



TEACHER WORKSHEET

CYCLE 2 • LANGUAGE STUDIES: VOCABULARY

OLYMPIC GAMES VOCABULARY

OVERVIEW

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

- Use one's knowledge about the language to improve speaking and writing skills, to better understand words and texts.
- Produce words in the lexical field of the Olympic Games, employ words and familiarize oneself with them.

SPECIFIC SKILLS:

- Expand one's vocabulary, and memorize and reuse newly learned words.
- Identify relationships between words, and between words and usage; use them to have a better understanding.
- Use one's knowledge about the language to improve speaking and writing skills, to better understand words and texts.

INTERDISCIPLINARY SKILLS:

- **Reading:**
Read and understand texts, documents, and images, and interpret them.
- **Speaking:**
Speak to be heard and understood.
- **Geography:**
Determine one's place in space.

SCHEDULE FOR SESSIONS:

- Interpret images for meaning.
- Research Games-related activities:
 - Gather initial student project feedback.
 - Research in pairs and later as a class for topic-specific vocabulary.
 - Do research and classification activities in pairs.
 - Share with class and review.
- Extend activity: focus on writing. The aim is to develop a quiz related to the most recent Olympic Games.

DURATION:

3 sessions (3 × 45 min.).

ORGANIZATION:

- Work as a class, then in pairs and share work with class.



OLYMPIC GAMES KEYWORDS:

OLYMPIC VALUES, OLYMPIC SYMBOL, EXCEL, EXCELLENCE, FLAG, COUNTRY, OLYMPISM



CONCEPTS ADDRESSED

THE LEXICAL FIELD OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The objective of this session is to work on the lexical field of the Olympic Games and to introduce students to categories of words on the topic of the Olympic Games and the symbols of the Olympic Games.

The lexical field is the "topic". In the lexical field of sports, there are many words, and different categories of words, that relate to the idea of sports.



A hypernym (or “superordinate” or “umbrella term”) is generally the first word found in a dictionary definition. For example, words like gymnastics or swimming could be grouped under the umbrella term “sport”.

Students will work on verbal and written communication, using specific and appropriate vocabulary for the Olympic Games. Students will therefore learn new words and use them properly.

THE SYMBOLS OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The Olympic Games are held every four years. It is a major sports event that brings together top athletes from all over the world.

The opening ceremony of the Olympic Games is very important. The event is a display of technological and human prowess in which athletes join in processions led by flag bearers for each country. During the ceremony, an athlete takes an oath on behalf of all athletes taking part in the Olympic Games.

A symbol of the Olympic spirit and a symbol of peace, the Olympic flame departs from Olympia, Greece, a few months before each Olympiad, to reach the stadium at the opening ceremony. The flame continues to burn at the Olympic venue for the duration of the Games.

The Olympic flag was designed by Pierre de Coubertin in 1913 and first appeared at the Olympic Games in Antwerp in 1920. The flag has a white background and five interlocking rings, each a different color, to illustrate friendship between the five main continents—Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe, and Oceania. The flag has six colors, and at least one of those colors can be found in the flag of every nation in the world! But it would be incorrect to think that each color represents a continent.

The Olympic motto consists of three Latin words: *Citius, Altius, Fortius* (“faster, higher, stronger”). It encourages athletes to give their very best. Pierre de Coubertin borrowed the phrase from a friend, who was a priest and teacher, and decided to make it the Olympic motto in 1894.

FUN FACT!

In Rio in 2016, the flag bearer for France’s Olympic delegation was judo champion Teddy Riner.

FUN FACT!

The Olympic motto (*Citius, Altius, Fortius*) is not the same as the Olympic maxim (“*The important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win, but to take part; the important thing in Life is not triumph, but the struggle; the essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well!*”).



STUDENT WORKSHEET OVERVIEW

VOCABULARY:

International Olympic Committee, IOC, Olympic flag, oath, Olympian, referee.

ACTIVITIES:

► ACTIVITY 1: OLYMPIC POSTERS: IMAGES WITH MEANING

Observe and describe a visual resource. Speak clearly using specific and appropriate vocabulary related to the Olympic Games. Have students voice their ideas. Determine one's place in space by situating host countries. **6-7 yr | 7-8 yr | 8-9 yr**

Materials: – 1928 St. Moritz Winter Games poster
– 1948 London Summer Games poster
– 1952 Helsinki Winter Games poster

Resources: Video projector or interactive whiteboard.

