


# Game, Set and Match

## Start thinking!

How many Olympic® sports events can you name? Quickly make a list.



## Reading

- 1**  **2.16** Read the magazine article. Which of the sports mentioned do you prefer watching?

## **2** Decide in which paragraph the writer does these things.

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| <b>a</b> introduces the idea of athletes competing in many events | Paragraph ____ |
| <b>b</b> presents one athlete's reasons for doing the decathlon   | Paragraph ____ |
| <b>c</b> tells the reader where to find further information       | Paragraph ____ |
| <b>d</b> raises the question of why athletes choose the decathlon | Paragraph ____ |
| <b>e</b> presents useful advice for young athletes                | Paragraph ____ |

## Ten Events, One Champion:

# THE DECATHLON

**Fay Webster takes a look at the world of athletics and finds out what it takes to be a true champion.**

**1** The Olympic Games™ have changed a lot since their origins in Ancient Greece. Today, athletes from countries all over the world take part and the Olympics® are big business, watched by millions on television. Some things, though, have stayed the same. The athletes then could make a lot of money from winning, just like today's competitors. In the ancient Games, a great champion might have received as much as a year's pay for winning a race.

**2** Another thing that hasn't changed is the search for an all-round champion, somebody who can defeat their opponents at a number of different sporting events. In the ancient Olympics®, athletes competed in the pentathlon. This consisted of the long jump, the discus, the javelin, a running race and wrestling. The first winner, in 708 BC, was Lampis of Sparta, who must have been a great athlete to beat so many others from all over the

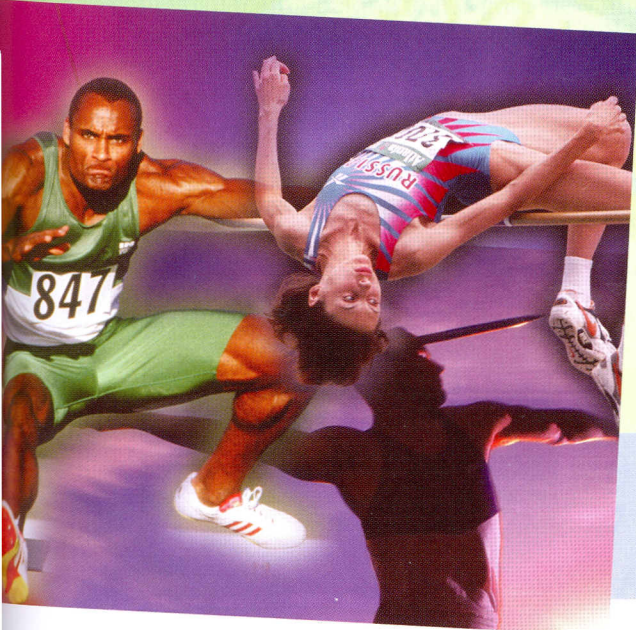
Hellenic world. The pentathlon was an important part of the Olympics® until Emperor Theodosius of Rome banned the Games in 393 AD.

**3** The Stockholm Olympics® of 1912 brought back this tradition of the search for all round greatness. The modern pentathlon was included (shooting, swimming, fencing, riding and running) and so was the modern decathlon (ten events), with the heptathlon (seven events) for women being introduced later. So what drives someone to take on this running, throwing, jumping challenge and push their body to its limits? I met American decathlete Bruce Thorpe in New York and told him he must have been crazy to take up the decathlon. He laughed.

**4** 'Yes, I think I probably was. I could have done lots of different sports, but I chose the decathlon. It's very tough and it demands a lot of different skills. You have to train just as hard as other athletes, only you have to do it in ten different events! I think we're probably all a little crazy, but it's very satisfying in the end,' he said. I asked him to explain what happens in the decathlon.

**3** Read the article again. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

- The writer says that athletes today
  - are more popular than in ancient times.
  - are much better than in ancient times.
  - treat the Olympics® like a business.
  - can become wealthy through sport.
- The ancient pentathlon **didn't** test athletes' abilities to
  - throw things.
  - jump high.
  - run fast.
  - jump far.



