

## ■ 11. Olympic Games

### Part 2, Unit 3, Step 3

#### Before watching

#### 1 The London Olympics was a really big event. Try this quiz to understand just how big it really was.

1. How many people watched the Olympics on television?
  - a. 500 million
  - b. 1 billion
  - c. 4 billion
  - d. 10 billion
2. How many people worked to organise the games?
  - a. 1,000
  - b. 10,000
  - c. 20,000
  - d. 50,000
3. How many meals were served to athletes during the Olympic and Paralympic games?
  - a. 50,000
  - b. 500,000
  - c. 1 million
  - d. 14 million
4. How many different sports were there in the 2012 Games?
  - a. 10
  - b. 26
  - c. 50
  - d. 100
5. How much of a gold medal is really gold?
  - a. 1%
  - b. 20%
  - c. 50%
  - d. 100%
6. How many athletes participated at the 2012 Games?
  - a. 5,500
  - b. 10,500
  - c. 25,500
  - d. 50,500

#### 2 Read this description of the Olympic “sculls” event and then match the words with the definitions.

*A single scull is a rowing boat used in rowing competitions. It is designed for a single person who propels the boat with two oars, one in each hand. Sculls are*

*long and narrow and are made of carbon-fibre material.*

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. rowing       | <input type="checkbox"/> a. a composite material, light but very strong              |
| 2. oar          | <input type="checkbox"/> b. a sport involving one or more people moving a small boat |
| 3. competition  | <input type="checkbox"/> c. an event where people try to beat opponents              |
| 4. carbon-fibre | <input type="checkbox"/> d. a long piece of wood used to make a boat move            |

#### 3 Put the following in the order you consider important to win an athletics gold medal at the Olympics (1 = most important). Compare your order with another student.

- intense physical training
- a well-organised training schedule
- regular top level competitive events
- many years of preparation
- mental strength
- a well experienced coach
- previous Olympic experience
- good support from other runners during training
- a healthy lifestyle
- total dedication to the sport

#### While watching

#### 4 Watch the first part of the video from the beginning to 02:20 and answer the following questions.

1. How big are the Olympic rings on Tower Bridge?  
.....
2. How many times had London held the Games before 2012?  
.....
3. How many people carried the Olympic flame in the UK?  
.....
4. Where did the Olympic flame start and finish its journey?  
.....
5. What was the weather like at times?  
.....
6. How many people came to see the events?  
.....

7. How long is the Marathon?  
.....
8. How long is the running race in Triathlon?  
.....
9. Where did the the Marathon finish?  
.....
10. What nationality was the winner of the women's Marathon?  
.....

**5 Now watch from 02:26 to the end and answer True or False**

- |  | <b>T</b>                 | <b>F</b>                 |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Alan Campbell won a bronze medal in the sculls (rowing).        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Bill Barry is Alan Campbell's coach.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Bill won a medal in the same event as Alan in 1968.             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Bill and Alan started working together six years ago.           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Alan spent four years preparing for the Olympics.               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Alan trains every month of the year.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. He does all his training in Britain.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. He did 10 hours training for every second of the race.          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Bill says that rowing is a very intensive sport.                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Bill says the most important thing is mental strength.         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Joe Deloach says training is the most important thing for him. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Deloach says he trained four years for a race of 20 minutes.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. He says he trained with other champion athletes.               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. He says this was a disadvantage for him.                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. He competed against a British athlete who won a bronze medal.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. He says he won by 4/10's of a second.                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**6 Watch Alan's part of the interview again and complete the athlete profile below.**

1. Name: *Alan Campbell*
2. Name of coach: .....
3. Event: *single sculls rowing*
4. Olympic medal won: .....
5. Daily training schedule: .....
6. Training camps: worldwide including  
.....
7. Number of world championships competed in: .....

**After watching**

- 7 Prepare an interview with an English-speaking Olympic gold medallist (you decide the event). Role play the interview with another student as the athlete and then exchange roles.**
- 8 Read the profile about the athlete featured in the video (Alan Campbell) at [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-19103173](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-19103173). Work in groups and prepare five comprehension questions about Alan for another group. Exchange your questions and answer their questions.**
- 9 Imagine you are a coach to an athlete for a specific individual Olympic event. Work out a week's training and diet programme for your athlete.**
- 10 Find more facts and figures about the Olympics and prepare a short quiz for another group of students. This site may be useful: <http://news.thomasnet.com/IMT/2012/08/07/2012-london-olympics-by-the-numbers>**
- 11 Imagine you are Bill (the coach and ex athlete). Write a paragraph describing the changes in athletics (training, diet, sponsorship) between the time you won your medal in the 1960s and the present.**