Activity overview:

- 1) Have students observe the three posters.
- 2) Tell students: "You are going to write on your dry-erase board three to five words (or phrases) that come to mind when you look at these three posters." Instructions may be written on the board.
- 3) Student descriptions. Highlight the vocabulary used by students and specifically note words related to the Olympic Games. The children write down words in the table on their worksheet. Each child should write down at least three words. Students propose the words they have written, and the words are discussed as a class. Record them on the board or on the interactive whiteboard.
- 4) Tell students: "Now identify which of these words refer to Olympic symbols." Have students write down the words in groups in the table on the student worksheet.
- 5) Share and discuss work as a class.

► ACTIVITY 2: SPREAD THE WORD!

Understand new words and use them properly. Enable students to understand the concepts of lexical field and umbrella term. Know how to use a dictionary. **6-7 yr | 7-8 yr | 8-9 yr**

Materials: Text.

Supplies: A ruler (or triangle).

Activity overview:

- 1) Remind students about the last session: "What did we do last session? We wrote down words brought to mind by the Olympic posters and the title Olympic Games. Then we picked out the words related to Olympic symbols as a category."
- 2) "Today we are going to learn that all of those words form the lexical field of the Olympic Games."
- 3) Ask the children to make note of the words in the text that revolve around the Olympic Games (there are eleven terms).
- 4) Check understanding in class answers:
 - "What do you call all these words?" Answer: A "lexical field".
 - "What would you say is the umbrella term for "flame", "rings", "motto", and "flag"?" Answer: "Olympic symbols".



Please note: A lexical field is a group of words that evoke the same topic. In this case, words from the lexical field of the Olympic Games have been chosen. In a given lexical field, umbrella terms can be distinguished.

► **ACTIVITY 3: PUT YOUR THINKING CAP ON!**

Move from passive to active vocabulary by organizing sentence production. Write a text using one's knowledge in grammar and vocabulary. 6-7 yr 7-8 yr 8-9 yr

Resources: English language dictionary.

Activity overview:

- 1) Remind students what was done in the last session. Students can add new words.
- 2) Tell students: "Today you are going to develop a quiz about the Olympic Games for other students at school."
- 3) Write a sample question on the board, such as "What does the acronym IOC stand for?" Ask students (in pairs) to think of three more and note them on their dry-erase board. Each question should relate to a different term learned about the Olympic Games. Or plan ahead by suggesting three different words to each pair.
- 4) Share and organize questions as a class for quiz.
- 5) Individual exercise: students should write down an extra question to complete their quiz using a word from the Olympic Games lexical field not yet used by the class.



STUDENT WORKSHEET ANSWER KEY

► **ACTIVITY 1: OLYMPIC POSTERS: IMAGES WITH MEANING**

- 1) Here are some ideas for words that students might think of. The list is a range of options and is not exhaustive. Sports events, International Olympic Committee or IOC, athlete, event, Olympic flag, oath, values, Olympic motto, Olympic hymn or anthem, Olympian, referee, flame, competition, symbol, sport, cup, sportsmanship, athletics, stadium, championship, champion, winner, coach, team, ranking, rule, Paralympic, finalist, semi-final, record, medal, discipline, world, Brazil, Russia, etc.
- 2) Write one word per segment to keep terms in order. The list is a range of options and is not exhaustive. Names of sports are not included to keep within the specific vocabulary of the Olympic Games.

Sports events	Colors	Athlete	Event
Olympic flag	Oath	Values	Olympic motto
Olympic hymn/anthem	Olympian	Referee	Olympic flame
Competition	Symbol	Sport	Cup
Sportsmanship	Athletics	Stadium	Championship
Champion	Winner	Coach	Team
Ranking	Rule	Paralympic	Finalist
Semi-final	Record	Medal	Discipline
World	International	Rings	
City	Country	International Olympic Committee/IOC	



3) Words that refer to Olympic symbols:

The Olympic flame
The Olympic rings
The Olympic motto
The Olympic flag

4) Written summary for students: There are Olympic symbols found at every game: the flame, the rings, the motto, and the Olympic flag.

▶ ACTIVITY 2: SPREAD THE WORD!

1) Identify the words from the Olympic Games lexical field in this text.

Olympic Games	Athlete	Flame	Motto
Opening ceremony	Referee	Stadium	Events
Delegations	Oath	Olympic venue	

2) What is this list of words called? A “lexical field”.

3) What would be the umbrella term or phrase for “flame”, “rings”, “motto”, and “flag”? “Olympic symbols”.

▶ ACTIVITY 3: PUT YOUR THINKING CAP ON!

