

Sports



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The Olympic story - Greece and Special

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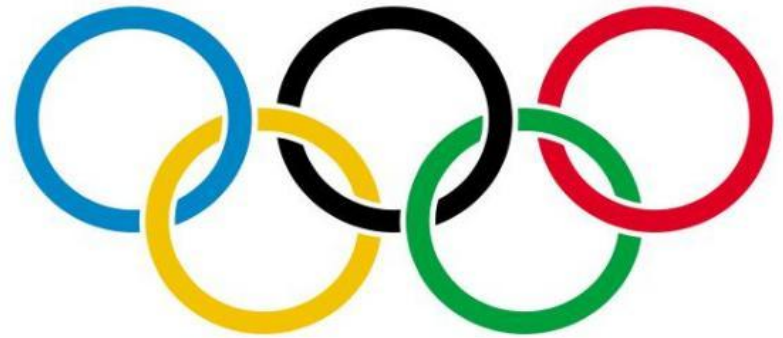
Welcome to sports!



Sports



People play and watch sport all over the world. It's a good international link – a way to find friends in other countries.



Check it out

Winning and loosing



gold/silver/bronze medal

Point goal rule score

Playing

beat compete hit

lose practice(Am)

practise(Br)

score train win

Describing (adjectives)

Boring dangerous

disappointing

Exciting fast slow

Places

Stadium tennis court

track

PEOPLE

Athlete captain club
coach
commentator competitor

Fun personal trainer
player
Runner spectator team



EVENTS

Championship competition
game match race event

Sport:
to do



or



to watch?

**Some people play a sport.
Others prefer to watch it.
What are the reasons?**

Way of life



**I live near the sea,
so swimming is
part of my life! I
meet my friends
on the beach? And
we have fun. There
are exciting sports,
like surfing, too.
A.J., 19, Australia.**

