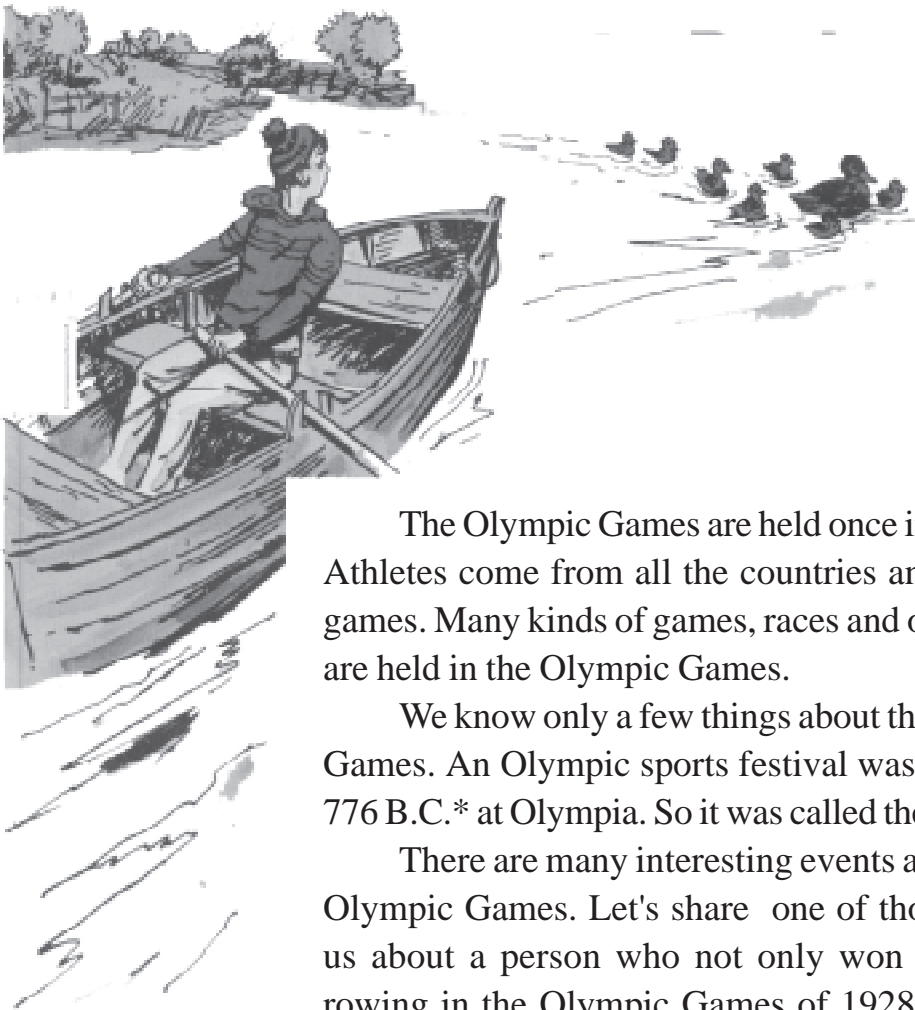


Lesson - 8

The Olympic Champion

1. What games do you play?
2. Which game do you like the most?
3. What do you know about the Olympic Games?



The Olympic Games are held once in every four years. Athletes come from all the countries and take part in the games. Many kinds of games, races and other competitions are held in the Olympic Games.

We know only a few things about the ancient Olympic Games. An Olympic sports festival was held in Greece in 776 B.C.* at Olympia. So it was called the Olympic Games.

There are many interesting events associated with the Olympic Games. Let's share one of those events. It tells us about a person who not only won a gold medal for rowing in the Olympic Games of 1928 but also won the hearts of all who saw him win.

Bobby Pearce was born in Sydney in Australia. His father was a great sculling[@] champion. When Bobby was five, he was rowing around Sydney harbour in a small boat. At the age of six, he won the first race, competing against

* B. C. stands for before Christ. This means before the birth of Jesus Christ.