No answers expected.



FIND OUT MORE

DIGITAL RESOURCES

For teachers and students:

France TV Éducation offers more than thirty programs about the Olympic Games.

There is also an animated clip (2 min. 30 sec.) about the history of the Olympic Games (AFP video).

Listen to the official oath taken by skier Léo Lacroix at the opening of the Olympic Games in Grenoble (at 3 min. 28 sec.):

<http://www.ina.fr/audio/PHF04007008/inter-actualites-de-20h00-du-6-fevrier-1968-audio.html>

Réseau Canopé offers clips about the basics (in French):

– Lexical fields:

<https://www.reseau-canope.fr/lesfondamentaux/discipline/langue-francaise/vocabulaire/les-relations-de-sens-entre-les-mots/le-champ-lexical.html>

– Umbrella terms:

<https://www.reseau-canope.fr/lesfondamentaux/discipline/langue-francaise/vocabulaire/les-relations-de-sens-entre-les-mots/les-termes-generiques.html>

For teachers:

Find out more about the symbols of the modern Olympic Games:

<http://cnosf.franceolympique.com/cnosf/actus/4928-les-symboles-et-marques-olympiques.html>

Get the lyrics to the Olympic hymn:

<http://cnosf.franceolympique.com/cnosf/actus/4930-lhymne-olympique.html>

Éduscol support document:

<http://eduscol.education.fr/cid106031/ressources-francais-etude-langue.html#lien5>

FURTHER READING FOR STUDENTS

“Mes P’tits Docs”: *Les Jeux Olympiques*, by Stéphanie Ledu, Éditions Milan, 2016.

The Olympic Games Picture Book, by Susan Meredith, Usborne, 2016.

Asterix at the Olympic Games, by René Goscinny, illustrated by Albert Uderzo, Orion, 2005.

Copain des sports: Le guide des petits sportifs, by Serge Guérin, Éditions Milan, 2013.

And more ideas from Les Clefs de l’École:

<http://www.lesclefsdelecole.com/Clefs-des-champs/Listes-de-lecture/Sport-et-olympisme>

ALL CNOSF CYCLE 2 EDUCATIONAL FILES:

PE: “Learn about water polo”

Examine the world: “Gymnastics”

French: “Olympic Games vocabulary in French”

Mathematics: “Perimeters and tennis”

Moral and civic education: “Rugby and the importance of rules”





STUDENT WORKSHEET

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OLYMPIC GAMES VOCABULARY

Aa

VOCABULARY

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC): An institution that promotes Olympism around the world and leads the Olympic Movement. The IOC chooses the host city for the Summer and Winter Olympic Games.

OLYMPIC FLAG: One of the symbols of the Olympic Games. The flag waves over Olympic venues during the Games.

OATH: A commitment or promise to respect the values of the Olympic Games—excellence, friendship, and respect.

OLYMPIAN: An athlete who takes part or has taken part in the Olympic Games.

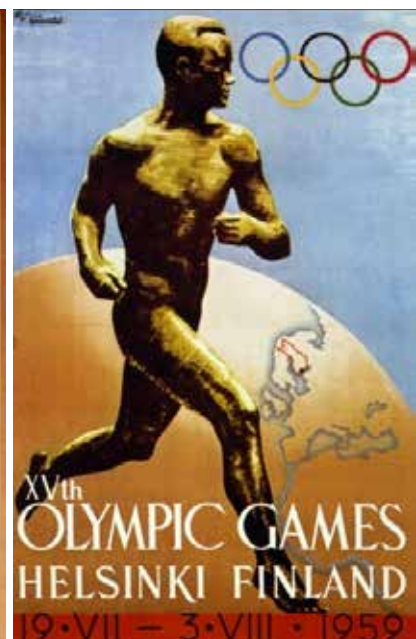
REFEREE: A person who ensures that the rules of a sport are followed.



ACTIVITIES

► ACTIVITY 1: OLYMPIC POSTERS: IMAGES WITH MEANING

Let's look at these three posters together. What do they show? What do they mean? Let's answer the following questions.





1) Write down 3 to 5 words (or phrases) that come to mind when you look at the three Olympic Games posters, and without writing the names of the sports.

.....

.....

Now, let's discuss the words you came up with.

2) In the table below, write down all the words that you found as a class. These words form the lexical field of the Olympic Games.

3) Which words do you think refer to Olympic symbols?

4) What sentence could we write to summarize?

Review:

.....

.....

.....

.....



