Yuna Kim walking into Hamar Olympic Amphitheatre ice skating rink.

Yuna Kim and other skaters on the ice.

Korean language Answers Translations:

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (Korean Language)

Q. What will the young athletes learn from competing at Lillehammer 2016 Youth Winter Olympic Games?

“For all athletes their biggest dream and goal is to be at the Olympic games and especially they can learn Olympic values like fair play spirit and sportsman like behavior. It’s important because the young athletes can become better athletes through the youth Olympic games so it is a great stepping stone.”

Yuna Kim showing Norway Skating team a spin.

Yuna Kim watching Norway skating team member doing a spin.

Yuna Kim giving advice to Norway skating team member.

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (Korean Language)

Q. Does South Korea have a good system in place for creating more world beating winter sport athletes?

“Not just figure skating but there are other good athletes including the young ones coming from other winter sports. I believe that since it was decided that the Pyeongchang would host the Olympic games there has been much more support for Korean athletes and more people have taken an interest in winter sports, so I think there will be more top quality athletes coming out of Korea.”

Yuna Kim showing Norway Skating team spin on the ice.

Yuna Kim explaining a technique to Norway Skating team on the ice.

Norway skating team trying Kim technique.

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (Korean Language)

Q. How do you think South Korea’s Park So-youn will perform at the first Grand Prix of the season Skate America?

“There weren’t many cases where South Korean figure skaters competed in Grand prix and this time Park So-youn is competing. She has her own strengths and a good sound foundation of basic technique. That’s why if she performs confidently I believe she will do well at the event. We are not aiming for a gold but we would like the best clean performance that she can be happy with. Park still needs more experience on the big stage.”

Photographer taking a picture of Yuna Kim and Norway figure skating team.

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (Korean Language)

Q – Are Grand Prix events important in the skaters calendar or is it all about World Champs and Olympics?

“Grand Prix’s are the first events of the season and it’s the first time when figure skaters present their programs that’s why there is a lot of pressure. Even though it’s a small event compared to the World Championships or Olympic Games it doesn’t mean that athletes prepare less, there aren’t many cases where athletes prepare less depending on the size of the event. It doesn’t matter the size of the event skaters always try there best so it’s an important competition because you want to start the season on a high.”

Yuna Kim skating in front of YOG branding

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (Korean Language)

Q – Can Figure skating improve as a sport in the future or has it reached its limit?

“If you look back at figure skating history technically and artistically there were times when there were a lot of top quality athletes and then other times, less so. Now I have retired I look at skaters and I see that there are athletes who are technically better than me and so I believe there is a good possibility for figure skating to improve.”

Yuna Kim teaching local Lillehammer youngster figure skating.

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (English Language)

Q – How will the young athletes benefit from competing at Lillehammer 2016?

“I think young athletes can learn fair play and sport manners through the youth Olympics then they can do their best performance at the senior Olympics.”

Yuna Kim teaching local Lillehammer youngster to look up when skating.

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (English Language)

Q – How do you think South Korea’s Park So-youn will perform at the first Grand Prix of the season Skate America?

“She experienced a big event like the Olympics and the World Championships so she is building her confidence so I think she needs to trust herself.”

Yuna Kim teaching local Lillehammer youngster on the ice.

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (English Language)

Q. What were the happiest moments of your career?

“My happiest moment was when I won the world championships in 2009 for the first time and of course the Vancouver Olympics and my last competition at the Sochi Olympics. The three were my happiest moments of my skating life.”

Yuna Kim teaching local Lillehammer youngster artistic merit techniques.

Close up Yuna Kim.

SOUNDBYTE: Yuna Kim (English Language)

Q. Are Grand Prix event important in the skaters calendar or is it all about World Champs and Olympics?

“The grand prix series are the first competition of the season so all the skaters get nervous before the grand prix, because of that I think the grand prix series is very important to go through the season.”

Local Lillehammer youngster doing a spin.
Yuna Kim competing at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.
Yuna Kim receiving her gold medal at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.
Yuna Kim competing at the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games.
Yuna Kim waves to the crowd at the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games.
Yuna Kim standing on the podium at the 2014 Sochi Olympic Winter Games with Gold medal winner Adelina Sotnikova of Russia and bronze medal winner Carolina Kostner of Italy.
-   Ends –