

four corners

WORKBOOK

Olympic Champions



LANGUAGE
WORLD

 **What do you know about ‘the Olympic Games’ and ‘the Olympic Champions’? Complete the chart about Olympics below.**

When did the Olympic Games start first?
Write what sports are in the Olympic Games.
Write the Olympic Champions you already know.
Write interesting facts about the Olympic Games that you already know.

 **Write paragraphs using the information from the chart you completed above.**

 **Write the correct word from the Word Bank next to the definition.**

[Word Bank]

athlete	participate	encouragement	teenager
celebrate	victory	competition	qualify

- to have the right to have or do something, or to give someone this right
- to take part in an activity or event
- someone who is between 13 and 19 years old
- a situation in which people or a group of people try to be more successful than other people
- the success that people achieve when they win a battle, game or election
- act of giving someone the courage or confidence to do something
- to show that an event or occasion is important by doing something special or enjoyable
- someone who is good at sports and who often does sports

qualify
participate
teenager

competition

victory

encouragement

celebrate

athlete

 **Circle the correct word.**

- What is the synonym of the underlined word?

For many years, Aboriginal people have struggled to be treated in the same way as other Australians.

- ① played ② fought ③ participated ④ watched

- What is the antonym of the underlined word?

Cathy’s silver medal was the first ever won by an Aboriginal Australian in an individual event.

- ① independent ② separate ③ collective ④ first

**Circle the answer.**

1. When and where were the first Olympic Games held?

- ① It was held in Athens, Greece in 1896.
- ② It was held in Sydney, Australia in 2000.
- ③ It was held in Greece nearly 3,000 years ago.
- ④ It was held in Los Angeles, U.S. in 1984.

2. Which is true about the first modern Olympic Games?

- ① It was held first in Greece nearly 3,000 years ago.
- ② Winners were awarded a silver medal and a crown of olive leaves.
- ③ Winners were awarded a gold medal and a crown of olive leaves.
- ④ More than 3,000 male athletes competed in over forty events.

**Read the paragraph and circle the answer.**

Taking part in the Olympic Games is a dream come true for many athletes today. It is the world's leading sports _____. Thousands of athletes gather from around the world to test themselves against the best of the best in hundreds of different events.

1. What is the best title for this paragraph?

- ① The First Olympic Games
- ② The Best Athlete
- ③ Olympic Dreams
- ④ Australian Olympic Games

2. What word goes in the blank?

- ① participation
- ② competition
- ③ athlete
- ④ champions

3. What might the next paragraph be about?

- ① world famous Olympic champions
- ② the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia
- ③ the first modern Olympic Games
- ④ the first Olympic Games

**Circle the answer.**

1. Which is true about the 2000 Olympic Games?

- ① It was held in Sydney, Australia.
- ② More than 3 million people gathered around the stadium.
- ③ Marc Gagnon, an Aboriginal Australian lit the Olympic flame.
- ④ Cathy Freeman was one of the Aboriginal athletes in Olympics.

2. Who lit the Olympic flame in the 2000 Olympic Games?

- ① Norman Freeman
- ② Marc Gagnon
- ③ Tanni Grey-Thompson
- ④ Cathy Freeman

3. Why have Aboriginal people struggled for many years?

- ① Because they wanted to lit the Olympic flame.
- ② Because they wanted to participate in the Olympic Games.
- ③ Because they wanted to be treated in the same way as other Australians.
- ④ Because they wanted to be great athletes.

4. What conclusion can you draw from the sentences below?

Once her mother, Cecelia, suggested she pin a note on her bedroom wall that read, 'I am the world's greatest athlete.'

- ① Cathy discovered that she liked to run.
- ② Cathy received encouragement from her family.
- ③ Cathy was born in 1973 in Mackay, Queensland, Australia.
- ④ Cathy's father was a talented rugby player.

5. Why did Cathy carry both the Australian and Aboriginal flags around the track when she won the game in Victoria, Canada?

- ① Because she knew Aboriginal people would feel good about themselves.
- ② Because she was proud of being Australian.
- ③ Because she wanted to make Australians feel good.
- ④ Because she knew Australians would feel good about Aboriginal people.



Complete the word puzzle from the Word Bank.

