

Summer Olympics Events

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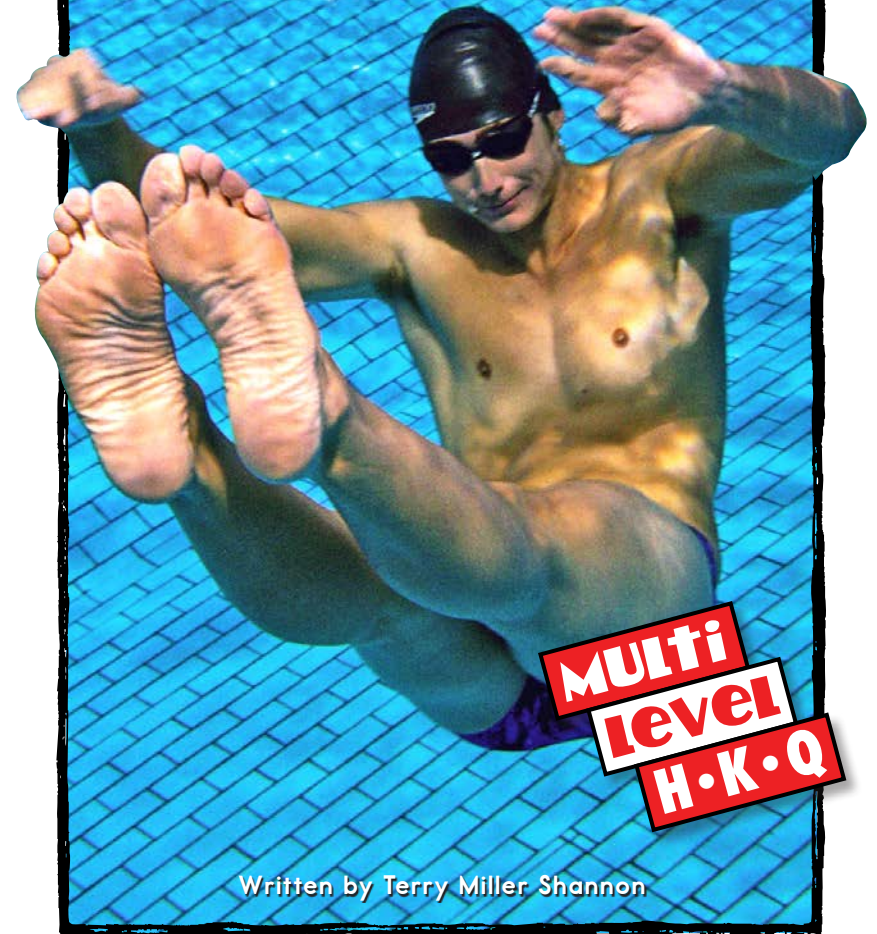


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Summer Olympics Events



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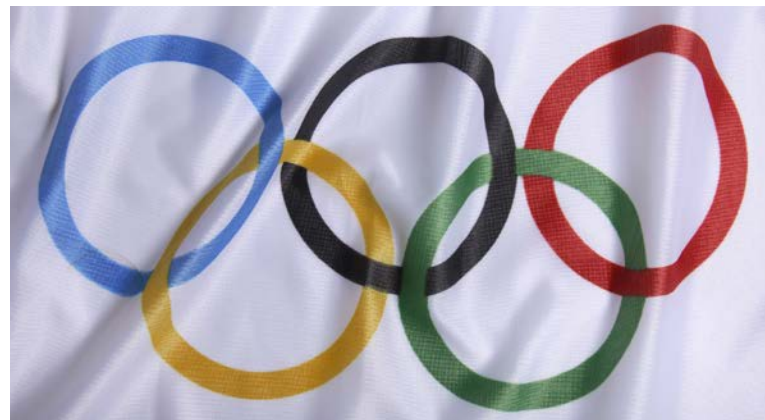
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Places where past games have been held:

Montreal	1976	Atlanta	1996
Moscow	1980	Sydney	2000
Los Angeles	1984	Athens	2004
Seoul	1988	Beijing	2008
Barcelona	1992	London	2012

The Summer Olympic Games

The Summer Olympics are held every four years.

They are held in different cities around the world.

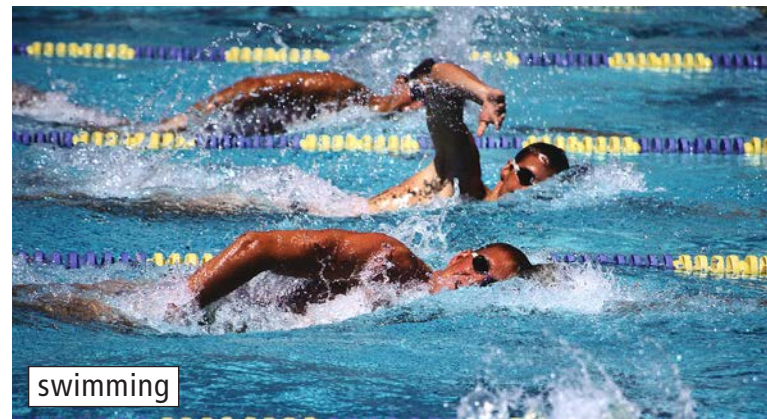


Athletes walk in a parade at the start of the Games.

Athletes at the Games **compete** to win medals for their countries.

They participate in hundreds of **events**.

