Unit 2-1: The Birth of the Modern Olympics?
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The boys chose Ned Captain of the baseball team.

Fill in the missing words. Use the correct forms.

What are now called the ancient Olympic Games started in 776 BC, near Athens, Greece.
Circle the correct answer.

1. These early games were based on even earlier games that ______ often held for important Greek festivals and weddings.
   (A) is  (B) are  (C) was  (D) were

2. In 1896, the first international Olympic Games ______ held in Athens.
   (A) is  (B) are  (C) was  (D) were

3. Many of the different Greek groups fought each other, but they would always agree ______ fighting so everyone could compete.
   (A) stop  (B) to stop  (C) stopping  (D) stopped
Who is Pierre de Coubertin?

He was an expert in martial arts?
Class Objectives

1. Students will be able to read and discuss about the subject.

2. Students will be able to understand and use the vocabulary words in context.

3. Students will be able to understand the structures through sentence sequences.
Vocabulary notes

1. **chariot** (noun) a vehicle with two wheels pulled by a horse, used in ancient times in battles and races
2. **discus** (noun) a sport in which you throw a heavy plate-shaped object as far as you can, or the object that you throw
3. **disorganized** (adjective) not arranged or planned very well
4. **fence** (verb) to fight with a sword as a sport
5. **athlete** (noun) one who is good at sports and who often does sports
6. **funeral** (noun) a religious ceremony for burying someone who has died
7. **colony** (noun) a country or area that is under the political control of a more powerful country, usually one that is far away
8. **feature** (verb) to include or show something as a special or important part of something, or to be included as an important part
Vocabulary words in sentences

1. I was a natural **athlete** as a kid.
2. Algeria was formerly a French **colony**.
3. The **funeral** will be held at St. Martin’s Church.
4. The conference was completely **disorganized**.
5. He liked to box, **fence** and ride horses.
6. The exhibition **features** paintings by Picasso.
7. Wrestling, running, boxing, **chariot** racing, javelin and discus throwing were popular at that time.
8. Events such as the **discus** were played in the Olympics.
The Birth of the Modern Olympics (pp. 14-15)

What are called the ancient Olympic Games started in 776 BC, near Athens, Greece. These early games were based on even earlier games that were often held for important Greek festivals and weddings. The Greeks also liked to have games at funerals. These early games usually included races on foot and by chariot, as well as discus, boxing and wrestling. Many Olympic events were based on soldiers’ skills.

The games were held every four years. During the games, athletes would come from all over Greece as well as from Greek colonies around the Mediterranean Sea. Many of the different Greek groups fought each other, but they would always agree to stop fighting so everyone could complete. After the games, they would continue their fighting.

The games continued to be held for more than a thousand years until 393 AD. At this time, Greece was ruled by the Romans, and Christian Roman Emperor Theodosius decided to stop them. He did not like the Olympic Games because they honored Greek gods, not the Christian one.
Choose the best answer. (p. 22)

1. The first Olympic Games were not based on _____.
   a. festivals
   b. funerals
   c. births
   d. weddings

2. The early Olympics did not include _____.
   a. races on foot and by chariot
   b. discus throwing boxing and wrestling
   c. boxing, fencing and riding horses
   d. golf, tennis and sailing

3. The Christian Roman Emperor Theodosius stopped the Olympics because he didn’t like _____.
   a. worshipping religions apart from Christianity
   b. the Roman gods
   c. mixing sports and religion
   d. emperors participating in the Olympic Games
The Birth of the Modern Olympics (p. 15)

The Greeks and many others tried for hundreds of years to start the Olympic Games again. But no one was able to do so. Finally, a young Frenchman, Pierre de Coubertin (1863-1973) succeeded.

De Coubertin was a great athlete. He liked to box, fence and ride horses. He rowed boats until he was seventy-two years old. As his father was an artist and his mother a musician, he kept art and music as part of the Olympics. In 1896, the first international Olympic Games were held in Athens. Athletes came from fourteen countries.

These first few Olympics were quite disorganized. Sometimes they lasted for months! They featured some of the ancient events, but also new events were introduced, such as golf, tennis and sailing.

Answer these questions.

1. What sports do the ancient and modern Olympic Games have in common?
2. What led to the ancient Olympics?
3. What does the phrase he kept suggest about the first Olympics?
4. Why might Athens have been the choice for the first modern Olympics?
5. Why might de Coubertin have wanted to restart the Olympic Games?
Choose the best answer. (p. 22)

4. Which statement is not true? The first international Olympics ______.
   a. were held in 776 BC
   b. were held near Athens, Greece
   a. featured athletes from fourteen countries
   b. sometimes lasted months

5. It can be inferred that Pierre de Coubertin ______.
   a. was a disorganized person who enjoyed art and music
   b. was Emperor of Athens in 1896
   c. was a key figure in the organization of the first international Olympics
   d. was an athlete who enjoyed golf, tennis and sailing

6. Which statement is not true based on this passage?
   a. The first Olympics were well-organized.
   b. The art and music were used in the modern Olympics.
   c. The first few Olympics featured only the ancient events.
   d. De Coubertin were good at many kinds of sports.
Assignment: Prepare for a debate. (p. 25)

★ For: The Olympics is a true sign of our civilization.

Points & Examples:
• opportunities for cooperation and competition
• everyone’s participation
• ____________________________
• ____________________________
• ____________________________
• ____________________________
• ____________________________

★ Against: The Olympics is not a good model for young people.

Points & Examples:
• drug abuse
• rich countries’ advantages
• ____________________________
• ____________________________
• ____________________________
• ____________________________
• ____________________________
<Useful expressions for a debate>

✓ My first point is ... because ...
✓ As I’m sure you saw on the news ...
✓ __-ing, __-ing, and __-ing are three things that ...
✓ Common sense suggests that ...
✓ Just because ... happened doesn’t mean that ... will happen.
✓ That’s too general because ... is not the same as ...
✓ I’m very confident that ...
✓ This is the best argument because ...
✓ This argument is taking us away from the point ...

★ To agree
• I agree with you.
• I think so, too.
• That’s right.
• I feel the same way.

★ To disagree
• I’m afraid I disagree with you.
• I see what you mean, but I think...
• (You’ve) got a good point, but I have a slightly different opinion.
• That’s true, but I think....
Classroom Setting: Please arrange tables before class.
THANK YOU.