@ Sculling - a boat race in which every participant uses a pair of oars.

fourteen year olds.

By the time he was twenty, Bobby was the sculling champion of Australia. The following year he went to Amsterdam to compete in the Olympic Games.

In the finals, he competed against Ken Myers of America. From the start of the race, Bobby was in the lead. He was very much ahead of Myers. After half the race was over, he was still leading. It seemed that Bobby would easily win the race.

Then suddenly something happened.

He saw a duck and her ducklings swimming across the waterway. They were swimming into the path of his boat and the boat was going to run into them. The poor birds had no idea that they were in the middle of an Olympic race.

Immediately Bobby slowed down his boat. Myers was catching up very quickly. The people on the bank were cheering and shouting as if they were mad. But Bobby waited until all the ducklings were out of danger. Then he picked up speed again and went on to win the race easily.

Of all the Olympic champions, it was he who won everybody's heart. A Dutch newspaper wrote, "He won the goodwill of the children of Amsterdam".

His friends in the Australian Olympic team were not surprised by the story of the ducks. "Bobby is that kind of a man," they said.

From the age of six, Bobby Pearce competed in races for thirty-three years. He stopped taking part in sports in 1945. In all these years he never lost a single race.

EXERCISES

1. Read and Learn:

athlete	events	single
ancient	rowing	in the middle of
harbour	sports festival	in the lead
associated	picked up	share a gold medal
sculling	out of danger	in the finals
competetion	catching up	to win someone's heart

2. Comprehension:

A) Answer the questions given below:

1. What do we know about the ancient Olympic Games?
2. Where did the Olympic Games get their name from?
3. Who won a gold medal for rowing in the Olympic Games of 1928?
4. At what age did he win the first race?
5. Who did he compete with in the finals of the Amsterdam Olympics?
6. What caused Bobby to slow down in the middle of the race?
7. What did he do when he saw a duck and her ducklings swimming across the water way?

B) Read the sentences given below and tick them as true or false:

1. Athletes come from all the countries to take part in the Olympic Games. T F
2. Bobby Pearce's father was a great wrestler. T F
3. At the age of six, Bobby won the first race. T F
4. The people on the bank were silent. T F
5. His friends in the Australian Olympic team were not surprised. T F
6. In all these years he lost a few races. T F

3. Word Power:

'Ducklings' are the young ones of ducks. The words ending in 'let' or 'ette' show the smaller version of a thing or a baby creature.

Match these :

1. Ex. pig - piglet
2. owl - cygnet
3. swan - owlet
4. book - kitchenette
5. river - booklet
6. kitchen - rivulet

4. Grammar in Use:

A) Fill in the blank spaces with the correct form of the verbs given below:

(hear, win, seem, compete, wait)

1. Our Indian Cricket Team _____ the World Cup in 1983.
2. There was complete silence outside. Suddenly I _____ a noise.
3. Milkha Singh was leading in the 100 metre race in the Olympics. It _____ that he would win the race.
4. We couldn't play the cricket match because of heavy rains. We _____ until the rain stopped.
5. Kamal is the 800 metre race champion of our school. So far he has _____ many races and never lost any.

B) Fill in the blank spaces with the appropriate prepositions given below:

(with, on, in, into, across, by, to)

1. We should not write _____ walls.
2. There is plenty of water _____ the jug.
3. Children are playing _____ a football.
4. Ashu drew a line _____ the page.
5. Abu jumped _____ the river.
6. We go _____ school _____ bus.

7. Mehak kept the book _____ her bag.

5. Let's Talk:

Talk to your friends in the class. Ask these questions to fill up the blank spaces in the table given below.

1. When did you join the school?
2. What game do you like to play?
3. What colour do you like the most?
4. What's your favourite subject?
5. Which fruit do you like the most?
6. What's your date of birth ?

