

## the ARTICLE (for instructors)

### The Chinese Olympics

Politics and the Olympics don't mix. The success of the Games will be determined by the competition between athletes and the friendship of the various nations. China's president, Hu Jintao, made the statement, as he expressed the real meaning and spirit of the Games. During the Cold war, nations regularly protested the Olympics due to political squabbles, and refused to let their athletes compete. There aren't any chances of similar disagreements at the 2008 Olympic Games, and Hu could add some positive comments just days before August 8th.

China's president ignored the problems which have dogged the games during the past months. He ignored the environmental problems and pollution from which China suffers as it rushes to become an industrial superpower. He ignored the recent terrorist attack which killed sixteen policemen, as well as the terrorist's threat to target "the most critical point of the Olympics." He ignored human rights abuses and the strict restrictions China has placed on the media.

As a reminder, however, Hu said to the assembled reporters to respect China's laws and to report fairly on the Games. The meeting was carefully controlled, and reporters had to submit questions in advance. When one reporter posed a question on human rights, Hu didn't respond.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to promote a friendlier China as it takes its place on the world stage. China's government also hopes that this year's Olympics will demonstrate a new, modern image.

Teacher's Notes:

\* Underlined words in red typeface are the recommended vocabulary for this lesson.

## WARM-UPS

Select one or all of the following warm-up activities.

1. **Define:** What does "competition" mean? Can you use it in a sentence? Can you give examples?

2. **Brainstorm:** Brainstorm with a partner(s) words and ideas associated with "the Olympics" for 2 minutes. Spend another 5 minutes or less discussing the words and ideas together.

3. **Speculate:** Write in the missing word for today's article title: "The Chinese (                      )." Why did you choose this word for the blank?

4. **Do you agree or disagree? Why?**

a.	I'm very interested in the Olympics.
b.	The Olympics are politically motivated.
c.	The Olympics promote peace around the world.
d.	My home country often wins medals at the Olympics.
e.	Countries and sponsors spend too much money on the Olympics.

5. **Rank It!:** Which of the following countries will win the most medals at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games? Rank the countries in order, from most medals to least medals. Remember to support your answers!

a.	Australia
b.	Japan
c.	China
d.	the US
e.	Russia

## VOCABULARY

Select one of the following vocabulary acquisition activities.

**1. Vocabulary match:** Individually or in pairs/groups, match the words in column A (from the article) with the best choice in column B.

a. <b>determine</b>	q. argument
b. <b>squabble</b>	r. severe
c. <b>dog</b>	s. hurt from
d. <b>suffer</b>	t. show
e. <b>threat</b>	u. gather
f. <b>strict</b>	v. warning
g. <b>assemble</b>	w. publicize
h. <b>pose</b>	x. decide
i. <b>promote</b>	y. ask
j. <b>demonstrate</b>	z. follow

**2. Fill in the Blanks:** Fill in the blank with the correct word.

	<b>squabbles</b>	<b>strict</b>	<b>determined</b>	<b>dogged</b>	<b>promote</b>
	<b>posed</b>	<b>suffers</b>	<b>demonstrate</b>	<b>assembled</b>	<b>threat</b>
a.	The success of the Games will be ( ) by the competition between athletes.				
b.	the Cold war, nations regularly protested the Olympics due to political ( ).				
c.	China's president ignored the problems which have ( ) the games during the past months.				
d.	He ignored the environmental problems and pollution from which China ( ).				
e.	He ignored the terrorist's ( ) to target "the most critical point of the Olympics."				
f.	He ignored human rights abuses and the ( ) restrictions China has placed on the media.				
g.	As a reminder, Hu said to the ( ) reporters to respect China's laws and to report fairly on the Games.				
h.	When one reporter ( ) a question on human rights, Hu didn't respond.				
i.	The purpose of the meeting was to ( ) a friendlier China as it takes its place on the world stage.				
j.	China's government also hopes that this year's Olympics will ( ) a new, modern image.				

