

Reading

• The Olympics then and now

Aim

Read for specific information.

THINK!

Read the questions with the class and elicit possible answers. Tell students the answers, and see who gave the correct answers.

ANSWERS

Students' own answer; Cricket is not in the Olympics.

Exercise 1

Focus on the text. With **weaker classes**, you could use the dates to revise and practise saying dates in English. Point to each date in turn and elicit how to say it. Students read and note down the sports that are mentioned. They can compare their answers in pairs. Check answers with the class and check that students understand *marathon*.

ANSWERS

swimming, marathon / running, golf, rugby

Exercise 2 2-14

Allow students time to read the sentences. Point out that for this task they need to read and listen carefully to find specific information. Point out that they can use the dates and other clues to find the relevant part of the text quickly. Then they need to listen carefully to see if each sentence is true or false. With **stronger classes**, students could correct the false sentences. Students can compare their answers in pairs. Check answers with the class and encourage students to give evidence from the text to support their answers.

ANSWERS

1 False (There were only silver and bronze medals.) 2 True 3 False (She was from Denmark.) 4 True 5 False (They were Olympic sports for the first time in 2016.)

Optional activity: Reading

Write these questions on the board:

- Where were the first modern Olympic Games?
- When did the Olympic flag first appear?
- How old was the youngest medallist in the history of the games?
- When did a runner with no shoes win the marathon?

Students answer the questions. They read or listen to find each answer.

ANSWERS

1 Greece 2 1920 3 12 4 1960

6 READING • The Olympics then and now

I can read for specific information.

THINK! When and where are the next Olympic Games? Which sport in the box is NOT in the Olympics?

cricket sailing rugby golf football

OLYMPICS TIMELINE

1896 The first modern Olympic Games were in Greece. There were silver medals for **winners** and bronze medals for second place. There weren't any gold medals.

1916 In 1916, 1940 and 1944, there weren't any games because of war.

1920 There wasn't an Olympic flag until 1920. The flag of every country in the world has got one of the five Olympic colours in it.

1936 Twelve-year-old **swimmer** Inge Sorensen from Denmark was the youngest **medallist** in Olympic history.

1960 Abebe Bikila from Ethiopia was the first African to win a gold medal after running a marathon without shoes.

2016 There were two new events in Rio in 2016 – golf and rugby were the first new events in nearly 100 years.

2020 In 2020, there was a global problem and they moved the games to 2021.

74 Sports

1 Read the text. What sports does it mention?

2 2-14 Read and listen to the text and write **True** or **False**.

- There were gold medals in the first Olympic Games.
- There weren't any games in 1916.
- Inge Sorensen was a swimmer from Ethiopia.
- Abebe Bikila was a marathon runner.
- Golf and rugby were Olympic sports for the first time in 2012.

3 **VOCABULARY PLUS** Use a dictionary to check the meanings of the words in **blue** in the text.

4 **USE IT!** Work in pairs. Which piece of information in the text do you think is the most interesting? What sports do you like watching in the Olympics?

Exercise 3 VOCABULARY PLUS

Students check the meanings of the words in blue. Discuss the meanings with the class. You could ask students to translate the words into their own language to check understanding.

ANSWERS

Students' own answers.

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Optional activity: Vocabulary plus

Write the following gapped sentences on the board:

- A ____ wins a competition.
- A ____ wins a medal.
- A ____ swims.

Students complete the sentences with the blue words from the text. Check answers with the class.

ANSWERS

1 winner 2 medallist 3 swimmer

Exercise 4 USE IT!

Allow students time to prepare their answers to the questions individually. They then discuss the questions in pairs. Ask some students to report back to the class. Discuss as a class which sports students enjoy watching. Ask more questions to extend the discussion, e.g. *Which sports do you find boring? Which would you like to try? Which would you like to see live?* See which sports are the most and least popular with the class.

ANSWERS

Students' own answers.

More practice

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Practice Kit