



Hideki Matsuyama was born in 1992. His father **introduced** him to golf when Matsuyama was only four years old. Matsuyama was very talented, and he won many golf **championships**. He was not a **professional** golf player until 2013.

In March 2011, an earthquake and tsunami destroyed a big part of Japan, Matsuyama's home. In the same year, Matsuyama had his first chance to play the Masters Tournament. He did not want to take part, but in the end, he decided that he would play. He wanted to make Japanese people happy again.

In April 2021, he made Japanese people even happier when he won the Masters for the first time. He became the first Japanese man and the first Asian man in history to win. He won only by one shot over Will Zalatoris from the US.

Difficult words: **introduce** (to show somebody something that he did not know before), **championship** (a competition to find the best player or team in a sport), **professional** (when you do something as a job).



Discussion Questions

Topic Talk

1. Define the following words: *introduce*, *championship* and *professional*
2. At what age did Hideki Matsuyama start to learn to play golf?
3. How old was Hideki Matsuyama when he first played for the Masters Tournament?
4. Why did Matsuyama want to back out from playing in the Masters Tournament at first?
And what made him change his mind?
5. How old was Matsuyama when he first won the Masters Tournament?
6. Who did Hideki Matsuyama defeat in the Masters Tournament in April 2021?

Express Your Thoughts

1. Are you interested in golf? How popular is this sport in your country?
2. Have you heard of Hideki Matsuyama?
(Ask if your student is Japanese) How popular is he in Japan?
3. Has golf gain more popularity in Japan after Matsuyama's victory? (only for Japanese)