



### 1 Write.

**gymnastics      symbol      continents      winners**

The first Olympic Games were in Greece in 776 BC. There was only one sport – running. Women could not compete in the games or watch them. The (a) \_\_\_\_\_ in the Olympic Games won a crown of laurel or olive leaves.



The Olympic Flame is an important (b) \_\_\_\_\_. Eleven women light the Olympic Torch and people carry it to the city where the games are going to be.

The flag of the Olympic Games is white with five rings: blue, yellow, black, green, and red. The rings represent the union of the five (c) \_\_\_\_\_ : Africa, America, Asia, Oceania and Europe.



The Olympic Games got bigger and changed. Nowadays there are about 30 Olympic sports including badminton, baseball, basketball, (d) \_\_\_\_\_, boxing, judo, tennis, football and handball. The Olympic Games take place every four years. Millions of people watch the Olympic Games around the world.



### 2 Answer the questions.

a. When did the Olympic Games start?

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b. How many sports were there in the Olympic Games in Greece when they started? And now?

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c. What do the rings on the Olympic Flag represent?

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### 3 Write.

a. Christian monks played this game in monasteries in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Kings and the aristocracy started to play this game in France in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century this game became very popular in other countries. Two or four players play this game on a rectangular court. A net divides the court. The ball can only bounce once on the court. Players can only touch the ball with their racquets.

What sport is it? \_\_\_\_\_.

b. People started to play the modern version of this sport in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in England. Two teams of eleven players play this game. The players play with a ball on a rectangular grass field, with a goal at each end of the field. The object of the game is to put the ball into the opposite goal. Players mustn't touch the ball with their hands or arms. Only the goalkeepers can use their hands or arms. The game lasts 90 minutes. It is the most popular sport in the world.

What sport is it? \_\_\_\_\_.

c. Basketball was invented in 1891 in the United States by a Canadian physical education teacher. It's one of the most popular s\_\_\_\_\_ in the world. Two t\_\_\_\_\_ of five players play this game. The players play with a b\_\_\_\_\_ on a rectangular court, with a b\_\_\_\_\_ at each end of the c\_\_\_\_\_. The object of the game is to get the b\_\_\_\_\_ through the b\_\_\_\_\_. Players can bounce the ball and pass it to other p\_\_\_\_\_ but they mustn't kick the ball.

## Sports.



### Aim

- To study the origin of different sports and the Olympic games.

### Language focus

**Key vocabulary:** *Greeks, Greece, Olympic Games, flame, torch, compete, flag, court, player, game, team, net, win a point, hit the ball, racquet, opponent, bounce, goal, field, score, goalkeepers, basket*

**Key language:** *The first Olympic Games were in Greece. Two or four players play this game on a rectangular court.*

### Materials

- Worksheet.

### Warm-up

- Ask the pupils to write in their notebooks as many sports as they can in three minutes. Get feedback. Invite some pupils to write their answers on the board, eg, *football, basketball, tennis, golf, handball, rugby, horse riding, skiing, fencing, climbing, running.*

### Completing the Worksheet

#### Activity 1

- Draw the flag of the Olympic Games with the five rings on the board. Ask the pupils *What is this? It's a flag. It's the Olympic flag.* Ask the pupils some questions about the Olympic Games, eg, *When did the Olympic Games start? Where did they begin? Which sports are in the games? How often are the Olympic Games organized? How many people watch the Olympic Games?*
- Point out the main ideas in the text, eg, *The Olympic Games started a long time ago in Greece. The Olympic Flag was first used in 1920 and it represents the union of all the countries that take part in the games. The flame is an important symbol. Eleven women light the Olympic Torch and people carry it to the city where the games are going to be. When the Olympic Games started there was only one sport: running. Nowadays there are about 30 Olympic sports.*
- Point out the fact that *Only men took part in the first Olympic Games. Women didn't compete*

*or watch the games.* Ask the pupils *What do you think?* Explain that *nowadays women can compete in the Olympic Games. Women and men have got the same rights.*

- Ask the pupils to write in the missing words in Activity 1.

**Answers:** a-winners; b-symbol; c-continent; d-gymnastics

#### Activity 2

- Ask the pupils to answer the comprehension questions in Activity 2.

**Answers:** a- in 776 BC; b-only one: running; now about 30 sports; c-the five continents, the countries that take part in the Games

#### Extension activity

- Explain that *the Olympic Games excluded athletes with physical disabilities. In 1960 the first Olympic Games for athletes with a disability were held in Rome. The Paralympic Games take place three weeks after the closing of the Olympics, in the same city and using the same facilities. The movement is now much bigger than when it started. The number of athletes participating in the Paralympic Games was about 400 in Rome in 1960. In Athens in 2004 there were about 3,800 athletes.*

- Ask the pupils what they think about the Paralympic Games. Explain that *people with a disability can't always do what people without that disability can do.* Elicit difficult situations people with a disability might encounter. Encourage the pupils to offer some solutions, eg, *Can people in wheelchairs move around the city? Not always. Problems: cars are in the way, street lights are in the way, the pavement is too high. Solutions: people shouldn't park on zebra crossings or on the pavement. Street lights shouldn't be in the way. Pavements should be low.*

#### Activity 3

- Write *handball* on the board. Elicit some information about handball from the pupils. Ask the class some questions, eg, *How many players are there in a handball team?* (seven, six players and a goalkeeper) *What's the objective of the game?* (the players pass and bounce a ball trying to throw the ball into the opposite goal) *What sports is it similar to?*

(football and basketball) *What are the rules?* (players use their hands to bounce and pass the ball; they mustn't kick the ball) *How long is the game?* (two periods of 30 minutes)

- Ask the pupils to read paragraphs a and b in Activity 3. Explain that they have to write the names of the two sports. Paragraph c is about basketball and they have to complete the text.
- Read the texts with the class. Explain new words and encourage the pupils to underline the most important words for each sport, eg, *court, player, game, net, win a point, hit the ball, racquet, opponent, bounce, goal, field,*

*goalkeepers, basket.* Encourage the pupils to compare their answers in small groups. Get feedback and check their answers.

- Write some true/false sentences on the board, eg, *Tennis started in the 12th century.* (T) *Tennis players can touch the ball with their body.* (F) *Two teams of ten people play football.* (F) *Basketball was invented in Europe* (F). Encourage the pupils to discuss the sentences in small groups. Get feedback.

**Answers:** a-tennis; b-football; c-sports, teams, ball, basket, court, ball, basket, players