

PART 2

You are going to read an article about the Winter Olympics. For questions 7-13, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.

In a break with Olympic tradition, the organisers decided to split the Summer and Winter Games. By bringing forward the Winter Games by two years, the difficulty of organising the two events can now be spread more equally over a period of four years.

It was the small town of Lillehammer in Norway that was chosen to host the 1994 Winter Olympics. The Norwegians took their responsibilities very seriously, and created a magnificent setting for the games. The highlight was the building of an Ice Stadium actually built into the side of a mountain at a nearby town. In the event of a permanent home being found for the games, this will ensure that Lillehammer will be high on the list of possible sites.

There were some problems in the month leading up to the games, but the opening ceremony was so well-planned and so exciting that everyone felt optimistic about them. The Olympic Flame arrived in the arena carried by a skier coming down the ski-jump, and was then handed to the Crown Prince of Norway, who officially opened the games. The optimism felt in many ways justified as the games produced many good sporting moments. Several Olympic records were broken and there was generally a wonderful atmosphere, which was mostly due to the friendliness and warmth of the Norwegians.

Unfortunately, these games may well be remembered for the wrong reasons, as disputes about the judges' decisions in some of the main events was to create bad feeling. It was believed that the British Ice Dance champions were victims of unfair judging when they were only placed third. The sport of Ice Dancing had already been under attack; certain critics thought it should not be an Olympic sport, and this row over medals did not help its image.

In the speed-skating, the British again felt as though they were being unfairly judged. One skater was disqualified for touching another skater after it seemed he had won a silver medal in the 1,000 metres event. Another speed skater was forced to race with a broken skate and did very poorly as a result. In spite of these unfortunate events, the British still had their highest count of medals since 1948.

One story, though, dominated the entire games. This was the very ugly dispute between two American ice skaters. Their arguments became almost a soap opera, the result being that a record American television audience watched the competition.

7 What decision was made about the Summer and Winter Games?

- A to hold them every four years
- B to separate them
- C to spend more time organising them
- D to stretch them over five years

8 What was it that the hosts took seriously?

- A their town
- B the settings
- C their country
- D their responsibilities

9 What does "his" in line 8 refer to?

- A the Ice Stadium
- B a permanent Olympic site
- C the building that took place
- D the side of a mountain

10 What do people think produced the wonderful atmosphere?

- A the opening ceremony
- B the sporting events
- C new Olympic records
- D the personality of the Norwegians

11 What did some British competitors think?

- A They weren't good enough to compete.
- B They were being disqualified too often.
- C They weren't being judged fairly.
- D They were under attack.

12 What does "its" in line 20 refer to?

- A speed-skating
- B Ice Dancing
- C the enemies of an event
- D winter sports in general

13 What was the reason more Americans watched the games?

- A an unpleasant argument
- B the disqualification of a skater
- C the speed-skating
- D the Ice Dancing