▶ FIND OUT MORE:

The Olympic Games are such a major event that almost everyone in the world has heard about it! The Summer and Winter Games are held every four years, alternating every two years—i.e. after the Summer Games are held, the Winter Games are held two years later. The **opening ceremony** of the Olympic Games is very important. It is a major event during which athletes join in processions led by **flag bearers** for each country. During the ceremony, an athlete takes an **oath** on behalf of all athletes taking part in the Olympic Games.

▶ ACTIVITY 2: SPREAD THE WORD! 6-7 yr | 7-8 yr | 8-9 yr

FUN FACT! A lexical field is a group of words that evoke the same topic. In this case, for example, words from the lexical field of the Olympic Games were chosen.

Read the following text and answer the questions.

*Two friends had been watching the Olympic Games. After school, in the evening, they would summarize what had happened that day. From the beginning, Sissi's favorite part had been the opening ceremony. It was amazing! All the delegations of the countries represented had joined in the procession. An athlete and a referee had taken the oath. The flame had reached the stadium. It would continue to burn in the Olympic venue for the duration of the Games. There were amazing performances and even a big fireworks show! Arthur really likes the Olympic motto, Citius, Altius, Fortius. He hung it up in his bedroom!
Today, the equestrian events are supposed to start... How exciting!*

1) Identify the words from the Olympic Games lexical field in the text. (There are eleven terms.)

2) What is this list of words called?

This is called a

3) What would be the umbrella term or phrase for "flame", "rings", "motto", and "flag"?

.....



► **ACTIVITY 3: PUT YOUR THINKING CAP ON!**

Remember everything you've learned about the Olympic Games and answer the questions.

- 1) Write down three questions you can think of about the Olympic Games.
Here are some ideas to help: flag, rings, symbol, hymn, participants, international.

1) What does the acronym IOC stand for?
2)
3)
4)

- 2) Let's select some questions suggested by students for the class quiz. Write them down in the order you have decided on as a class:

1) What does the acronym IOC stand for?
2)
3)
4)
5)
6)
7)
8)
9)
10)
11)
12)
13)
14)
15)
16)
17)
18)
19)
20)
21)

- 3) Now write down an extra question using a word from the Olympic Games lexical field not yet used by the class.



REVIEW

- The lexical field of the Olympic Games is the group of words used to talk about them.
- An umbrella term refers to a general category that includes several, more specific words.
- The more words you know, the more you can express exactly what you want to say.
- Deepening your vocabulary in a particular topic (like sports) helps you become an expert in the field.



NOW, TAKE ACTION!

- **It can be fun to explore lexical fields around topics you like.** E.g., friends, games, sports, music, and more!
- **Avoid using words like “thing” or “stuff”,** but try to find the right word.
- **You can apply the Olympic motto in your daily life:** “Faster, higher, stronger.” It matters when you play sports and in your school work!



IT'S YOUR TURN!

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OLYMPIC GAMES VOCABULARY

PUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE TO THE TEST

1 HOW MANY RINGS DOES THE OLYMPIC LOGO HAVE?

5

15

25

2 THE SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES HAPPEN EVERY...

2 years

4 years

8 years

3 WHAT IS LIT BEFORE THE GAMES BEGIN?

A candle

The stadium lights

The Olympic flame

4 WHAT DO THE FIVE RINGS ON THE OLYMPIC FLAG REPRESENT?

The five countries that take part in the Olympic Games

The five main continents

The five events that make up the Olympic Games

5 HOW MANY COLORS DOES THE OLYMPIC FLAG HAVE?

6

10

15

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE FURTHER

1 WHICH SYMBOL DOES NOT REPRESENT THE OLYMPIC GAMES?

A sports jersey

Rings

A flame

2 DOES AN OLYMPIC RECORD HAVE TO BE A WORLD RECORD?

Yes

No

**3 WHAT IS THE LEXICAL FIELD OF THE FOLLOWING GROUP OF WORDS?
RUNNING, FOOTBALL, TENNIS, JUDO.**



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No

**3 WHAT IS THE LEXICAL FIELD OF THE FOLLOWING GROUP OF WORDS?
RUNNING, FOOTBALL, TENNIS, JUDO.**

Sports



4 THE NEXT SUMMER OLYMPICS WILL BE HELD IN JAPAN. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE TWO COLORS OF THE JAPANESE FLAG ARE?

.....Red..... andwhite.....

5 THE 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES WERE HELD IN BRAZIL. ON WHICH CONTINENT IS THAT COUNTRY LOCATED?

Europe

South America

Asia