

■ 1. London and the Olympics

Part 1, Unit 1, Step 2

Before watching

1 Team London Ambassadors were the people that you probably saw helping with the organization of the Olympic Games. Check how much you know about them by deciding if the following are True (T) or False (F).

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The London Ambassadors were all unpaid volunteers. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. They received free travel on the days they worked. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. They received one day of training before the Games. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. They worked for periods of up to 10 hours. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. They had to give the uniform back after the Games. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The minimum age for Ambassadors was 16. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Now discuss with a partner what the role of the London Ambassador might be, for example,

- *to give people directions...*
-
-
-

3 London Olympics quiz. How much do you know about the event itself? Try this with a partner. Decide if the following are True (T) or False (F).

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. At 61 years old, Hiroshi Hoketsu is the oldest ever competitor at a Games. He appeared in the men's equestrian event at London 2012, 48 years since his first Olympic appearance at the 1964 Tokyo Games. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Over 800,000 people used public transport to travel to the Games. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. 17 km of steel cables (<i>cavi d'acciaio</i>) were used for the Velodrome's cable roof; that's the same height as Mount Everest. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

4. 80% of the material inside the Olympic Park could be reused or recycled, making this the greenest Olympics yet. ☐ ☐
5. 26,400 tennis balls were used. ☐ ☐
6. 6,000 towels were used by the athletes. ☐ ☐
7. 2,700 footballs were used. ☐ ☐

4 Video vocabulary. Match the words/expressions on the left with the translation on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. smiley | <input type="checkbox"/> a. favoloso |
| 2. help out | <input type="checkbox"/> b. conferenza stampa |
| 3. fabulous | <input type="checkbox"/> c. pianificare |
| 4. plan | <input type="checkbox"/> d. sorridente |
| 5. focus | <input type="checkbox"/> e. accadere, realizzarsi |
| 6. building | <input type="checkbox"/> f. edificio, costruzione |
| 7. materialise | <input type="checkbox"/> g. posti di lavoro disponibili |
| 8. job vacancies | <input type="checkbox"/> h. un flusso continuo |
| 9. press conference | <input type="checkbox"/> i. dare una mano |
| 10. a steady stream | <input type="checkbox"/> j. focalizzare |

While watching

5 Watch the whole video clip and number these people in the order you see them.

- ☐ a. A police officer.
- ☐ b. A female steward.
- ☐ c. A woman spectator.
- ☐ d. The Head of the London Media Centre.
- ☐ e. A male London Ambassador.

6 Watch again from 00:00 to 00:32 and answer the following questions.

1. When the interviewer asks what the role of an Ambassador is, which one of the following does the ambassador NOT mention?
 - ☐ a. Welcoming people.
 - ☐ b. Being a happy, smiley person.
 - ☐ c. Checking people's tickets.
 - ☐ d. Giving tourist information.
2. How does the speaker consider his experience as an Ambassador?
 - ☐ a. Very enjoyable.
 - ☐ b. Quite enjoyable.
 - ☐ c. OK but a bit boring at times.
 - ☐ d. Tiring and not very interesting.

7 Watch from 00:33 to 01:05 and complete the following information.

Chris Rowbottom is an (1) of the City of London Police. He says they've been planning for about the last (2) years. He says they have been focussing on details for the last (3) years and that it has been really intensive for (4) months.

8 Watch from 1:06 to 01:31 and answer the following questions.

- When was London awarded the Olympics?
.....
- What has changed most in the last six or seven years according to the police officer?
 - ☐ a. The buildings.
 - ☐ b. The number of people in London.
 - ☐ c. The cost of living in London.
 - ☐ d. The nationality of people.

9 Watch from 01:32 to 02:00 and tick the aspect she does not mention.

- ☐ a. The expected transport problems.
- ☐ b. The helpful volunteers.
- ☐ c. Too many people.
- ☐ d. London being like a big open air festival.

10 Watch from 02:10 to 02:53 and mark the statements True (T) or False (F).

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The London Ambassador tells people they can't enter without a ticket. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Beatrice applied and got the volunteer job immediately. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

11 Watch the interview with Glenn Curtin from the Media Centre (02:53 to the end) and tick (✓) the facilities provided in the Centre.

- ☐ 1. Free laptops.
- ☐ 2. Internet connections.
- ☐ 3. 300 working desks.
- ☐ 4. Lecture theatres for press conferences.
- ☐ 5. Translating and interpreting services.
- ☐ 6. A programme of events in London.

After watching

12 You are a journalist at the media centre. You have seen the first two days of the Olympics, including the opening ceremony. Write a short article for your newspaper describing what you have seen, the atmosphere, the people and any special sporting moments.**13 Work in groups of three. Go to the website www.londonambassadors.org.uk/faqs and find out more information about the London Ambassadors. Based on this information, prepare five questions for another group, then exchange your questions and try to answer the other group's questions.****14 Imagine you are a Team London Ambassador during the Olympics. Write an entry for your online blog, describing what you did during the last few days, the people you met, the things you did and your reaction to the Olympic Games in general.**