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**Lesson: 12**

The Olympic Games, a global sporting event held every four years, has a rich history that dates back to ancient Greece.

The first recorded Olympic Games took place in 776 BC in Olympia, where athletes competed in honor of the gods. After more than 1,500 years of suspension, Pierre de Coubertin revived the modern Olympics in 1896 in Athens, Greece, marking the beginning of a new era for international sports. The modern Olympics has grown to become the largest and most prestigious event in the world, bringing together athletes from all over the globe to compete in various sports.

Today, the Olympics has expanded both in terms of the number of sports and the countries that participate. It serves not only as a platform for athletic achievement but also as a symbol of global unity and peace. The Summer and Winter Games are held in alternating years, drawing millions of viewers worldwide. The Olympic movement promotes ideals of friendship, excellence, and respect, fostering international cooperation and understanding.

Looking to the future, the Olympics faces new challenges and opportunities. As technology advances, the Games will likely continue to evolve to stay relevant, with the potential inclusion of new sports like e-sports and innovative formats. The focus on sustainability, inclusivity, and diversity will likely shape the direction of future Olympics. Despite these changes, the core values of the Olympic Games—fairness, unity, and respect—will remain central, ensuring its continued importance as the premier global sporting event.