## The Story of the Olympics: An Unofficial History

## **Rachel Bladon**

- 1 Once every four years.
  - 2 A silver medal.
  - 3 The International Olympic Committee.
  - 4 It has five coloured rings.
  - 5 The Olympic torch is lit.
  - 6 The Greek team, because the Olympic Games started in Greece.
  - 7 To show that the Olympic Games are always held in peace.
- 2 1 Any two from: the Greek world was getting bigger because many Greeks were moving to live in different places around the Mediterranean; many Greeks travelled to places around the Mediterranean to buy and sell things; Greek people made beautiful art and wrote many poems and stories.
  - 2 In 776 BC.
  - 3 A running race from one end of the stadium in Olympia to the other.
  - 4 The sacred truce.
  - 5 They were thrown off the top of Mount Typaeon.
- 3 1 Because a new Temple of Zeus was built at Olympia.
  - 2 Chariot races, horse races, the pentathlon (running, jumping, wrestling, throwing a discus and throwing a javelin), track races, boxing and wrestling.
  - 3 They could not bite or poke out each other's eyes.
  - 4 Crowns made from the branches of a holy olive tree.
  - 5 In 393 AD, by Emperor Theodosius I.
- 4 1 Panagiotis Soutsos, Evangelis Zappas, Doctor William Penny Brookes, Pierre de Coubertin and Georgios Averoff.
  - 2 In 1896.
  - 3 Because in a famous Greek story, a man called Philippides ran from Marathon to Athens, about 40 kilometres away, to tell people about the battle of Marathon.
  - 4 Because it was won by a Greek runner.
- 5 1 Because they were held at the same time as the Paris and St Louis World's Fairs.
  - 2 In London, Great Britain.
  - 3 In 1906.
  - 4 Because in 1956 he had the idea that at the closing ceremony the athletes should come into the stadium all together.
  - 5 Because the British King and Queen wanted to watch the start of the event from their castle in Windsor.

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- 6 In 1924 in Chamonix, France.
- 7 Because for the first time women were allowed to compete in gymnastics, track and field events.
- 6 1 They are races that take place or finish on the track in the Olympic stadium.
  - 2 Nine.
  - 3 Because athletes were throwing them too far and it was becoming too dangerous.
  - 4 The pentathlon and the decathlon.
  - 5 Shooting, fencing, swimming, horse-riding and running.
  - 6 She was awarded a perfect score in gymnastics.
  - 7 Johnny Weissmuller.
  - 8 Any three from: ice-skating, skiing, bobsledding, luge and ice hockey.
  - 9 He finished an equestrian event with a broken collarbone and also rode the next day.
- 7 1 In 1916, and in 1940 and 1944, because of the two world wars.
  - 2 Because it was the middle of the Great Depression.
  - 3 It is when a country stays away and does not compete at the Olympic Games.
  - 4 Because of the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan.
  - 5 From 1964 until 1992, because of its system of apartheid.
- 8 1 He travelled almost half the marathon distance by car.
  - 2 Because one of their team members, Boris Onishchenko, cheated in the fencing.
  - 3 He failed a drugs test. He had to give back his medal and could not compete in athletics for two years.
  - 4 Seventeen (two members of the Israeli Olympic team, then nine Israeli team members who were hostages, five terrorists and one policeman).
- 9 1 Because he thought sports could be very helpful for people with injuries.
  - 2 In 1960 in Rome, Italy.
  - 3 There are twenty-two summer sports and five winter sports.
  - 4 Fifty-five.
- 10 1 Accommodation and transport for spectators and athletes, and security.
  - 2 They use corporate sponsors and sell television rights.
  - 3 Because two competitors finished the race at almost exactly the same time.
  - 4 Citius, Altius, Fortius Faster, Higher, Stronger.