



OLYMPIC LYING



Team reading =

Lie 1 = _____

Lie 2 = _____

Lie 3 = _____

Team reading =

Lie 1 = _____

Lie 2 = _____

Lie 3 = _____

Team reading =

Lie 1 = _____

Lie 2 = _____

Lie 3 = _____

Team reading =

Lie 1 = _____

Lie 2 = _____

Lie 3 = _____

our team =

Lie 1 = identified yes no

Lie 2 = identified yes no

Lie 3 = identified yes no

THE VENUE

Before the games began, rulers called off any wars they were fighting so that everyone could journey safely to Olympia. The stadium at Olympia was built in the 4th century B.C. and could fit five thousand people. It stood near to the Temple of Zeus, which contained a giant statue of the god made entirely of cheese. This statue was considered to be one of the Seven Wonders of the world. The entire Olympic games were dedicated to Zeus. The main event at the Olympics was not a sporting event, but a sacrifice. On the third day of the games, 17 oxen were sacrificed to the god.

The lies! (don't read this bit out!!!)

and could fit five thousand people – it could fit fifty thousand people

made entirely of cheese – it was made of gold and ivory

17 oxen were sacrificed – 100 oxen were sacrificed

SPECTATORS

Only men, boys and unmarried girls were allowed to attend the Olympic Games. Married women were totally banned. If they were caught sneaking in, they were forced to wear a false moustache for a whole year. Of course, the competitors were men only. Unmarried women had their own games, called the Heraia (pronounced hair-eye-ah). This means 'we hate the smell of sweaty men.' Prizes for these games were much better than the olive branch crowns the men got. Heraia winners got perfume, jewellery and make-up.

The lies! (don't read this bit out!!!)

they were forced to wear a false moustache for a whole year – it was worse: they could be thrown off a cliff to their death (which seems a little harsh...)

This means 'we hate the smell of sweaty men.' - it means 'dedicated to Hera' (Zeus' wife)

Heraia winners got perfume, jewellery and make-up – unfortunately, they got the same old olive branch crown as the men and nothing more

ATHLETIC EVENTS

Running races were held on a 192 metre track in the Olympic stadium. If anyone was caught cheating, they were disqualified, beaten and made to eat a bowl of mouldy, ten-day old porridge. The toughest running race was called the Hoplitodromos (pronounced HOP-LIT-OH-DROM-OSS), where runners wore armour and carried a shield weighing up to 15kg! Unlike the modern version, the long jump didn't have a run-up: competitors launched themselves by swinging weights in their arms. This event was set to live flute music, and athletes used the music to co-ordinate their weight-swinging and jumping. Long-jumpers would also show off their killer dance moves at Olympic parties.

The lies! (don't read this bit out!!!)

made to eat a bowl of mouldy, ten-day old porridge – no, that would be too cruel!

shield weighing up to 15kg! – it weighed 25kg, almost double. That's the weight of 36 iPads.

Long-jumpers would also show off their killer dance moves at Olympic parties – no evidence exists of this!

COMBAT EVENTS

Like today's games, the ancient Olympics included boxing and wrestling. The toughest event was the called the pankration (pronounced PAN-CRAT-EE-ON). This means 'I will mess you up good and proper'. It was a fight with very few rules. The only things competitors couldn't do were (1) bite, (2) poke people in the eye, or (3) give each other wedgies. Some competitors even died fighting. In boxing matches, the fighters wore leather gloves, just like in the modern sport. However there were some differences. A boxer was allowed to keep on punching his opponent even if he had fallen to the ground. If the boxer didn't get up, he had to change his surname to 'loser' for the rest of his life.

The lies! (don't read this bit out!!!)

This means 'I will mess you up good and proper' – it actually means 'all force', presumably because they could use any way of fighting

or (3) give each other wedgies – competitors were naked, so wedgies were not possible

and if boxer didn't get up, he had to change his surname to 'loser' for the rest of his life. – no, although one competitor was so sore about losing that he killed himself.

WINNERS

The winners of Ancient Olympic events could expect lots of prizes and honours. First, they were given a crown of olive branches. Next they got a gold medal. After this, their name was shouted out to the crowds. They also didn't have to pay taxes any more, and might even win themselves free meals for life. This is like the modern Olympics, where McDonald's give free Big Macs to the the winner of the 100m Olympic sprint. In Ancient Olympic horse races, riders were not important. It was the horses who were considered to be the winners, and so the animals received all the honours.

The lies! (don't read this bit out!!!)

a gold medal – that's a modern tradition started with the revival of the Olympic games in the late 19th century

McDonald's give free Big Macs to the the winner of the 100m Olympic sprint – it's doubtful that an Olympic athlete would consider an exclusive diet of Big Macs to be nutritious!

it was the horses who were considered to be the winners – it was actually the owners of the horses.