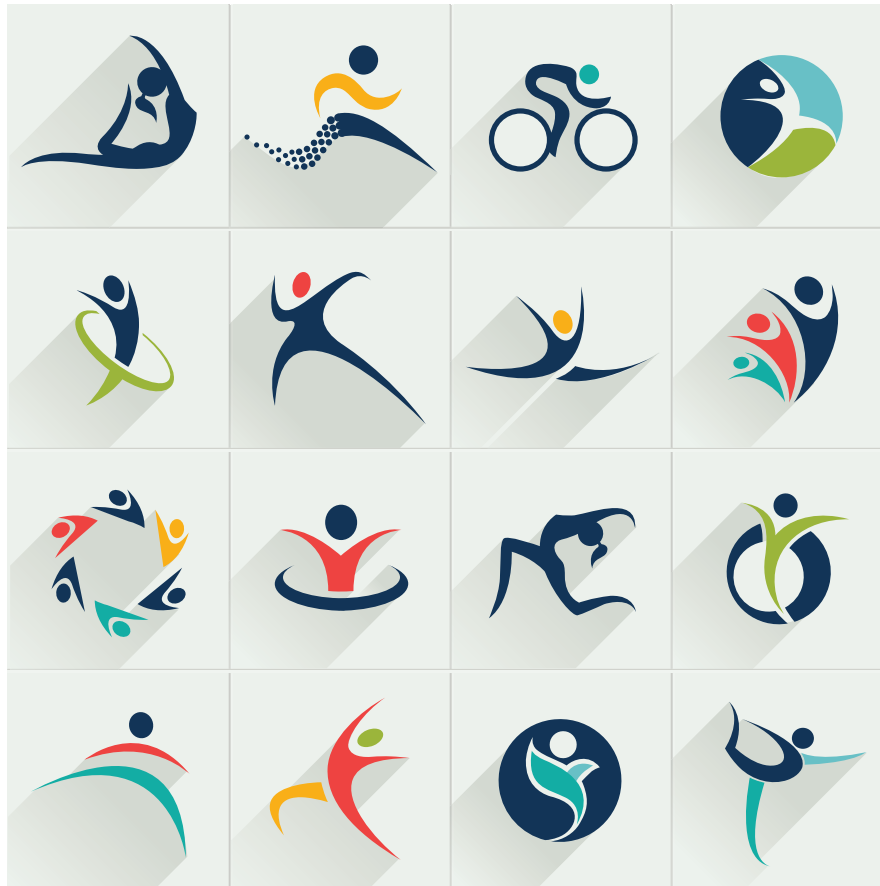


# UNUSUAL OLYMPICS



## ● Warm-up Questions

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1. What is unusual about your home or city?

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2. What sport don't you like or don't understand?

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3. Should the Tokyo Olympics be cancelled?

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4. What do you think is the most difficult part of being an Olympic athlete?

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## VOCABULARY

● WRITE THE CORRECT WORD IN THE SENTENCES BELOW

pistol, sipping, disqualified, tested positive, competing, Dutch, rowing, odd, rescue, still won, settled for, released, a flock of doves, a symbol of peace, weird

1. I saw a fireman \_\_\_\_\_ a cat from a tree. The cat looked happy.
2. I'm good at \_\_\_\_\_ a boat, but I can't swim well.
3. I have fired a \_\_\_\_\_ several times in my life.
4. That guy looks \_\_\_\_\_. Let's stay away from him.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ in the Olympics must be incredibly difficult.

## Unusual Olympics

It is one of the biggest events in the world, but it only happens once every 4 (or 5) years. It is the Summer Olympics, and many interesting and strange things have happened during the Olympics since it started in 1896.

Some strange things happen at the Olympics because of alcohol and drugs. In 1896, John and Sumner Paine won every pistol event while sipping whiskey between shots.

In the 1988 Seoul Olympics, Ben Johnson won the 100m race, beating Carl Lewis and Linford Christie. The next day, officials found drugs in Johnson, and he was disqualified. Later, both Lewis and Christie tested positive for drugs in the same race.

For some athletes, they can be champions even though their bodies are hurt. In 1904, George Eyser won 6 gymnastics medals with a wooden leg. Pistol champion Karoly Takacs lost his right hand in 1938. He won gold medals in 1948 and 1952 using his left hand.

There are also very young and very old athletes competing in the Olympics.

In the 1900 Olympics, the youngest athlete won a gold medal. A French child was the coxswain for the Dutch rowing team. The coxswain drives a boat, and the Dutch team thought theirs was too heavy. So, they used a

child instead. Nobody knows the child's name.

Oscar Gomer Swahn was a Swedish shooter who competed at three Olympic games and won six medals. Swahn is the oldest Olympian to win gold. He was 72.

And for some athletes, they took a break for odd reasons. In 1988, Canadian sailor Lawrence Lemieux stopped racing to rescue an injured competitor. He was in 2nd place. In 1928, Australian rower Henry Pearche stopped rowing to allow a family of ducks to cross his path. He still won the gold medal.

In 1912, Russia's Martin Klein won an eleven-hour, forty-minute wrestling match against Finland's Alfred Asikainen. Klein was so tired he couldn't wrestle in the finals the next day and settled for silver.

Lastly, the Olympics have not been kind to birds. In 1900, one event was live pigeon shooting. The winner was able to kill 21 of the 300 birds that were released that day. And lastly, during the opening ceremony at the Seoul Olympics, a flock of doves were released as a symbol of peace. Sadly, they flew into the Olympic torch and got grilled.

Clearly, the Olympics is an amazing event. But sometimes, very weird things can happen, and that makes them even more interesting.



## PREPOSITION PRACTICE

Fill in the blanks using: against, at, over, for, on, without, in, off, of, about, to, up

Write a proper preposition for each sentence. Sometimes, there is more than one answer.

1. I played \_\_\_\_\_ a baseball team, but the team was \_\_\_\_\_ last place.
2. Some athletes take drugs \_\_\_\_\_ order \_\_\_\_\_ improve their skills.
3. She isn't good \_\_\_\_\_ basketball even though she is \_\_\_\_\_ 200cm tall (205cm).
4. I dream \_\_\_\_\_ winning a gold medal and listening \_\_\_\_\_ my national anthem.
5. It's unusual \_\_\_\_\_ athletes to be \_\_\_\_\_-weight. They're usually \_\_\_\_\_ a diet.
6. It is \_\_\_\_\_ the rules \_\_\_\_\_ athletes to take drugs.
7. Sometimes, the Olympics are put \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_ war or COVID-19.
8. If it was \_\_\_\_\_ to me, I would have cancelled the Olympics, but I am not \_\_\_\_\_ the Olympic committee.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ his visit \_\_\_\_\_ the USA, PM Mori got confused \_\_\_\_\_ 2 sentences:  
How are you and Who are you. Later, he was embarrassed \_\_\_\_\_ that.
10. I hope the Olympics will be a big success \_\_\_\_\_ Japan, and the ceremonies are held \_\_\_\_\_ any mistakes.

## WRITING SENTENCES

1. whiskey: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. champion: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. heavy: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. injure: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. event: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. compete: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_