

Culture Connection | Around the World

- 18 Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

competition Olympic motor vehicle
variations event race course sport

- Swimming is a popular _____ at the Olympics.
- The tug-of-war _____ had a team at each end of a long rope.
- Hot air ballooning was an _____ sport in 1900.
- In skijoring a _____ pulls a skier over a race course.
- My favorite Olympic _____ is sailing.

- 17
19 Listen and read. Then rewrite the sentences so that they are true.

New Olympic Sport



Did you know that extra fast bike riding is a sport in the Olympics? Bike racing started as an Olympic sport in Athens in 1896. Over the years, there were road races and track races and mountain-bike racing in

the Olympic Games. Then, in the 2008 Beijing Games, a bike sport called BMX became a new Olympic sport. It's a very fast and dangerous sport, so competitors have to be fearless to take part!

Both men and women compete in BMX. The bikes they use are light and very strong. They need to be strong enough for all the jumps and ramps, and yet remain light, so the riders can travel as fast as possible. All the races last only forty

seconds! If you blink, you'll miss them!

Like any sport, BMX racing has its own special words. The riders have created new words to talk about their sport, such as *bunny hop*. A bunny hop is when a rider's bike goes up in the air. The rider in the picture is bunny hopping. Another special word is *whoop*. A whoop is a small bump in the road. So, the next time you ride your bike, watch out for whoops and don't bunny hop. Stay safe!

- Only men compete in BMX. _____
- The bikes are heavy. _____
- Each race lasts sixty seconds. _____
- A bunny hop is a small bump in the road. _____

How did I do?



Unit 1 9