**5** 'The way it works is you complete each event and you get points, depending on how well you do in that event. At the end of two days, the person with the most points is the champion and takes the gold medal, the second person gets the silver and the third the bronze medal. We start with the 100 metres, the long jump, the shot put, the high jump and the 400 metres. The second day, it's the 110-metre hurdles, the discus, the javelin, the pole vault and the one that we all dread, the 1500 metres.' I asked him what made the 1500 metres such a struggle. 'All the other events demand speed or strength. With the long race, it's stamina. Really, decathletes aren't built for that event.'

**6** So what tips does Bruce have for those of you thinking of taking up the decathlon? 'Start as early as you can and join a good club,' he said. 'It takes a long time to master ten different events, or seven for the heptathlon, and you need expert help. And don't expect to have much free time!'

**7** Ten events, one champion. Think you might be the one? If you're interested in finding out more about the decathlon, contact your local athletics club.

- According to the passage, the heptathlon for women
  - is much easier than the decathlon.
  - similar to the ancient pentathlon.
  - tests the ability to ride a horse.
  - became an Olympic® event after 1912.
- What do you have to do to win a gold medal in the decathlon?
  - Score more points than all the other competitors.
  - Beat the other competitors in at least three events.
  - Finish each event in the top three.
  - Complete the events in the right order.
- What does Bruce say about the events?
  - The 1500 metres should be on the first day.
  - The first day is tougher than the second.
  - The 1500 metres is different from the other events.
  - It looks easier than it actually is.
- What is Bruce's advice for people thinking of becoming decathletes?
  - Get a trainer to guide you.
  - Get up early to start training.
  - Take up the heptathlon instead.
  - Try to get a good time in all the events.

## WORD BOX

**4** Use words or phrases from the article to complete the definitions. You've been given the first letter to help you.

- The sport involving different events like running around a track, throwing or jumping is known as a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Someone taking part in a sports competition is called a c\_\_\_\_\_.
- The people you are competing against are your o\_\_\_\_\_.
- S\_\_\_\_\_ is the ability to keep going for a long time.
- A c\_\_\_\_\_ is made up of a group of people who are all interested in a sport or hobby.



## Have your say!

- Do you think you'll follow the decathlon during the next Olympics®?
- Would you ever consider taking part in a decathlon? Why? / Why not?

## G Grammar clinic

### Modals (2): modal perfect

👁 Look at *Grammar database* page 194 before you do the exercises.

#### 1 Read this sentence and circle the correct word.

'You must have been very pleased to win the decathlon.'

- This refers to the *past/present*.
- This sentence expresses *certainty/possibility*.

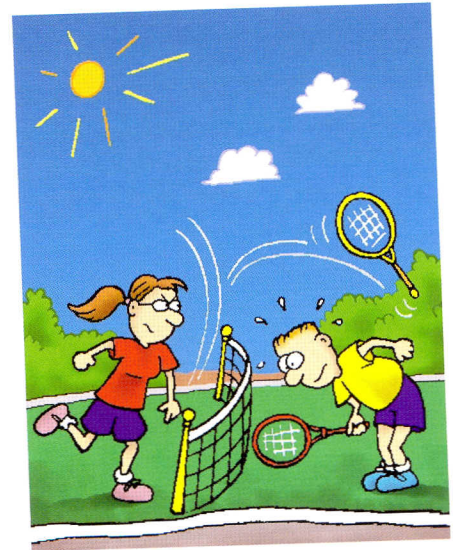
**Find other examples of the modal perfect in the article. Answer the questions above for each example you find.**

#### 2 What do the sentences express? Choose the correct option.

- You should have asked Tim what time the race starts when he called.
  - I think you probably did this.
  - You didn't do this and I think that was wrong.
- Look at Wendy's face! They must have lost the match.
  - I am (almost) certain this happened.
  - This didn't happen but it was a possibility.
- Be careful! You could have hit me with that javelin!
  - I am (almost) certain you hit me with the javelin.
  - You didn't hit me with the javelin but it was a possibility.
- Patrick might have forgotten about our arrangement to play basketball.
  - I am (almost) certain he has forgotten about it.
  - It is possible that he has forgotten about it.
- You ought to have let your dad win when you were playing tennis.
  - I am (almost) certain you did this.
  - You didn't do this and I think that was wrong.
- They should have shown the match in the evening, not the morning!
  - It is possible that they did this.
  - They didn't do this and I think that was wrong.