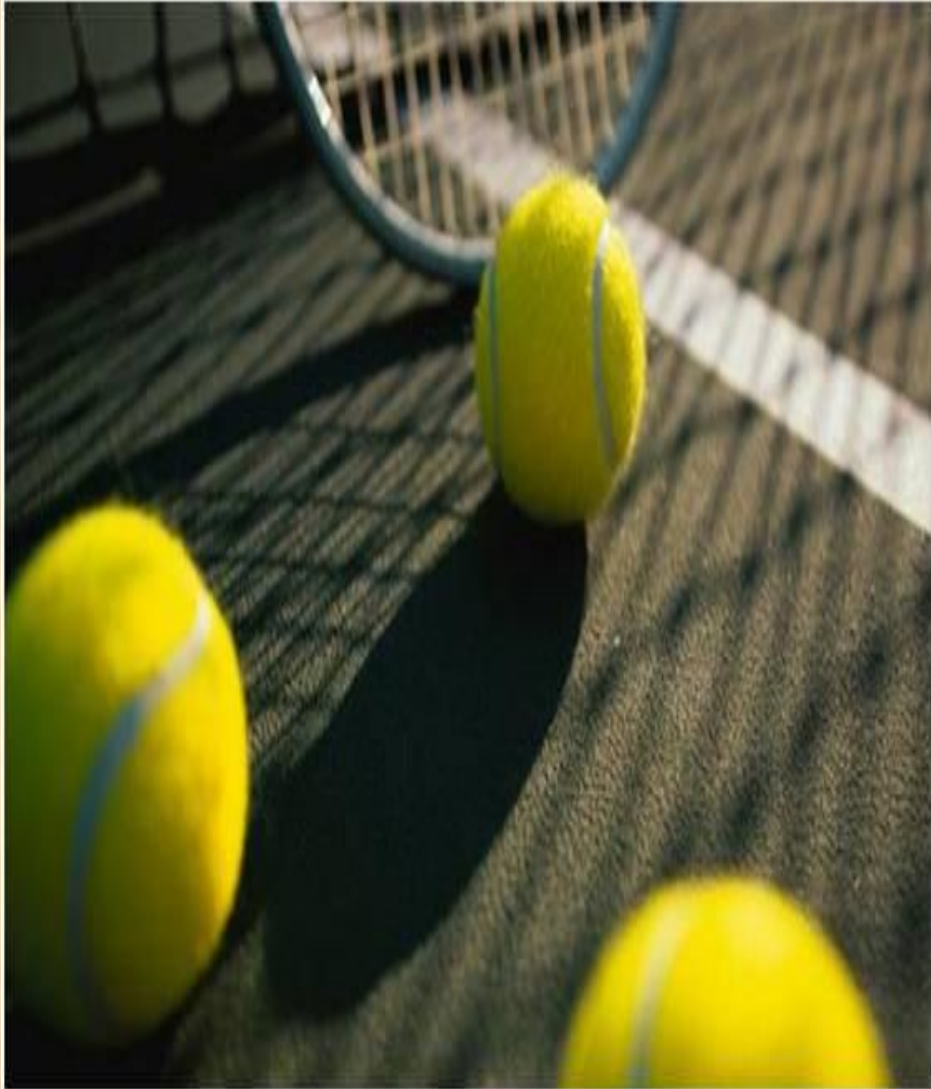
Excitement



Soccer`s my favou- rite sport. It`s really exciting. It`s good to play and it`s good to watch. I always want my team to win. In fact, I identify with my team. When they win, I`m really happy. But when they lose, I`m in a bad mood all day!

T.Y., 17, Japan.

Health



I play tennis. You feel great. You run and jump, and you`re in the fresh air. I always want to win! I watch tennis on T.V., too. It`s exciting.

I love the Wimbledon championships. Every year, I have a favourite player. It`s a good game for men and women.

P.H., 15, Argentina.

TV addict

I love to watch sport on T.V.! It`s all there – skiing, hang gliding, horse jumping, and lots more. I can`t see these things in my town, but I can watch them at home. I can dream and perhaps, one day...!

L.M., 20, USA.



THE OLYMPIC STORY





GREECE

THE ANCIENT OLYMPICS

The Olympic Games begin in Ancient Greece/ The first written record: 776 B.C. The last Ancient Games: 393 A.D. That's more than 1000 years!

Olympus is a special town for the Games. Sport and religion are important for the Ancient Greeks. The event is in honour of the god Zeus. there is a temple in Olympus, and a big stadium - 20000 spectators can watch the Games. All the athletes are men, and the spectators are men, too.

The competitors do not wear any clothes. The competitions are races (400 meters and 5000 meters), chariot-racing, boxing, and the pentathlon (running, long jump, discus, javelin and wrestling).-

During these Games, every four years, all wars stop. The cities of Ancient Greece are at peace.

THE MODERN OLYMPICS

Athens 1896



At the end of the 19th century, a Frenchman, Philippe de Coubertin, wants to revive the Olympic Games. In 1896, he organizes the first modern Games in Athens. There are 295 athletes from 13 countries, and 40000 spectators.

After this, there are Games every four years. But when there is a war (1914-18 and 1939-45), there are no Games.

Marathon:the place



The year: 490 B.C.

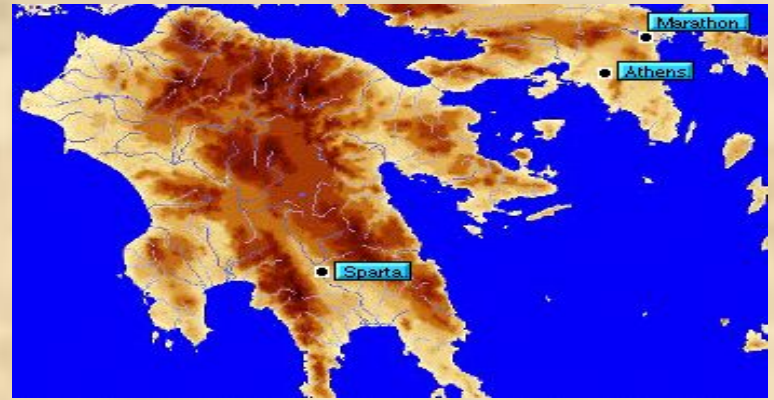
The place: Marathon and Athens, Greece

The context: War between Persia and Athens

:

The story: A famous runner, Pheidippides, one of the Athenian soldiers, runs 240 kilometres to Sparta to ask for help, but there is a big festival in Sparta, and they answer :’No’. He runs back with the bad news. However, the Athenians win the battle. And so Pheidippides runs to the city with the good news. He arrives, says ‘Nike’(victory) and - falls down,dead.

