also designed her own gown for her recent High School graduation dance. Of course, she could not see her dress which she describes as “kind of like a more toned-down version of a Disney princess dress.” As for many teens, the formal dance is a rite of passage before heading off to college. Precious is going to attend Boston’s Berkeley College of Music, where she will study vocal performance.

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- 1p **23** Precious wordt op verschillende manieren geholpen omdat ze blind is. Welke manier wordt genoemd in alinea 1?
- A** Haar leraar leest zijn bordaantekeningen hardop voor tijdens de les.
 - B** Medeleerlingen nemen haar bij de hand als ze van klaslokaal wisselen.
 - C** Ze werkt aan een eigen opdracht tijdens een scheikundepracticum.
- 2p **24** Geef bij elke bewering over 'goalball' aan of deze juist of onjuist is volgens de tekst. (alinea 2)
Omcirkel 'juist' of 'onjuist' in je uitwerkbijlage.
- 1 De spelers moeten de bal in een doel schoppen.
 - 2 De spelers spelen met elkaar en niet tegen elkaar.
 - 3 De spelers kunnen horen waar de bal is.
 - 4 De spelers dragen speciale bescherming.
- 1p **25** Wat wil Precious gaan studeren? (alinea 3)
- A** dans
 - B** mode
 - C** zang