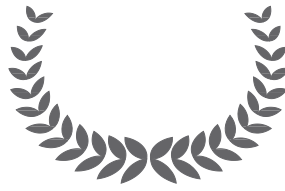


HISTORY

Sports.



1 Write.

gymnastics

symbol

continents

winners

The first Olympic Games were in Greece in 776 BC. There was only one sport – running. Women could not compete in the games or watch them. The (a) _____ in the Olympic Games won a crown of laurel or olive leaves.



The Olympic Flame is an important (b) _____. Eleven women light the Olympic Torch and people carry it to the city where the games are going to be.

The flag of the Olympic Games is white with five rings: blue, yellow, black, green, and red. The rings represent the union of the five (c) _____ : Africa, America, Asia, Oceania and Europe.



The Olympic Games got bigger and changed. Nowadays there are about 30 Olympic sports including badminton, baseball, basketball, (d) _____, boxing, judo, tennis, football and handball. The Olympic Games take place every four years. Millions of people watch the Olympic Games around the world.



2 Answer the questions.

a. When did the Olympic Games start?

b. How many sports were there in the Olympic Games in Greece when they started? And now?

c. What do the rings on the Olympic Flag represent?

3 Write.

a. Christian monks played this game in monasteries in the 12th century. Kings and the aristocracy started to play this game in France in the 16th century. In the 19th century this game became very popular in other countries. Two or four players play this game on a rectangular court. A net divides the court. The ball can only bounce once on the court. Players can only touch the ball with their racquets.

What sport is it? _____.

b. People started to play the modern version of this sport in the 19th century in England. Two teams of eleven players play this game. The players play with a ball on a rectangular grass field, with a goal at each end of the field. The object of the game is to put the ball into the opposite goal. Players mustn't touch the ball with their hands or arms. Only the goalkeepers can use their hands or arms. The game lasts 90 minutes. It is the most popular sport in the world.

What sport is it? _____.

c. Basketball was invented in 1891 in the United States by a Canadian physical education teacher. It's one of the most popular s_____ in the world. Two t_____ of five players play this game. The players play with a b_____ on a rectangular court, with a b_____ at each end of the c_____. The object of the game is to get the b_____ through the b_____. Players can bounce the ball and pass it to other p_____ but they mustn't kick the ball.