1 c	o	m	p	e	t	2 e								
o						n								
3 a	n	k	l	e	4 d	i	s	e	a	s	5 e			
c						u					d			
h						r					g			
											e			
						6 o	p	e	r	a	t	7 i	o	n
												n		
												c		
												j		
8 l	e	c	t	u	r	e					u			
												r		
						9 p	a	r	a	l	y	s	i	s

[Word Bank]

- paralysis
- coach
- edge
- compete
- endurance
- lecture
- injury
- operation
- disease
- ankle

Across

1. to strive against another or others to win something
2. the joint between the foot and leg
3. a condition that keeps the body from functioning normally; illness
6. the process of cutting into someone's body to repair part that is damaged
8. to give a speech that gives information about something
9. the loss of the ability to move all or part of your body

Down

1. a person who trains or teaches athletes
2. the ability to withstand strain, pain, hardship or use
5. the line or point where an object or areas ends
7. damage or harm, especially to the body



Circle the answer.

1. Which is true about Marc Gagnon?
 - ① He was the first Canadian gold medalist in the Winter Olympics.
 - ② He won his first World Championship when he was just seventeen.
 - ③ He won a gold medal in Lillehammer, Norway, in 1994.
 - ④ His parents thought he was a talented speed skater.
2. What Olympic games did Marc Gagnon win his first gold medal at?
 - ① at Lillehammer, Norway, in 1994
 - ② at Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. In 2002
 - ③ at Nagano, Japan, in 1998
 - ④ at Sydney, Australia, in 2000



Read the paragraph and circle the answer.

Marc became fast enough to qualify for three consecutive Winter Olympics. He won a bronze medal in Lillehammer, Norway, in 1994, for the 1,000-meter short-track event. Marc then won a gold medal with Canada's short-track relay team at Nagano, Japan, in 1998.

1. What is the main idea of the paragraph?
 - ① Marc became the first gold medalist in Canada.
 - ② Marc began to win medals in Winter Olympics.
 - ③ Marc was a talented speed skater.
 - ④ Marc was skating on the Canadian national team.
2. What is the synonym of the underlined word?
 - ① relay
 - ② long
 - ③ extensive
 - ④ following
3. What sport did Marc play?
 - ① skating
 - ② swimming
 - ③ marathon
 - ④ wheelchair running


Circle the answer.

- Which is true about Tanni Grey-Thompson?
 - She is one of the world's best marathoner.
 - She won many gold medals in Olympic Games.
 - She was injured while running in Olympic Games.
 - She won many gold medals in Paralympics.
- What is a spine disease that Tanni has been troubled with from birth?
 - asthma
 - spina bifida
 - ankle injury
 - allergy


Read the paragraph and circle the answer.

Once Tanni decided to compete, she tried her hardest. She worked out in the rain and in the cold. She continued to play tennis and basketball to keep fit. At the age of nineteen, she went to the Paralympics in Seoul.

- What is the main idea of the paragraph?
 - Tanni tried only in the rain and in the cold.
 - Tanni suffered from paralysis from birth.
 - Tanni was one of the greatest athletes in the world.
 - Tanni tried so hard that she could go to the Paralympics in Seoul.
- What sentence fits in the blank?
 - She travelled to Barcelona, Spain, for the 1992 Paralympics.
 - She returned with a bronze medal in the 200-meter race.
 - She also lectures and appears on television and radio.
 - She began playing wheelchair basketball and tennis in her teens.
- What is the special Olympics for athletes who have physical challenges?
 - London Marathon
 - Commonwealth Games
 - Paralympic Games
 - Olympics


Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the Word Bank.

[Word Bank]

earned	burst	disappointment	prevent
regained	discouraged	inwards	inducted

- In 2000, an ankle injury almost prevented Haile from competing in the Olympics in Sydney.
- With a final burst of energy, Haile raced ahead of Paul to win the gold medal.
- He earned the top ranking for 100-meter butterfly every year until he was sixteen.
- Then came a huge disappointment. Pablo was not fast enough to make the US Olympic team.
- Missing the Olympics would have discouraged most swimmers. Instead, Pablo looked ahead to the next Olympics.
- When Kristi was born in 1971 in Hayward, California, USA, her feet turned inwards.
- Quickly, she regained her balance and continued skating in her usual graceful style.
- Kristi was also inducted into the World and US Figure Skating Halls of Fame in 1998.


Circle the synonym of the underlined word.