**3. Define:** Define each word, correctly pronounce it, explain the meaning and/or usage, and offer an example sentence to the class.

a.	<b>determine</b>	c.	<b>dog</b>	e.	<b>threat</b>	g.	<b>assemble</b>	i.	<b>promote</b>
b.	<b>squabble</b>	d.	<b>suffer</b>	f.	<b>strict</b>	h.	<b>pose</b>	j.	<b>demonstrate</b>

## WORD RECOGNITION

1. **Word Search:** Find the target words (in bold). Time yourself, and see how many words you can find in three minutes. In five minutes. In ten minutes.

<b>squabbles</b>	<b>strict</b>	<b>determined</b>	<b>dogged</b>	<b>promote</b>
<b>posed</b>	<b>suffers</b>	<b>demonstrate</b>	<b>assembled</b>	<b>threat</b>
		D F D Z E D W X V D S S D I Q		
		F E Z E O D Q N E D T E E V W		
		S C M G L F E M M G R L T Y A		
		N U G O B B O S E W I B E H R		
		Z E F L N N M L O T C B R W W		
		D P X F S S B E R P T A M V R		
		E W L T E M T L S I F U I G U		
		D N R P E R H R E S Z C N Q E		
		B A W S L O S V A F A S E D T		
		T V S N P R O M O T E X D E Q		
		L A C D L V P U E Q E N M G Y		
		A L M T P A B M G X E E I O I		
		S E L B B A U Q S D Q D T D W		
		A P O A B H K T C P N M U D K		
		X U L N K V T A E R H T B U P		

2. **Target Word Pool:** Find the target words (in bold) with their exact match. Time yourself, and see how many words you can find in three minutes. In five minutes. In ten minutes.

<b>squabbles</b>	<b>strict</b>	<b>determined</b>	<b>dogged</b>	<b>promote</b>
<b>posed</b>	<b>suffers</b>	<b>demonstrate</b>	<b>assembled</b>	<b>threat</b>
	demonstrating	suffered	threat	detrimental
proposed				reassemble
		digging	strictly	
	constrict			stutter
determined		dogged	posing	determining
	squabbling	assembly		restrict
doggedly	poses		assembling	promoted
	demonstrated	threats	squabbles	suppose
assembled		promotion	threatening	
scary	dogging	demonstrates		suffering
	promoting	strict	determinedly	treat
restricted		suffers		demonstrate
	squabble	determine	disassemble	posed
sufferance		remonstrate		threaten
	prompt			promote

## pre- or post-COMPREHENSION

**1. Word Association:** Brainstorm words associated with today's topic for two minutes. Present to the class.

**2. Brainstorm Questions:** Brainstorm questions that you would like to ask about today's topic. Answer the questions without looking at the article.

**3. True or False?:** Guess (before the article) or answer (after the article) whether the sentence is true or false. If false, correct the sentence.

a.	In addition to the athletes and their abilities, politics will determine the success of the Olympics.	T / F
b.	According to the article, China's president commented on the problems China has faced.	T / F
c.	There was a terrorist attack in China which killed some police officers.	T / F
d.	Hu told the reporters to follow China's laws and report on the games fairly.	T / F
e.	Hu answered one question on human rights abuses.	T / F

**4. Questions:** Answer the questions to check comprehension.

a.	According to the article, what will determine the success of the Olympics?
b.	What happened at the Olympic Games during the Cold War?
c.	China's president ignored several things. What were they?
d.	According to the article, what was the primary purpose of the meeting?
e.	According to the article, what is the primary purpose of the 2008 Olympics for China?