S. No.	Name	Joined School in the year	Game	Colour	Subject	Fruit	Date of birth
1.	Ashu	1998	cricket	blue	science	banana	14th Nov. 1993
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							

6. Let's Write:

A) Write sentences from the above table as in the example:

- Ex.
1. Ashu joined the school in the year 1998.
 2. He likes to play cricket.
 3. He likes blue colour the most.
 4. His favourite subject is Science.
 5. His favourite fruit is banana.
 6. His date of birth is 14th November 1993.

B) Write a letter to your friend describing a sports event held in your school.

7. Let's Do It:

Newspaper Reading

Here are some news items from a newspaper. Both the headings and the news items are jumbled. Read all the news items (from 1 to 4) carefully and match the headings with the news items and write them in the table given at the end.

Example :

News items 2 matches with heading (a) so you have to write in the table:

2: (a) Indians make junior golf final

(b) MP tableau thrills kids

(a) Indians make junior golf final

(c) Lok Adalat on Jan 30

- (1) A PERMANENT and continuous Lok Adalat would be held on the premises of the Bhopal District Court on January 30 under the guidance of district Judge Dr P S Chauhan, who is also the chairman of the District Legal Service Authority. The specialty of the Adalat this time is that for the first time two separate benches would hear cases pertaining to dishonouring of cheques, as also pre-litigation matters.
- At the Lok Adalat, cases of domestic disputes, civil and criminal cases would also be heard. The pre-litigation cases are heard in this court and efforts are made to settle them without the case going actually to normal courts under a new rule. Any pending or prospective cases between two or more persons and cases pertaining to the services provided by the Central and State governments can be heard in the Lok Adalat under the pre-litigation clause.
- The two separate benches for the cheque dishonour cases would be headed by Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Rashmi Agrawal and Judicial Magistrate Dinesh Kumar Dangi as the presiding officers.
- HTC, Bhopal**
- (2) THE INDIAN team of Ajeetesh Sandhu, Gagan jeet Bhullar, Himmat Rai and Anirban Lahiri won their qualifier in Malacea on Thursday to take India to World Junior Team golf finals. The final is later this year.
- HTC, New Delhi*
- (3) THE STATE Cabinet on Thursday gave its approval to the Governor's address to be presented during the forthcoming Assembly session, Chief Minister Babulal Gaur chaired the meeting. During the meeting the Cabinet discussed, at length, achievements of the State Government, particularly in road, power, education and health sectors. He also asked the Ministers about prospects of BJP supported candidates in Panchayat elections. After the meeting the CM also took a meeting on Simhastha and directed the officials to make pending payments of Simhastha. When officials of Finance Department expressed their inability to make these payments in bulk, the Chief Minister directed them to prepare a time-bound programme for clearing the dues.
- HTC, Bhopal*
- (4) MADHYA PRADESH'S tableau in the Republic Day function in New Delhi was a major attraction, especially for the children due to the presence of the famous character Mowgly, the hero of Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book. The tableau based on this classic work stood out in the row of tableaux of states for its theme and attractive presentation.
- As the tableau depicting Mowgly and his playmates including Baghira, Sherkhan, Balu etc passed through the Rajpath the children could not contain their thrill and excitement and gave a standing ovation.
- Rudyard Kipling re-defined the relationship between man and the forest by weaving the story of Mowgly in the present setting. The forest area described in the Jungle Book still cherishes the memories of fun-n-frolle of Mowgly and his play mates like Baghira, Balu, Sherkhan etc. The sweet murmur of rivers, chirping and twittering of birds, the rustling sound of leaves, the roars of tigers are still as fresh as ever.
- The Madhya Pradesh Government plans to develop a Mowgly Amusement Park in the Pench forests as a school for children to learn more about Nature and to live in greater harmony with it. This would also be a major centre of environmental education. The Madhya Pradesh Government organised a Mowgly Festival from October 29 to 31 last year.
- HTC, Bhopal**

S.No. of the news	Heading /Title
01	
02	
03	
04	
05	