

YEAR 5 READING

Thursday 20th November 2025



HOMWORK EXPECTATIONS

- Homework is given out on Thursday and should be handed in the following Tuesday.
- Homework club is on Monday.
- Homework is a reflection of current learning.
- Children can complete this independently, but encouraged to ask for help when needed.
- It is your child's responsibility to complete and hand in on time.
- Homework also includes reading for a minimum of 20 mins

READING

- We read at school daily.
- Students to read daily at home .
- Records signed daily by your child. Please check your child's reading record 1x week.
- Reading books must be changed regularly.

Statutory requirements

- recommending books that they have read to their peers, giving reasons for their choices
- identifying and discussing themes and conventions in and across a wide range of writing
- making comparisons within and across books
- learning a wider range of poetry by heart
- preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience
- understand what they read by:
 - checking that the book makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and exploring the meaning of words in context
 - asking questions to improve their understanding
 - drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
 - predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
 - summarising the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas
 - identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning
- discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader
- distinguish between statements of fact and opinion
- retrieve, record and present information from non-fiction
- participate in discussions about books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously
- explain and discuss their understanding of what they have read, including through formal presentations and debates, maintaining a focus on the topic and using notes where necessary
- provide reasoned justifications for their views.

Reading for Pleasure: The National Literacy Trust Annual Surveys

Just 32.7% of children and young people aged 8 to 18 say they enjoy reading "very much" or "quite a lot" in 2025.

Only 18.7% of children and young people say they read something daily in their free time in 2025 – half the number reading daily 20 years ago.

Children's
writing enjoyment
has hit the
lowest level we've
ever recorded.

The cost-of-literacy crisis is already impacting children and young people.

GUIDED READING PRACTICE

- 4 times a week in class.
- Whole class reading.
- Discussing the text.
- Share ideas to support answering questions.

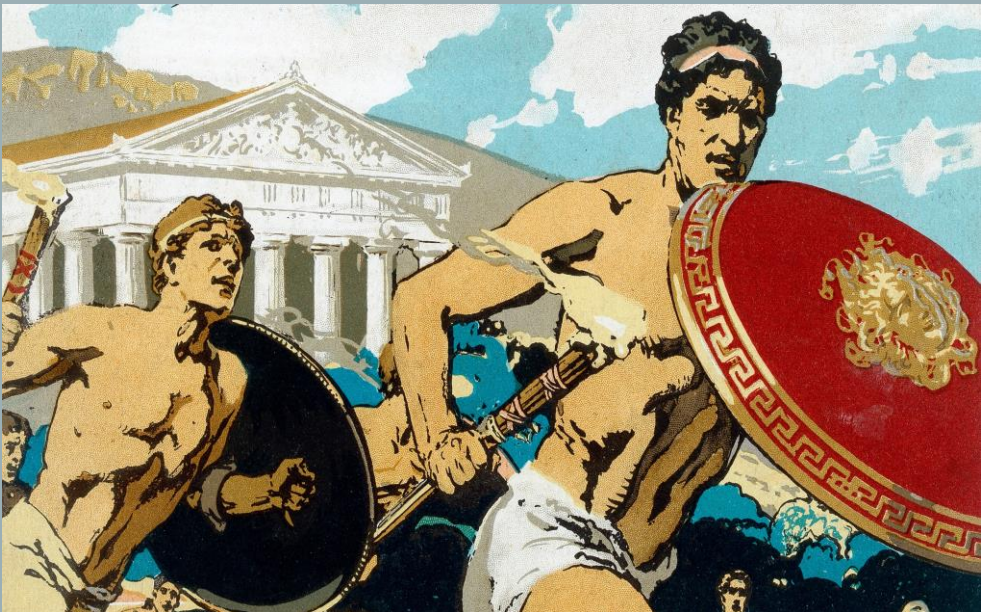
Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Interpret
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Summarise





ANCIENT GREECE OLYMPICS



GUIDED COMPREHENSION – DAY 1

- Vocabulary and prediction.
- Read an extract.
- Spot where the vocabulary words that are in text.
- How else can we use the vocabulary in context?



DAY 1

VOCABULARY: DRAW LINES TO MATCH THE WORD TO THE DEFINITION.

Thunderbolt

The mythical home of the gods in Greek mythology

Chariot

Having to do with two or more countries or with what happens between two or more countries.

Postponed

A powerful weapon in Greek mythology, often associated with Zeus, used to announce his visit to Olympia.

