

6 Sport

Lessons 9–10 **The Olympic Games**

- What do you know about the Olympic Games?
- Does the UAE participate in the Olympic Games? In which sports?
- With your group, discuss your ideas about:
 - a how often the Olympic Games take place
 - b if there are different kinds of Olympic Games
 - c if any games were ever cancelled
 - d how they started
 - e what the logo symbolises

Reading

Read the text and answer the questions.

The Olympic Games is the leading international sporting event, with summer and winter sports competitions. Over 200 countries take part in the games held every four years.

However, in 1916, 1940 and 1944 the games were skipped.

The host nation changes at every event, **therefore** providing an opportunity for the host city and country to showcase themselves to the world. **In addition**, every host country chooses a mascot, **mainly** as a representation of the country, but also to provide entertainment for spectators between games. **For instance**,

there was *Wenlock* at the 2012 Olympics in London, a creature symbolising technology and innovation. **Alternatively**, a human figure can be chosen to represent the cultural heritage or identity of the host country.

The games were inspired by the ancient Olympic Games, which were held in Olympia, Greece, from the 8th century BCE to the 4th century CE.

The logo of the Olympics consists of five intertwined rings and represents the unity of the five inhabited continents; Africa, America, Asia, Oceania and Europe.



Video



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Task 1

1. The Olympic Games are:
 - a. an international sporting event
 - b. a national event (only people from one country can take part in the sporting event)
 - c. a local event (only people from one city can take part in the sporting event)

2. When can you watch the Olympic games sporting event?
 - a. Month of March
 - b. Summer and Winter
 - c. Autumn and Springtime

3. How often does the Olympic Games international sporting event take place?
 - a. Every year (annually)
 - b. Every two years
 - c. Every three years
 - d. Every four years

4. Different countries host or have the Olympic games. Example: Tokyo in Japan will host the 2021 Olympics.
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. When a country hosts the Olympic Games, they have a mascot. What is a mascot? Choose **two** answers.
 - a. The mascots help people at the Olympic games.
 - b. The mascots entertain spectators between games.
 - c. The mascots take part in the Olympic sports events.
 - d. The mascots represent the host country.

6. Where do the Olympic games originally come from?
 - a. The Olympic Games originally come from the UK.
 - b. The Olympic Games originally come from ancient Greece (8 BCE TO 4 CE)
 - c. The Olympic Games originally come from the USA.

7. What do the Olympic rings represent?
 - a. The Olympic rings represent the five continents (Africa, Asia, America, Oceania, Europe)
 - b. The Olympic rings represent the five emirates (Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Ajman, Ras al Khaimah, Sharjah)
 - c. The Olympic rings represent five cities (Paris, New York, London, Tokyo, Abu Dhabi)