This foundation raises money to help children in need and children with disabilities achieve their goals.

- gives
- collects
- gets
- sends



Circle the answer.

1. Which is true about Haile Gebreselassie?

- ① He was known for his powerful sprint finish and his wide smile.
- ② He was the first gold medalist from Ethiopia in the Olympics.
- ③ He was the great marathoner from Ethiopia.
- ④ He was born in 1973, in Kenya.

2. What might follow the sentence below?

He did well in the 40-kilometer race, but he knew he could run much faster if he trained with a coach.

- ① Haile Gebreselassie loves to run.
- ② An Ethiopian runner, named Miruts Yifter won two gold medals.
- ③ Haile trained hard with his coach in Addis Ababa.
- ④ Haile has participated in events that help people in need.

3. What is the capital city of Ethiopia?

- ① Nagano
- ② Sydney
- ③ Lillehammer
- ④ Addis Ababa

4. Who was Haile's competitor at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, USA?

- ① Marc Gagnon
- ② Paul Tergat
- ③ Cathy Freeman
- ④ Pablo Morales

5. What did Haile get troubled with in 2000?

- ① ankle injury
- ② spina bifida
- ③ paralysis
- ④ asthma

6. What does Haile do after retiring?

- ① He lectures and appears on television and radio.
- ② He works with the United Nations to make people aware of important issues in Ethiopia.
- ③ He studies law at Stanford University.
- ④ He raises money to help children in need.



Circle the answer.

1. Which is true about Pablo Morales?

- ① He was the first gold medalist of Cuba in the Olympic Games.
- ② At the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona, he won two gold medals in swimming.
- ③ Pablo's parents moved from Ethiopia to Chicago.
- ④ Pablo was neat during his early swimming lessons.

2. What word goes in the blank?

When Pablo was eight years old, he joined a swimming team as a beginner. _____, by the time he was ten, Pablo was first in the national rankings in the 100-meter butterfly for his age group.

- ① So
- ② However
- ③ If
- ④ There



Reread Book page 24 to 25 and make a time line about Pablo's Olympic record.

Pablo Morales's Olympic Record

Year City	Olympic Record	Interesting Things
1984 Los Angeles	Pablo won two silver medals and one gold medal for a relay race.	What he really wanted was a gold for the individual butterfly race.
1988 Seoul	Pablo won nothing.	Pablo was not fast enough to make US Olympic team. But Pablo looked ahead to the next Olympics.
1992 Barcelona	Pablo won two gold medals for the 100-meter butterfly and the 400-meter medley relay.	Pablo won medals for the butterfly race that he had wanted at the 1984 Olympic Games.

**Circle the answer.**

- Which is true about Kristi Yamaguchi?
 - She was the Olympic champion in speed skating.
 - She won the gold medal at the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville.
 - She wanted to be a speed skater when she was young.
 - She won the gold medal at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.
- By whom was Kristi inspired to be a skater?

① Tanni Grey-Thompson	② Dorothy Hamill
③ Marc Gagnon	④ Pablo Morales

**Read the paragraph and circle the answer.**

When Kristi was twenty years old, she competed in the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville, France. She decided to skate in the singles event. Before she skated, she received a big surprise. _____. During Kristi's routine, she fell on a difficult jump. She knew she could not give up. Quickly she regained her balance and continued skating in her usual graceful style. Despite her fall, the judges awarded Kristi the highest scores.

- What is the best title for the paragraph?

① Judges and the Olympic Games	② Winter Olympics in Albertville, France
③ Interesting Olympic Events	④ Kristi and the Gold Medal
- What sentence goes in the blank?
 - The gold medal was hers!
 - Kristi wanted to give up the game.
 - Dorothy Hamill was backstage to wish her luck.
 - She participated in world singles skating competitions.
- Why did the judges award Kristi the highest scores?
 - Because she didn't give up and finished her skating with grace.
 - Because Dorothy told the judges to give her the highest scores.
 - Because the judges liked her very much.
 - Because her jump was too difficult.

- What do the Olympics flags show?
 - world maps of five continents on Earth
 - five connected medals that represent Olympic champions
 - three different colored lines that represent freedom
 - five connected rings that represent different parts of the world
- Where were the first modern Olympic Games held?

