

The 2020 Olympic Games will not take place

Elementary

1 Warmer

Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

1. London is the only city that has hosted the Olympic Games three times.
2. The first modern Olympic Games took place in 1896.
3. The Olympic Games take place every two years.
4. China has won more Olympic gold medals than any other country.
5. The Olympic Games have never taken place in Africa.
6. Cricket has never been an Olympic sport.

2 Key words

Fill the gaps in the sentences with these key words from the text. The paragraph numbers will help you.

postpone

take part

pandemic

takes place

virus

traditional

1. If an event or activity _____, it happens. (para 1)
2. If you _____ in an event or activity, you are involved in it with other people. (para 1)
3. If something is _____, people have done it for many years. (para 2)
4. A _____ is a disease that affects almost everyone in a large area. (para 3)
5. A _____ is a type of disease. (para 3)
6. If people _____ an event, they decide to hold it at a later time. (para 3)

3 Find the information

Find the following information in the text as quickly as possible.

1. What was the planned starting date for the Tokyo Olympic Games?
2. How many athletes wanted to take part in the Games?
3. How many new sports were there going to be in the 2020 Olympic Games?
4. Why have the Games been postponed and when will they now take place?
5. When was the last time the Olympic Games took place in Japan?
6. When was the last time the Olympic Games took place in Asia?

The 2020 Olympic Games will not take place

Elementary

The 2020 Olympic Games will not take place

9 April, 2020

- 1 Until March, 2020, the world thought the Olympic Games would take place in Tokyo, Japan, from Friday, 24 July until Sunday, 9 August. More than 11,000 athletes from 206 countries wanted to take part in the Games. Over 900,000 people normally watch the different events.
- 2 At the Olympics, there are traditional sports such as athletics, swimming and boxing. There were going to be five new sports, too: baseball, karate, skateboarding, surfing and sport climbing.
- 3 The 2020 Olympic Games will not now take place. This is because of the coronavirus

pandemic. The pandemic began in China at the end of 2019. The virus is changing people's lives in countries all around the world. For this reason, the Japanese have postponed the Games until 2021.

- 4 They cannot hold the Games this year because the virus is dangerous for the athletes, for the people who organize the Games and for the people who watch the Games.
- 5 2021 will be the second time that the Olympics have taken place in Japan. The Games first took place there in Tokyo in 1964. It will be the first time the Games have taken place in Asia since the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

4 Comprehension check

Match the beginnings and endings to make statements about the text.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Athletes from 206 countries ... | a. ... include karate, skateboarding and surfing. |
| 2. The Games have been postponed ... | b. ... wanted to take part in the 2020 Olympics. |
| 3. Nearly one million people normally ... | c. ... take place in 2021. |
| 4. The five new sports planned for the Games ... | d. ... began in China at the end of 2019. |
| 5. The coronavirus pandemic ... | e. ... because coronavirus is very dangerous. |
| 6. The Tokyo Olympic Games will now ... | f. ... watch the events. |

5 Two-word phrases

Match the words in the left-hand column with the words in the right-hand column to make expressions from the text.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. take | a. pandemic |
| 2. coronavirus | b. climbing |
| 3. traditional | c. place |
| 4. sport | d. sports |

The 2020 Olympic Games will not take place

Elementary

6 Chunks

Rearrange the words to make phrases from the text.

1. of the at 2019 end
2. the the have Japanese postponed Games
3. nine people over hundred thousand
4. 11,000 athletes than countries from more 206

7 Prepositions

Complete the phrases from the text using these prepositions.

of

in

from

for

1. athletes _____ 206 countries
2. because _____ the coronavirus pandemic
3. _____ this reason
4. take part _____ the Games

8 Discussion

- Are you disappointed that the Games have been postponed? Why? Why not?
- What are your favourite Olympic sports to watch?

The 2020 Olympic Games will not take place

Elementary

KEY

1 Warmer

1. T
2. T
3. F (every four years)
4. F (the US)
5. T
6. F (It was in the 1900 Games.)

2 Key words

1. takes place
2. take part
3. traditional
4. pandemic
5. virus
6. postpone

3 Find the information

1. Friday, 24 July, 2020
2. more than 11,000
3. five
4. because of the coronavirus pandemic; 2021
5. 1964
6. 2008

4 Comprehension check

1. b
2. e
3. f
4. a
5. d
6. c

5 Two-word phrases

1. c
2. a
3. d
4. b

6 Chunks

1. at the end of 2019
2. the Japanese have postponed the Games
3. over nine hundred thousand people
4. more than 11,000 athletes from 206 countries

7 Prepositions

1. from
2. of
3. for
4. in