**5. Vocabulary:** In pairs/groups, remember how the words were used in today's article.

a.	<b>determined</b>	c.	<b>dogged</b>	e.	<b>threat</b>	g.	<b>assembled</b>	i.	<b>promote</b>
b.	<b>squabbles</b>	d.	<b>suffers</b>	f.	<b>strict</b>	h.	<b>posed</b>	j.	<b>demonstrate</b>

**6. Fragments:** Remember how the fragments were used, and complete the sentence from today's article.

a.	China's president, Hu Jintao, made the statement, as he expressed...
b.	He ignored the environmental problems and pollution from which...
c.	He ignored the recent terrorist attack which killed sixteen policemen, as well as...
d.	He ignored human rights abuses and...
e.	The meeting was carefully controlled, and reporters...

## post-COMPREHENSION

- 1. Vocabulary:** Circle any additional unknown words/phrases in the article. In pairs/groups, use your dictionaries to understand the meanings. Present to the class.
- 2. Class Questions:** Read through the article once more, and write down any questions that you would like to discuss in pairs/groups or as a class. Discuss.
- 3. Summarize:** Work with a partner to summarize the article in your own words.
- 4. Discuss:** Talk about the following questions in pairs/groups. Remember to support your answers!

a.	Did you like this article?
b.	What was your general impression after reading this article?
c.	What's your opinion or impression of the Olympic Games? Please explain.
d.	What's your opinion or impression of China? Please explain.
e.	Do you think President Hu should have talked about the problems China faces? Why/not?
f.	Why do you think President Hu commented about fair reporting and following China's laws? Please explain.
g.	What do you think about a possible terrorist attack at the 2008 Summer Games? Please explain.
h.	Do you agree that the Olympics let China show a new image to the world? And what exactly does this mean?
i.	If you were the president of China, how would you determine if the Olympics were successful? Please explain.
j.	How interested are you in the Olympics? What sports will you definitely watch? Please explain.

- 5. Role play:** (Step One) Work with a partner and imagine three questions for China's president, Hu Jintao. You may write down any questions, including controversial ones. (Step Two) Imagine possible answers for your questions, including the controversial ones. (Step Three) Pair up with another student. One of you will be a reporter, another will be the president of China. Ask and answer questions. Switch roles and repeat.

<b>question #1:</b>
<b>question #2:</b>
<b>question #3:</b>

- 6. Google Search:** Type "Olympics" into Google news and read additional articles on this topic. Discuss or write an essay about your findings.

## **STUDENT HANDOUT (the article)**

### **The Chinese Olympics**

Politics and the Olympics don't mix. The success of the Games will be determined by the competition between athletes and the friendship of the various nations. China's president, Hu Jintao, made the statement, as he expressed the real meaning and spirit of the Games. During the Cold war, nations regularly protested the Olympics due to political squabbles, and refused to let their athletes compete. There aren't any chances of similar disagreements at the 2008 Olympic Games, and Hu could add some positive comments just days before August 8th.

China's president ignored the problems which have dogged the games during the past months. He ignored the environmental problems and pollution from which China suffers as it rushes to become an industrial superpower. He ignored the recent terrorist attack which killed sixteen policemen, as well as the terrorist's threat to target "the most critical point of the Olympics." He ignored human rights abuses and the strict restrictions China has placed on the media.

As a reminder, however, Hu said to the assembled reporters to respect China's laws and to report fairly on the Games. The meeting was carefully controlled, and reporters had to submit questions in advance. When one reporter posed a question on human rights, Hu didn't respond.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to promote a friendlier China as it takes its place on the world stage. China's government also hopes that this year's Olympics will demonstrate a new, modern image.

**Notes:**

**STUDENT HANDOUT (fill in the blank)**

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

advance	friendship	posed	determined	rights
strict	suffers	pollution	threat	demonstrate
squabbles	reminder	promote	assembled	dogged

**The Chinese Olympics**

Politics and the Olympics don't mix. The success of the Games will be (a. \_\_\_\_\_) by the competition between athletes and the (b. \_\_\_\_\_) of the various nations. China's president, Hu Jintao, made the statement, as he expressed the real meaning and spirit of the Games. During the Cold war, nations regularly protested the Olympics due to political (c. \_\_\_\_\_), and refused to let their athletes compete. There aren't any chances of similar disagreements at the 2008 Olympic Games, and Hu could add some positive comments just days before August 8th.