#### 3 Correct the sentences that have mistakes in them. One sentence has no mistakes. Which one?

- Britney might has heard about the competition from Sarah last week.
- Look out! You should have killed someone playing like that!
- Oh, he's missed! He really must have scored from that position!
- Thinking about it now, we should play better in last week's match.
- But Lauren is hopeless! She can't have beaten Oscar at tennis!



#### 4 What would you say in these situations? Complete the sentences using a modal perfect and the verbs in brackets.

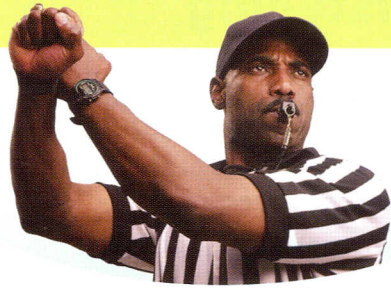
- Will has left his football behind. The only explanation is that he forgot it. (**forget**)  
'Will \_\_\_\_\_ his football.'
- George is very bad at football. You don't believe he scored a goal. (**score**)  
'George \_\_\_\_\_ a goal!'
- Your mum says she tried to call your sister an hour ago. You are almost certain that your sister was playing volleyball then. (**play**)  
'She \_\_\_\_\_ when you called.'
- Your friend complains to the referee during a match. Afterwards, you tell her/him that you thought her/his behaviour was wrong. (**complain**)  
'You \_\_\_\_\_ during the match.'

# Vocabulary builder

## Sport

1 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

umpire • spectator • trainers • defeat • individual  
 trainer • referee • team • medal • victory



- The \_\_\_\_\_ blew his whistle and the footballers started the game.
- Simpson's \_\_\_\_\_ means that he is now the European heavyweight boxing champion.
- The ball went into the crowd and a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ was injured.
- The volleyball team I belong to has got a new fitness \_\_\_\_\_.
- The winner felt very proud when the \_\_\_\_\_ was placed around her neck.
- My mum has promised to get me a brand new pair of Adibok \_\_\_\_\_!
- You learn to work with others by taking part in \_\_\_\_\_ sports, such as football and basketball.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ shouted. 'Play!' and the tennis match started.
- I prefer \_\_\_\_\_ sports, such as running, where you don't have to rely on other people.
- Porttown City will find it difficult to recover from their \_\_\_\_\_ on Saturday.

2 Match each of the sports to the correct picture.

basketball • cricket • volleyball  
 rugby • tennis • football • squash  
 hockey • badminton



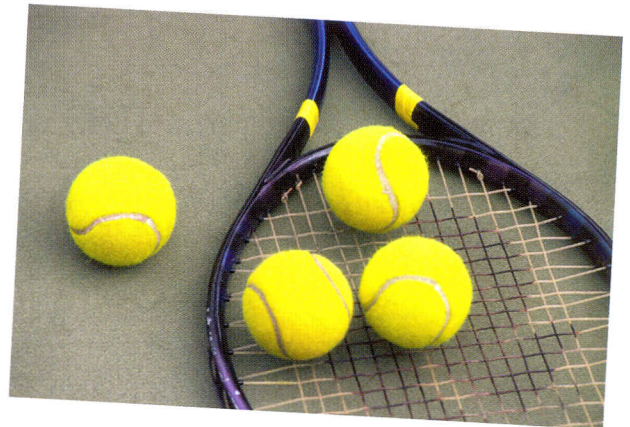
## Collocations

3 Decide whether the sports in exercise 2 are played on a court or on a pitch.

## Phrasal verbs with other particles

4 Match the phrasal verbs in the sentences with the correct definitions.

- Could you please **put me through** to the manager of the club?
- United's dream **turned into** a nightmare when they lost 8-0.
- Mark **takes after** his father. They're both mad about running.
- The match is going to be **brought forward** to this Saturday.
- The thieves managed to **get away with** a lot of expensive sports equipment.
- The police are **looking into** the crowd violence at the match last Friday.
- These trainers were really expensive so my mum said I have to **look after** them.



- |       |                                  |       |                                    |
|-------|----------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| _____ | to escape                        | _____ | to keep in good condition          |
| _____ | to become                        | _____ | to move to an earlier date or time |
| _____ | to investigate                   | _____ | to be like an older relative       |
| _____ | to connect somebody on the phone |       |                                    |



## Listening

**1** **2.17** Listen to a short extract from an interview with a snooker player. Write a number, word or short phrase to answer each question.

