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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/641/2021_2022_2010_E8_80_83_E7_A0_94_c73_641114.htm SWIFTER, HIGHER, STRONGER

Although Citius, altius, fortius (“ Swifter, higher, stronger ”) is the Latin motto of today ’ s Olympic Games, athletes have been striving to improve their athletic skills since ancient times. All over ancient Greece, athletic contests, dance contests, and horse, boat, and torch races were held. Greek literature describes the many sports that were popular in ancient times. murals and statues show discus throwers, wrestlers, and charioteers. Organized games in Greece began 3,500 years ago. By the sixth century B.C., there were several Greek sporting festivals, but the most important one took place in Olympia every fourth summer. The Olympic Games were held in honor of Zeus, the father of the gods. Only citizens of Greek city-states could participate, and the only race, a sprint, was run over a distance called a stade (200 yards). Coroebus, a cook who won the race in 776 B.C., was the first recorded champion. Gradually, other running events were added, as well as horse racing, wrestling, a pentathlon, chariot racing, and boxing. Athletes competed in the nude. women could neither participate nor watch. At a banquet, champions were presented with olive wreaths. When Rome conquered Greece in the second century B.C., the games continued. In 394 A.D., the Roman emperor Theodosius, a Christian, banned all festivals that honored Olympic gods. The Olympic Games ended. Fifteen hundred years later, in 1894, Frenchman Baron Pierre de Coubertin

(coo-bare-TENH) revived interest in the games. The modern Olympic Games were organized as a way of promoting peace, friendship, and healthy sporting competition among the youth of the world. Athens, Greece, was chosen as the site of the first modern Olympics. Held in April 1896, the games involved 13 nations, 311 male athletes, 42 events, and nine sports. Women were not allowed to compete until four years later. The United States won nine of the track and field events, but Greece won the most medals with 47. The Olympic Games are held in a different country every four years. At the opening ceremonies, the Greek team always leads the parade of athletes. The Olympic flame is still lit in Olympia and carried to the site of the games by a series of torchbearers. This tradition began in Germany in 1936 when 3,000 runners crossed seven countries on their journey from Greece. The passage of the Olympic torch captures the imagination of the world, reminding people of the original focus of the games-world peace and sportsmanship. In ancient Greece, all wars ceased for as long as the games lasted. Unfortunately, that has not been the case in modern times. The 1916 games were canceled because of World War I, and World War II caused the cancellation of the 1940 and 1944 games. The games have gone through many changes since the first Olympics in ancient Greece. The September 2000 games in Sydney, Australia, the 27th modern Olympics, are scheduled to last 16 days, and involve 10,000 athletes, 198 countries, and 28 sports. 考研词汇 : strive[straiv] v.奋斗 , 努力 [真题例句] Private businessmen, striving to make profits, produce these goods and services in competition with other

businessmen. and the profit motive, operating under competitive pressures, largely determines how these goods and services are produced.[1994年阅读1] [例句精译] 为了获取利润，私有企业主在与其他人竞争中生产这些产品，提供这些服务。在竞争的压力下追求利润的动机以及如何运作在很大程度上决定生产商品和提供服务的方式。 participate[p:ˈtɪsɪpeɪt] v. (in)参与，参加。 分享，分担 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com