International

Mount Olympus

To delay or reschedule an event



The History of the Olympic Games



The Olympic Games were thought to have started over 2,700 years ago in ancient Greece. Read on to find out about the first ancient Games and the beginning of the modern Games.

The First Olympic Games



The first ancient Olympic Games were believed to have started in 776 BC. These Games took place in Olympia, Greece. They were held every four years and contained several sporting events. However, the main focus was as a religious ceremony to honour the king of the Greek gods, Zeus.

Zeus is said to have travelled to Olympia from his home in Mount Olympus in 1200 BC. He announced his visit by throwing his thunderbolt from Mount Olympus into Olympia. This became the setting for the first ancient Olympic Games. People travelled from all over Greece to see the Games and visit the Temple of Zeus.

Ancient Olympic Events

Running

During the running events, competitors would run up and down a track that was 192 metres long. Despite being rebuilt several times, the track always stayed the same length. Some people believe that this is because 192 metres is how long the Greek hero Hercules could run on a single breath.

Wrestling and Boxing

The wrestling and boxing matches seen at the ancient Olympic Games were often much more violent than those seen today. One of the most dangerous matches was known as pankration. In this match, the only rule was that you couldn't bite your opponent or poke them in the eye.

Long Jump

Competitors in the long jump would hold large weights in their hands and swing their arms around. This would help them to jump longer distances. A man on a flute often played music for the athletes that would help them to time their jumps.



The End of the Ancient Olympic Games

When ancient Greece was invaded by the Roman Empire in the 2nd century BC, the Games continued. However, it is thought that the quality began to go downhill. In AD 67, a Roman emperor named Nero took part in the chariot race, which was a dangerous race on chariots pulled by horses. Although he fell off during the race, he still told everyone that he was the winner.

By AD 393, an emperor named Theodosius I called for the ancient Olympic Games to be cancelled. This ended the Games after nearly 1,200 years.



The Modern Olympic Games

Around 1,500 years later, a French baron named Pierre de Coubertin suggested the idea of holding an international athletics competition. He wanted it to be held every four years just like the ancient games in Olympia. When his idea was accepted, he started the International Olympic Committee.

The first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896 in Athens, Greece. Since then, the modern Olympic Games have been held every four years. Throughout their history, the modern Games have been cancelled or postponed four times. Once in 1916 due to the First World War, in 1940 and 1944 due to the Second World War and again in 2020 as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Day 2: Discussion

Look



- Look at the section about the wrestling and boxing events. How were these events different from modern versions of these sports?
- Look at the dates mentioned in the text. How many years passed between the end of the ancient Games and the start of the modern Games?
- Can you find any clues in the text that explain why the modern Olympics have been cancelled or postponed?

Clue



- What event in the ancient Olympics was focused on honoring Zeus, and how was this related to the Games?
- Based on the text, what did the long jump competitors do to help them jump longer distances?
- What was unique about the chariot race that took place during Nero's time, and what happened during his race?

Think



- Why do you think the ancient Olympic Games were held every four years?
- What might have been the significance of holding the Games in Olympia, Greece, rather than other places in Greece?
- How do you think the Games changed when the Roman Empire invaded Greece?

GUIDED COMPREHENSION – DAY 3 & 4

- Listening to reader
- Text marking
- Echo reading
- Choral reading
- Popcorn reading

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Summarise



DAY 3 - VIPERS

- When did the first ancient Olympic Games take place?
- Who was the king of the Greek gods that the ancient Olympic Games were held to honor?
- What event was considered the most dangerous at the ancient Olympic Games?
- In which year were the first modern Olympic Games held?
- What was the length of the track used for the running events in the ancient Olympics?

DAY 4 VIPERS - WHAT WERE THE KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE ANCIENT AND MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES, BASED ON THE TEXT?

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ASSESSMENTS

- NFER – comprehension focus
 - 1:1 reading with students for fluency
 - Teacher judgements
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- Ultimately, children who read more, become more fluent writers.



WHAT YOU CAN YOU DO TO HELP AT HOME?

- Ask interactive questions.
- Develop phonemic awareness.
- Encourage your child to read daily.
- Make use of your local library.
- Create a designated reading area at home if possible.
- Encourage reading choice.
- Read your favourite books to your child.
- Make reading interactive and animated.
- Most importantly, have fun!



QUESTIONS?

- Thank you for coming to our Family Learning Session!