

The Olympics – Teacher's Notes

Aim

This lesson looks at some of the sports and sports personalities from the Olympic Games. Students practise asking and giving information about sports personalities.

Warmer

Draw the five Olympic rings on the board and elicit what the lesson is going to be about.



Ask the students what sports are played at the Summer Olympic Games.

1 Reading

- Students match up the pictures to the words.

Answers

1 cycling, 2 high jump, 3 shot put, 4 rock climbing, 5 gymnastics, 6 running, 7 rowing, 8 swimming

Rock climbing is not an Olympic sport. Other summer Olympic sports include: archery, badminton, baseball, basketball, boxing, football, fencing, show jumping and weightlifting. (For a full list of all the official sports, visit the Olympic website listed below).

2 Reading

- Students read the passage on the two athletes and answer the comprehension questions.

Answers

- He's from the USA. / He's American.
- His birthday is on July 1st.
- He is tall and has dark brown eyes.
- He can run very fast, he does the long jump and plays American football.
- He has nine gold medals and one silver medal.
- Kelly Holmes is from the UK.
- She has long, black hair and dark brown eyes.
- Her birthday is on April 19th.
- She can run, play volleyball and does judo.
- She has two gold medals and one bronze medal.

3 Speaking

- Information gap activity. Put the students in pairs and give them the Student A and Student B sheets included at the end of these teacher's notes. Tell them not to look at each other's sheets!
- Students fill in their charts with the correct information by asking the questions from the Reading comprehension in exercise 2 (they may not have an answer to every question). You may also want to go through the question forms and responses with them:

What's his/her name?

His/Her name is...

Where's he/she from?

He/She's from...

When's his/her birthday?

It's on the...

What does he/she look like?

He/She has...

What sports can he/she do?

He/She can...

How many medals does he/she have?

He/She has...

4 Writing

- Students write a short paragraph using the information they noted down in exercise 3. Be prepared to translate/explain *bobsleigh*.

Homework ideas

Ask students to write a similar short paragraph about themselves.

Websites

These are recommended for teacher use only. Students will need help with the language if they visit these sites.

http://www.olympic.org/uk/sports/index_uk.asp – official Olympic site.

<http://espn.go.com/sportscentury/athletes.html> – information about American athletes.

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Student A

Catalina Ponor is from Constanta in Romania. Her birthday is on August 20th. She has long brown hair and brown eyes. She is 1.56 metres tall. She can speak English. She is very good at gymnastics. She has three Olympic gold medals.

Student B

Ian Thorpe is from Australia. He is a swimmer. His birthday is on October 13th. He has brown hair and brown eyes. He has lots of Olympic medals. He has five gold medals, three silver medals and one bronze medal. He can swim very fast and he can bobsleigh!