

Reading Ex. > The Best Games of the Year



A. Read the following text.

The Olympic Games are the biggest and the most awaited sports event. They started a long time ago in a place called *Olympia* in ancient Greece. The first Olympic Games happened in 776 BC. Only men from Greece could join. They played sports like running, wrestling, boxing, pentathlon, and equestrian events.

These sports were all part of the religious and cultural practices of the time, and athletes competed not only for victory but also to honor the gods, particularly Zeus. However, in 393 A.D, they stopped because the Roman Emperor Theodosius banned them. He was a Christian and wanted to end all pagan festivals and rituals, which included the Olympic Games. This decision led to the end of the ancient Olympic Games after they had been held for over a thousand years. For a long time, there were no Olympic Games.

Many years later, a man from France named Pierre de Coubertin had an idea. He wanted to start the Olympic Games again. This time, he wanted people from all over the world to play sports together. In 1896, the first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens, Greece. Many athletes from different countries came to compete.

Today, the Olympic Games happen every four years, just like in ancient times. There are two types of Olympic Games: *the Summer Olympics* and *the Winter Olympics*. As of the most recent Olympic Games, the Summer Olympics feature 32 sports, comprising about 339 events across different disciplines. These include athletics, swimming, gymnastics, cycling, and more. The Winter Olympics, on the other hand, have 7 sports, covering around 109 events. These sports include skiing, snowboarding, ice hockey, figure skating, and more. The number of sports and events can change as the International Olympic Committee (IOC) sometimes adds or removes disciplines for each edition of the Games.

The next five Olympic Games will be held in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo in 2026, in Los Angeles in 2028, in French Alps in 2030, in Brisbane in 2032, and in Salt Lake City in 2034. Many athletes from all over the world will again train hard to come and compete. The Olympic Games are one of the biggest sports events in the world, and many people will watch it on TV.

B. Based on the previous text, answer the questions below.

1. Where were the first Olympic Games held?

Answer: _____

2. What disciplines took place at that time?

Answer: _____

3. How many disciplines take part in the Winter Olympics?

Answer: _____

4. Who reinstated the Olympic Games?

Answer: _____

5. Why were the Olympic Games banned?

Answer: _____

6. How often are the Olympic Games held?

Answer: _____

7. When will the Olympic Games be in France?

Answer: _____

8. What does the IOC decide when the Olympic Games happen?

Answer: _____



Authored by Andrés Barón-Ávila
MA Education and Technology – UCL – IOE



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