The new Marathon



The year: 1896

The place: Marathon and Athens, Greece

The context: The first modern Olympic Games

The length: 42 kilometres

The story: Greece are the hosts. Up to now, they have no medals. The Marathon is a final event. Twenty-five runners begin the race on the bridge at Marathon. After 40 kilometres, a runner enters the stadium in Athens. The spectators give a huge cheer. The winner is a Greek postal worker, Spiridon Louis. Greece wins a gold medal!

Today, every marathon helps raise money for charity. Cancer, heart disease, educational projects, poor people – running can help all these. Marathons even help animals!





SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The Paralympics

Every four years, disabled people have their Games, too. Some of the sports in these Paralympics are the same as the events in the Olympics, but with different rules. Some of the sports are different. Here are a few examples:

Basketball and Tennis: they play these sports in wheelchairs.

Goal-ball: a special game for blind players. There is a bell in the ball, so they can hear it.

Judo: blind people compete in this.



Winter Olympics



Skiing, skating, sledge races... these competitions take place every four years too. In mountains, in the snow, the Winter Olympics have a special atmosphere.



The Beautiful Game

Football (soccer) is really international game. Not just because national teams play against teams from other countries in international competitions like the World Cup, the Copa Americana or the Asia Cup. Players can also play for clubs in different countries.





Some Top Players



Ronaldo (The Phenomenon)

Nationality: Brazilian

Club Team: Real Madrid (Spain)

National Team: Brazil

Position: Forward

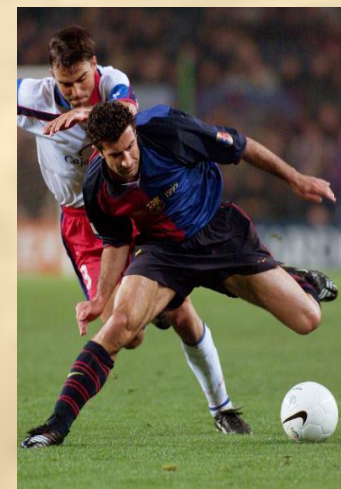
David Beckham

Nationality: English

Club Team : Real Madrid

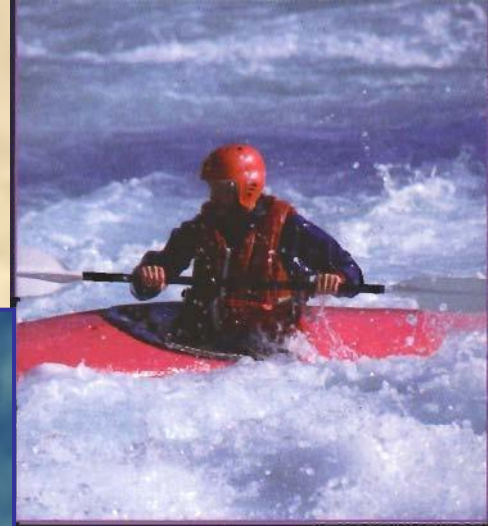
Position: Midfielder

National Team: England (Captain)



Extreme sports

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3



1



4

5



6



7



8



9



Sports facts



Can you guess the sport?
Sometimes there are two possibilities.



A .Snow, a mountain, and two pieces of wood.

B .Two or four players hit a ball over the net.

c. Can you run 42.2 kilometres?



D .Good players have black belts.



e. A match can go on for five days.



f. Argentinian horses help to win prizes.

G .Fat men are good at it.



H .Kids make magic on a piece of wood.



Check yourself

- a. Skiing**
- b .Tennis/table tennis**
- c. The marathon**
- d .Judo**
- e. Cricket**
- f. Polo**
- g. Sumo wrestling**
- h. Skateboarding**

Sources and Resources

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