

# The Olympic Games®

## 1 Pre-reading

Do this quiz about the Olympic Games®. Then check your answers by doing an Internet search for The Olympic Games®. You can use these websites to help you:

[learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/ar/node/5448](http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/ar/node/5448)

[www.athensguide.org/olympics-history.html](http://www.athensguide.org/olympics-history.html)

[gtresearchnews.gatech.edu/reshor/rh-win96/timeline.htm](http://gtresearchnews.gatech.edu/reshor/rh-win96/timeline.htm)

[www.enchantedlearning.com/olympics/](http://www.enchantedlearning.com/olympics/)

- The five rings of the Olympic Games® represent five ... .  
 a continents  
 b days of competition  
 c sports
- The first Olympic Games® took place in Olympia, Greece, in ... .  
 a 776 BC  
 b AD 79  
 c AD 1896
- The only event in the first Olympic Games® was ... .  
 a fighting  
 b horse racing  
 c running
- During the Olympic Games® in ancient Greece, competitors won ... .  
 a a crown made of olive leaves  
 b gold, silver and bronze medal  
 c money
- The 'sacred truce' allowed competitors to ... .  
 a give thanks to the gods  
 b prepare for the games  
 c travel to the games safely
- The Olympic® torch travels ... .  
 a around the world  
 b from Greece  
 c from the last host country
- The Olympic Games® take place every ... .  
 a two years  
 b three years  
 c four years
- The number of sports included in the Olympic Games® today is about ... .  
 a twenty-six  
 b seventy  
 c two hundred

## 2 Vocabulary

Match the words with the pictures of different Olympic® sports. Then check your answers online. You can use this website to help you:

[www.london2012.com/sport](http://www.london2012.com/sport)

- athletics
- baseball
- gymnastics
- road cycling
- swimming
- taekwondo
- tennis



### 3 Reading

Do an Internet search for The Olympics® and find out when these important Olympic Games® events happened. You can use these websites to help you:

[www.nostos.com/olympics/#HighlightsoftheModernGames](http://www.nostos.com/olympics/#HighlightsoftheModernGames)

[www.sports-reference.com/olympics/athletes/bl/fanny-blankers-koen-1.html](http://www.sports-reference.com/olympics/athletes/bl/fanny-blankers-koen-1.html)

[www.london2012.com/cycling-bmx](http://www.london2012.com/cycling-bmx)

[www.infoplease.com/spot/olympicstimeline.html](http://www.infoplease.com/spot/olympicstimeline.html)

[www.athensmarathon.com/marathon/history.html](http://www.athensmarathon.com/marathon/history.html)

[www.olympic.org/sydney-2000-summer-olympics](http://www.olympic.org/sydney-2000-summer-olympics)

- 1 Baseball became an Olympic® sport. 1992
- 2 Road cycling was introduced. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 A Dutch woman, Fanny Blankers-Koen, became the first woman to win four gold medals. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 A Romanian, Nadia Comaneci, became the first person to score a perfect 10 in Olympic® gymnastics. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Softball, a women-only sport, was introduced. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Tennis returned as an Olympic® sport. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 The first modern Olympics® took place in Athens. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 The distance of a marathon became longer. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 The Olympic Games® became open to women. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Taekwondo was entered as an Olympic® sport. \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Project

Choose one of the Olympic® events in Exercise 2, or another you are particularly interested in. Do an Internet search to research the sport and prepare a fact file about it to present to the class. Use the following questions to help you:

- How long has it been an Olympic® sport?
- Has the sport changed in any way during that time? (e.g. becoming longer, shorter, admitting women, the introduction of new rules, etc.)
- Have there been any famous Olympics® for this event? (because of the absence/presence of certain athletes, disqualification of athletes, etc.)
- Which country has won the most medals in this event?
- Which competitors have won the most medals in this event?
- What other information do you think is interesting or important about this event?



**You can use these websites to help you:**

[www.olympic.org](http://www.olympic.org)  
[www.london2012.com/sport](http://www.london2012.com/sport)