① Salt Lake City, USA	② Albertville, France
③ Athens, Greece	④ Sydney, Australia
- Why do we say that all the athletes who participate in the Olympics are champions, whether they win or not?
 - Because all the athletes want to be a champion.
 - Because all the athletes work hard for their chances to participate in the Olympics.
 - Because all the athletes get the highest scores in their games.
 - Because all the athletes who participate in the Olympics win gold medals.
- Why was it important that Cathy lit the Olympic flame for the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia?
 - Because she is troubled with paralysis.
 - Because she is an Aboriginal Australian.
 - Because she is the first woman who lit the Olympic flame.
 - Because she is a great athlete in Australia.
- Write about why Aboriginal people struggled for many years in your own words.

They struggled to be treated in the same way as other Australians.
- Write about why carrying the torch that lits the flame is a great honor in your own words.

Because those people who carry the torch are often chosen as the symbol of inspiration to fellow citizens.

1. Why do we say that Tanni Grey-Thompson is one of the world's best athletes?

- ① Because she won many gold medals in the Olympics.
- ② Because she became an Olympic champion even though she suffered from early paralysis.
- ③ Because she worked very hard to win gold medals in the Olympics.
- ④ Because she became an Olympic champion even though her feet turned inwards.

2. What conclusion can we draw from the sentences below?

Pablo told a coach, "I was a terror during those swimming lessons. I didn't really listen."

- ① Pablo really wanted to be an Olympic champion.
- ② Pablo just wanted to have fun swimming.
- ③ Pablo's coach preferred Pablo's brother.
- ④ What Pablo really wanted to do was skating.

3. What did Kristi Yamaguchi do after achieving her goal in the Olympic Games?

- ① She went to Stanford University to study law.
- ② She established the Always Dream Foundation to help children.
- ③ She worked with the United Nations to help people in need.
- ④ She lectured and appeared on television and radio.

4. Write two facts about the Paralympic Games in your own words.

(1) The Paralympic Games are for athletes who have physical challenges.

(2) The Games are held in the same years as the Olympics and in the same cities.

5. Write two common facts about all the Olympic champions in the book.

(1) All the athletes tried their best and never give up.

(2) Some of the Olympic champions help children or people in need after retiring from the races.



Change the sentences to tell the past.

Example

We play basketball today. / yesterday

→ *We played basketball yesterday.*

1. I help my sister now. / last night.

→ **I helped my sister last night.**

2. He carries the box with his friends. / this morning

→ **He carried the box with his friends this morning.**

3. She calls me. / at 5 o'clock

→ **She called me at 5 o'clock.**

4. They watch TV in the living room. / last Saturday

→ **They watched TV in the living room last Saturday.**



Fill in the blanks with the correct verbs from the Word Bank. And add 'ed' to make sentences tell the past.

[Word Bank]

decide

compete

discover

enter

train

1. As a child, Cathy **discovered** that she liked to run.

2. In 1996, Cathy **competed** in her second Olympics, in Atlanta, Georgia.

3. Marc **entered** his first regional race when he was four.

4. Once, Tanni **decided** to compete, she tried her hardest.

5. Haile **trained** hard with his coach in Addis Ababa.



Change the sentences to tell the past.

Example

She buys the watch at the shop. / yesterday

→ *She bought the watch at the shop yesterday.*

1. Sam goes to school. / early in the morning

→ **Sam went to school early in the morning.**

2. He eats his breakfast with his daughter. / yesterday

→ **He ate his breakfast with his daughter yesterday.**

3. He gives the bagger most of his money. / last month

→ **He gave the bagger most of his money last month.**

4. They sleep in my room. / last night

→ **They slept in my room last night.**



Fill in the blanks with the correct verbs from the Word Bank. Change the verbs to tell the past.

[Word Bank]

go

take

win

begin

know

1. He **won** the 5000-meter races in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, South Korea.

2. He **took** time off from studying to train for the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, South Korea.

3. In 1983, Kristi **began** skating with a partner, Rudy Galindo.

4. She **knew** she could not give up.

5. Tanni **went** on to compete in the 1996 Paralympics in Atlanta.



Choose a person who you think is the best athlete in the Book. Then complete the fact file about him or her.

Name	
Country of Birth	
Date of Birth	
Sport	
Olympic Medals	
Reasons that you think he or she is the best athlete.	



Write paragraphs about the athlete using the information from the chart you completed above.

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Olympic Champions

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