- 1 What is the programme called?
- 2 How old is Angela Oliver?
- 3 How old was Angela when she started playing snooker?
- 4 When did Angela win the Lancashire Amateur Snooker Championship?
- 5 What does she want to be when she's older?



## Speaking

**1** Write down three things that football and the high jump have in common.

- 1 *They are both sports.*
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

**2** Write down three differences between football and the high jump.

- 1 *Football is a team sport while/whereas the high jump is an individual sport.*
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

**3** Answer the questions.

Which sport do you prefer to watch, football or the high jump? Why?

**4** Work in pairs. One of you should read the instructions and the other should talk for one minute. Then swap.

Which sport do you prefer to watch?

I'd like you to compare and contrast the two photos and say which sport you prefer to watch.

**2** **2.18** Listen to the interview. For questions 1–7, complete the sentences.

Angela's father was both excited and **1** \_\_\_\_\_ when she won.

A snooker game requires a table, a snooker cue, a white ball, six coloured balls and **2** \_\_\_\_\_.

You get five points if you successfully pot the **3** \_\_\_\_\_ ball.

Once the red balls have been potted, the aim is to pot the remaining balls **4** \_\_\_\_\_.

If a player accidentally pots the black, he **5** \_\_\_\_\_ the game.

A 'snooker' is when you are unable to

**6** \_\_\_\_\_ the ball you want to hit next, because of an obstruction.

The side of the table you can hit a ball against is called

**7** \_\_\_\_\_.

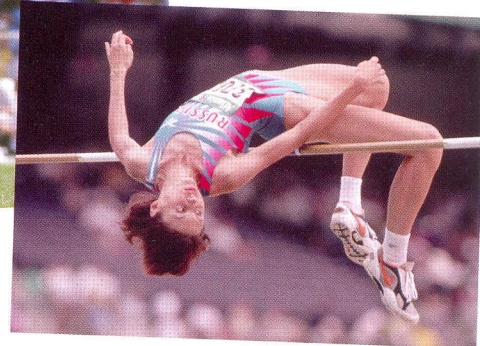


## Soundbite stress (2)

**2.19** Underline the syllable you think is stressed most in the words in each set. Listen and check.

The first word is an example.

- 1 photograph    photographer    photographic
- 2 athlete    athletic
- 3 victory    victorious
- 4 famous    infamous
- 5 science    scientific
- 6 concentrate    concentration



Look at *Speaking database - Comparing and Expressing preferences* on page 165.



## Use of English

### The unreal past

Look at **Grammar database page 194** before you do the exercises.

#### 1 Circle the correct form in each sentence.

- It's about time the team **starts/started** working better together.
- I would rather **watch/watched** water polo than volleyball.
- I wish I **have/had** enough money to go and see my team play tonight.
- I would rather you **play/played** for our side than for theirs.
- Paul thinks it's high time you **take/took** athletics seriously.
- I'd rather you **don't/didn't** tell everyone that you beat me at tennis.

#### 2 Use the notes to make complete sentences.

- I wish I/am better/football.
- Laurence would rather you/not come/watch him play this weekend.
- It is about time we/get ready/the match.
- Joanne/wish/she/not have to play handball this weekend.
- Instead of a theatre, I'd rather the town/spend the money/a new stadium.

### Common mistakes

#### 3 Circle the correct word in each sentence.

- I'm really looking forward **at/to/for** the competition.
- You need **both/and/also** strength and determination to be a good long-distance swimmer.
- My parents would **better/like/rather** I didn't talk about football all the time!
- I **wish/want/hope** I was as fast a runner as Diane is.
- It's time he **join/joins/joined** our team.

#### 4 For questions 1–12, read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0). Write your answers IN CAPITAL LETTERS.

## Tug – of – war



Every year, on (0) THE last Saturday of July, our village has its Annual Tug-of-war Day. Everyone (1) \_\_\_\_\_ forward to it because it's great fun – (2) \_\_\_\_\_ if it's pouring with rain!

We (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the whole afternoon watching and taking (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in tug-of-war competitions. In tug-of-war, you have two teams – usually with eight people in each team – trying to pull a rope across a line. In our village, we have four categories of teams: men's, women's, under 16s, and mixed, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ is men, women and children together.

