

ATOMIC ENERGY
EDUCATION SOCIETY,
MUMBAI
Module 2

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Reach For The Top

Class IX

beehive



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Introduction

- **Maria Yuryevna Sharapova**, born 19 April 1987, is a Russian retired professional tennis player. Although she played under the banner of Russia with the [Women's Tennis Association](#) (WTA), she has lived in and been a [United States permanent resident](#) since 1994. Sharapova competed on the WTA tour from 2001 to 2020 and had been ranked [world No. 1](#) in singles by the WTA on five separate occasions. She is one of ten women, and the only Russian, to hold the [career Grand Slam](#). She is also an [Olympic medalist](#). Sharapova achieved a rare level of longevity in tennis, with several tennis pundits and former players calling Sharapova one of tennis' best competitors. Sharapova became the world No. 1 for the first time on 22 August 2005, at the age of 18, becoming the first Russian female tennis player to top the singles rankings. She won five [Grand Slam](#) titles.

HIGHLIGHTS

Difficult childhood

- She had not even turned ten when she was sent to Florida, USA with her father for training in tennis. She was extremely sad as she had to remain separated from her mother for two years.
- A difficult childhood leaves some people wounded and disadvantaged. However, for some, a tough childhood drives them to outrageous achievement and success. Former World No.1 [Maria Sharapova](#) comes under the latter group of people.



Determined and mentally tough

She says that she would have borne greater humiliation and insults in order to achieve her dream.

Secret of success

She adds that she is competitive and works hard as she considers it to be a part of her work. This is Maria's secret for success.



Patriotism

She says that USA is a big part of her life because she was trained there but in the core of her heart, she is a Russian.

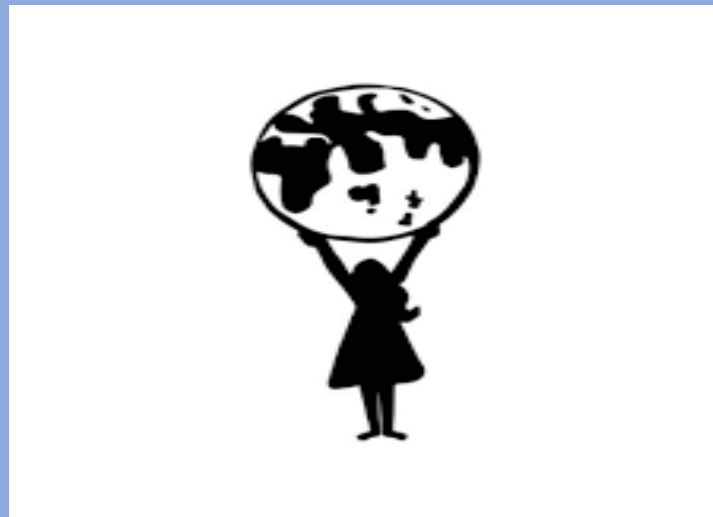
Teenager qualities

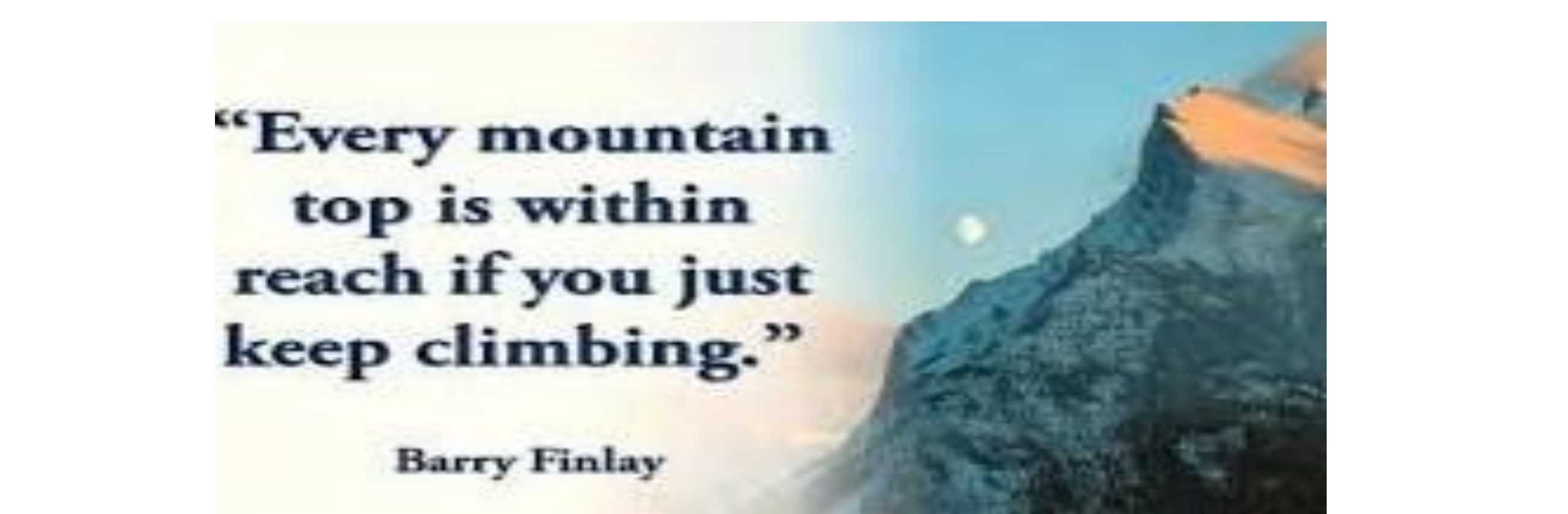
Maria's favourite pastimes are fashion, singing and dancing.



word meaning

- Disarming: likeable
- At odds with: in conflict with
- Poised: composed, self-assured
- Pinnacle: the most successful point
- Heart - wrenching: extremely sad
- Bagging: winning
- Meteoric: very rapid
- Amply: plentifully
- Parades: displays
- At odds with: in disagreement with
- Fizzy: aerated



A photograph of a mountain peak with a bright sun or moon in the sky. The mountain is dark and rocky, and the sky is a clear, light blue. The sun or moon is a bright, circular glow in the upper right quadrant of the image.

**“Every mountain
top is within
reach if you just
keep climbing.”**

Barry Finlay

*Thank
you*