

Theme 1: Paralympic values

Unit 4: Inclusion for all



Meaning of people with an impairment and persons with disabilities in the context of the UN Convention

An impairment

A physical, mental or sensory loss or abnormality.

Persons with a disability

A physical, mental or sensory impairment causes a disability when it limits the ability to do something that others can do and places a person at a disadvantage in daily life. This includes such things as the ability to wash/dress, walk/drive, cook/eat, communicate in order to make oneself understood, use public transport and access play, education and employment.

Disability is the combined result of the impairment and various environmental and attitudinal barriers that stop the person doing what they want to do, going where they want to go and being the person they want to be. This means they do not have access to the same human rights as others and prevents them from full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

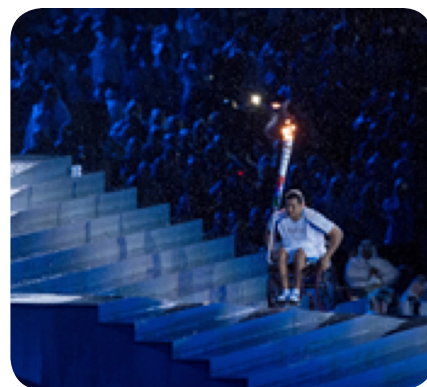
Here's an example of a barrier: a person whose impairment requires them to use a wheelchair might find it difficult to work; not because of their impairment, but because public transport is inaccessible, or access to the place of work is by stairs only. Environmental barriers limit their opportunity to participate fully in society.

Can students think of barriers that prevent people with an impairment taking a full part in school and the local community?

Environmental barriers

Access to

- buildings and transport
- information
- technology



Attitudinal barriers

Our view of people with an impairment and the way in which society chooses to interact with them.