China's president ignored the problems which have (d. \_\_\_\_\_) the games during the past months. He ignored the environmental problems and (e. \_\_\_\_\_) from which China (f. \_\_\_\_\_) as it rushes to become an industrial superpower. He ignored the recent terrorist attack which killed sixteen policemen, as well as the terrorist's (g. \_\_\_\_\_) to target "the most critical point of the Olympics." He ignored human (h. \_\_\_\_\_) abuses and the (i. \_\_\_\_\_) restrictions China has placed on the media.

As a (j. \_\_\_\_\_), however, Hu said to the (k. \_\_\_\_\_) reporters to respect China's laws and to report fairly on the Games. The meeting was carefully controlled, and reporters had to submit questions in (l. \_\_\_\_\_). When one reporter (m. \_\_\_\_\_) a question on human rights, Hu didn't respond.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to (n. \_\_\_\_\_) a friendlier China as it takes its place on the world stage. China's government also hopes that this year's Olympics will (o. \_\_\_\_\_) a new, modern image.

**STUDENT HANDOUT (extended listening)**

Listen and fill in the missing sentences. Compare answers with a partner, and then listen once more.

**The Chinese Olympics**

Politics and the Olympics don't mix. a) \_\_\_\_\_.

China's president, Hu Jintao, made the statement, as he expressed the real meaning and spirit of the Games. During the Cold war, nations regularly protested the Olympics due to political squabbles, and refused to let their athletes compete.

b) \_\_\_\_\_, and Hu could add some positive comments just days before August 8th.

c) \_\_\_\_\_. He ignored the environmental problems and pollution from which China suffers as it rushes to become an industrial superpower. He ignored the recent terrorist attack which killed sixteen policemen, as well as the terrorist's threat to target "the most critical point of the Olympics." d) \_\_\_\_\_.

As a reminder, however, Hu said to the assembled reporters to respect China's laws and to report fairly on the Games.

The meeting was carefully controlled, and reporters had to submit questions in advance. e) \_\_\_\_\_, Hu didn't respond.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to promote a friendlier China as it takes its place on the world stage. China's government also hopes that this year's Olympics will demonstrate a new, modern image.

**STUDENT HANDOUT (activities)**

## ANSWER KEY

### Vocabulary

#### 1. Vocabulary Match:

a.	x	f.	r
b.	q	g.	u
c.	z	h.	y
d.	s	i.	w
e.	v	j.	t

#### 2. Fill in the Blanks:

a.	determined	f.	strict
b.	squabbles	g.	assembled
c.	dogged	h.	posed
d.	suffers	i.	promote
e.	threat	j.	demonstrate

### pre- or post-Comprehension

#### 1. True or False:

a.	F
b.	F
c.	T
d.	T
e.	F

#### 2. Fragments:

a.	the real meaning and spirit of the Games.
b.	China suffers as it rushes to become an industrial superpower.
c.	the terrorist's threat to target "the most critical point of the Olympics."
d.	the strict restrictions China has placed on the media.
e.	had to submit questions in advance.

### Student Handout

#### 1. Fill in the Blanks

a.	determined	i.	strict
b.	friendship	j.	reminder
c.	squabbles	k.	assembled
d.	dogged	l.	advance
e.	pollution	m.	posed
f.	suffers	n.	promote
g.	threat	o.	demonstrate
h.	rights		

#### 2. Extended Listening

a.	The success of the Games will be determined by the competition between athletes and the friendship of the various nations
b.	There aren't any chances of similar disagreements at the 2008 Olympic Games
c.	China's president ignored the problems which have dogged the games during the past months
d.	He ignored human rights abuses and the strict restrictions China has placed on the media
e.	When one reporter posed a question on human rights