You need both strength (6) \_\_\_\_\_ determination to be good at tug-of-war. Last year, our team

(7) \_\_\_\_\_ second in the under 16s category. I think we could (8) \_\_\_\_\_ won – we were strong enough – but it was very muddy because it had (9) \_\_\_\_\_ raining and we all kept falling over!

This year, my dad's going to be in one of the men's teams (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the first time. I'm really pleased, because it's about time he (11) \_\_\_\_\_ up a sport. His team's going to practise hard throughout the winter, so it should keep him fit! My mum says she (12) \_\_\_\_\_ rather he did something less physical, like fishing, because she doesn't want him to hurt himself!

## Writing

### An article

👁️ Look at *Writing database - articles* on page 153 before you do the exercises.

#### 1 Read this writing task. Who is going to read your article?

Your school magazine has asked you to write an article to encourage people to join the school athletics club. The editor has sent you this note:

*The school athletics club is looking for more people to get involved. Do you think you could write an article for the magazine? Mr Richards (he's the teacher in charge) told me they meet twice a week (Monday and Thursday, 5pm-7pm) and they do all kinds of athletics. I don't know anything about it so I thought I'd ask you.*

*Thanks.  
Anna.*

Write an **article** of between **120** and **180** words in an appropriate style.

### Working model

#### 3 Read the answer to the writing task.

WHY YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT JOINING

## THE SCHOOL ATHLETICS CLUB

WHICH IS RUN BY MR RICHARDS

We all know that we should get more exercise. We all know that sport is a great way to enjoy yourself and meet new friends. We all know that winning is a great feeling. So why aren't we all in the athletics club?

'It's perfect for students who want to take up a new sport,' says Mr Richards, the teacher in charge, and he's right! You can do almost anything at the club, including running, the pole vault and the javelin. In fact, there's everything you need to become the next Olympic® decathlon champion!

The members of the club meet every Monday and Thursday evening between 5pm and 7pm. I spoke to one of them to find out what she gets out of being a member. 'Well, it's a lot of fun,' says Tracy Jones, who's been a member for two years. 'It can be hard work but you see your friends and you keep in shape. Oh, and it's completely free!'

Why not try it? If you're interested, ask Mr Richards for more details.

#### 2 Decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 This article should be formal because it is going to be in a magazine.
- 2 This article should be formal because teachers might read it.
- 3 This article should be quite informal because students will read it.
- 4 You should not use contractions (*it's*, *don't*, etc) in this kind of article.
- 5 Your main aim is to criticise students for being too lazy.
- 6 You can add relevant information that is not mentioned in the question.
- 7 You should never use direct speech in an article.
- 8 You should never use exclamation marks (!) in an article.



#### 4 Underline where the writer does these things in the article on page 128.

- 1 asks their readers a question
- 2 tells their readers what someone says
- 3 agrees with someone
- 4 makes a suggestion
- 5 tells their readers what to do next

#### 5 Does the model have a good title? Can you think of a better one?

### Ready to write!

#### 6 You are going to write a similar article about an athletics club for the school magazine. Here is the note the editor has sent you. Who does he suggest you could speak to?

Mrs West (she runs the club) wants to encourage more people to join the athletics club. Could you write an article for us? She said you could ask her about it, and you might ask James Edwards a few things. He's been a member for three years, I think. They meet on Tuesdays and Fridays, 6pm-8pm.  
Thanks a lot.  
Adam

#### 7 Make a plan of your answer. Use your imagination.

- What title are you going to give your article?
- Why should people join the club? Think of three reasons.
- What did Mrs West tell you?
- What did James Edwards tell you?
- When does the club meet?
- What sports can you do at the club?
- What should your readers do if they want more information?

Now complete **Writing Planner 14** on page 161.

### Now write!

#### 8 You are now ready to write your article for the school magazine. Use the information you have been given. Use at least one example of direct speech. Your article shouldn't be very formal.

### Check it out!

#### 9 Check your work. Tick (✓) what you have done.

I have given my article an appropriate title.

I have included the information about the club.

I have used fairly informal language.

I have used some direct speech.

I have checked my spelling and my grammar.

My article is between 120 and 180 words long.

### Look Back

Can you answer these questions? If you can't remember, look through the unit for the answers.

- 1 What do women do instead of the decathlon?
- 2 What do you get for coming third in the Olympics®?
- 3 In which event do athletes jump as far as they can?
- 4 What tense follows *It's about time ...*?
- 5 Does tennis have a referee or an umpire?