Let's look at some events.



swimming



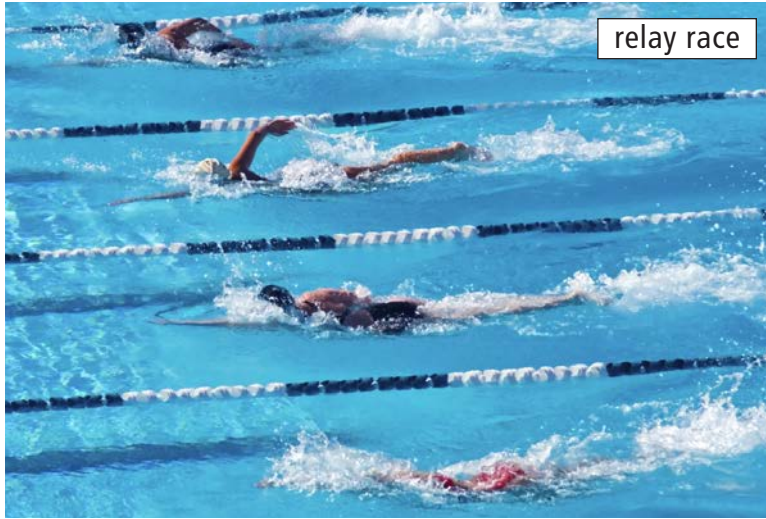
water polo

Water Sports

One water sport is swimming.

Some swimming races are short, and swimmers swim only two lengths of the pool.

Other races are longer.



relay race



breaststroke



backstroke



butterfly stroke



freestyle

Some swimming races use only one kind of **stroke**.

In one race, swimmers can choose the type of stroke they want to use.



diving



Divers twist and flip before hitting the water.

Diving is another water sport. In diving events, divers jump from high above the water. They twist, flip and turn while in the air. They get points for how well they dive.



Many Olympic events take place on the track and field.

Track and Field

Track and field events include running, throwing, and jumping competitions.

The **marathon** is the longest running event.

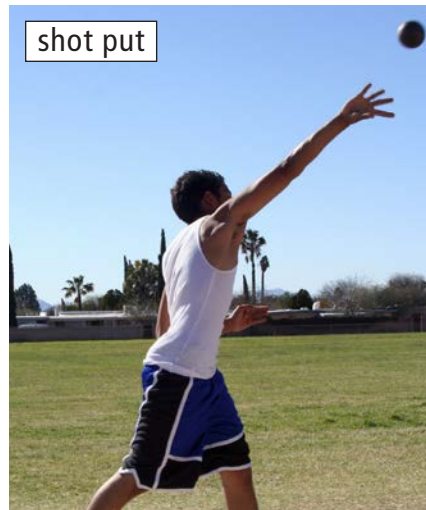
The shortest races are called **dashes**.



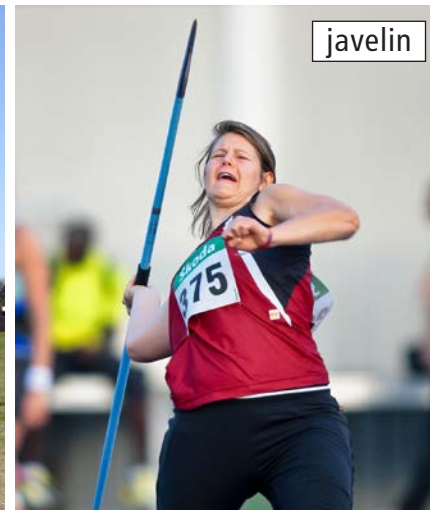
hammer throw



discus



shot put



javelin

In throwing events, athletes throw objects as far as they can. People competing in these events must be very strong.



high jump



long jump

In jumping events, athletes jump high or far.

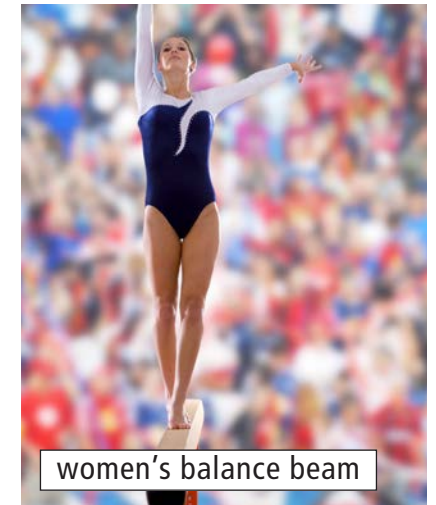
In the high jump, athletes leap over a bar.

The bar is raised higher and higher until only one person can jump it.

In the long jump, athletes leap as far as they can.



men's rings



women's balance beam



women's uneven bars



men's pommel horse

Gymnastics

Gymnasts leap, flip, and twirl through the air.

They need strength, skill, and perfect timing.



balance beam

Only women compete in the balance beam event.

They must balance on the beam while they turn and flip.



rings

A gymnast's arms and shoulders need to be strong to do the rings.

Only men compete in the rings event.

They hold onto the rings and flip their bodies in circles.

Summer Olympic Sports in 2012

Archery	Rowing
Badminton	Sailing
Basketball	Shooting
Boxing	Table Tennis
Canoe/Kayak	Taekwondo
Cycling	Tennis
Equestrian	Track and Field
Fencing	Trampoline
Field Hockey	Triathlon
Football	Volleyball
Gymnastics	Water sports
Handball	Weightlifting
Judo	Wrestling
Modern Pentathlon	

Event Categories

The Summer Olympics include 27 sports with hundreds of events. Which events do you like?

Glossary

athletes (<i>n.</i>)	people who play sports (p. 5)
compete (<i>v.</i>)	to do something for the purpose of winning (p. 5)
dashes (<i>n.</i>)	short running events (p. 9)
events (<i>n.</i>)	important happenings (p. 5)
gymnasts (<i>n.</i>)	people who leap, flip, and twirl through the air (p. 12)
marathon (<i>n.</i>)	a very long running race (p. 9)
stroke (<i>n.</i>)	a series of repeated movements (p. 7)

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