

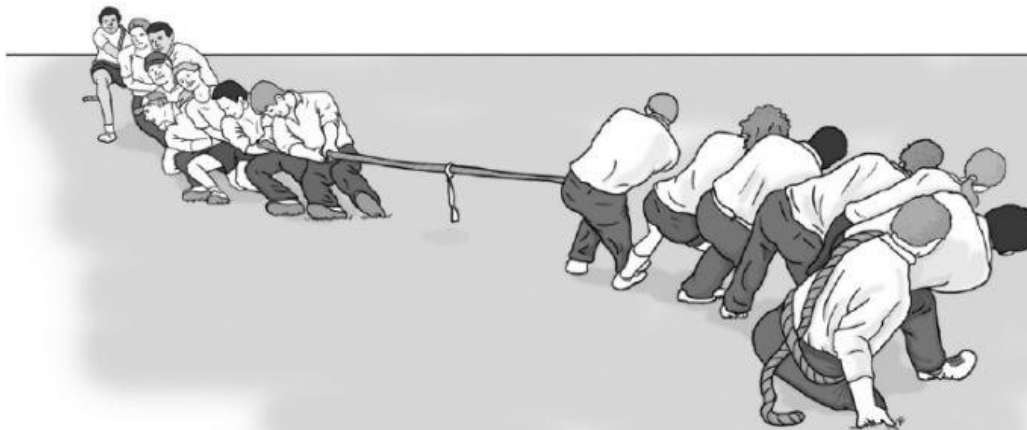
TOEFL READING COMPREHENSION 2

Questions 18 - 23 are about the following passage.

Well-known in many countries, tug-of-war is a sports event with easy rules and a lot of action. On a grassy field, two teams pull on opposite ends of a rope. The team that can pull the other team to its side of the field triumphs. Many places have local tug-of-war clubs that compete against each other. An international organization sets the rules of the competition.

If one tug-of-war team weighs much more than the other team, then it is easier for the heavier team to win. To keep contests fair, all eight pullers on a team must be weighed. Only teams with similar weights compete against each other.

The thrill of tug-of-war has been known for a very long time. In fact, it is one of the world's oldest events, going back many centuries. Tug-of-war existed in many places in ancient times, including Greece, Egypt, and Korea. At one point it was even included in the Olympic Games. It was introduced into the Olympics in 1900, just four years after the first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896 in Greece. It was a part of the Olympics until 1920, when the rope was pulled for the final time as an official Olympic event.



18. What is the best title for the passage?

- (A) Games of Strength and Speed
- (B) A Simple but Exciting Contest
- (C) Changing the Rules of a Fun Game
- (D) The Oldest Sports at the Olympic Games

19. In line 3, the word triumphs is closest in meaning to _____ .

- (A) wins
- (B) arrives
- (C) relaxes
- (D) gets tired

20. According to the passage, what might make a tug-of-war contest unfair?

- (A) Having eight pullers on each team
- (B) Including pullers who think tug-of-war is easy to win
- (C) Keeping teams on opposite sides of the same rope
- (D) Having teams with different weights compete against each other

21. What is done before a contest begins?

- (A) The rope is pulled.
- (B) The field is measured.
- (C) The teams are counted.
- (D) The pullers are weighed.

22. What does the author say about the history of tug-of-war?

- (A) It was played in ancient times.
- (B) It was invented in Greece.
- (C) Its rules were written down in 1900.
- (D) It was a part of the first modern Olympic Games.

23. What was the last year that tug-of-war was included in the Olympics?

- (A) 1896
- (B) 1900
- (C) 1904
- (D) 1920