

# Vocabulary: Olympics

**Amateur:** a person who does something without payment; not a professional

**Athlete:** a person who is proficient in sports and other forms of physical exercise

**Anthem:** an important song (usually national)

**Broadcaster:** a person who talks (often about sports and athletes) on television or radio

**Compete:** to battle against another player

**Contestant:** person who plays in a game

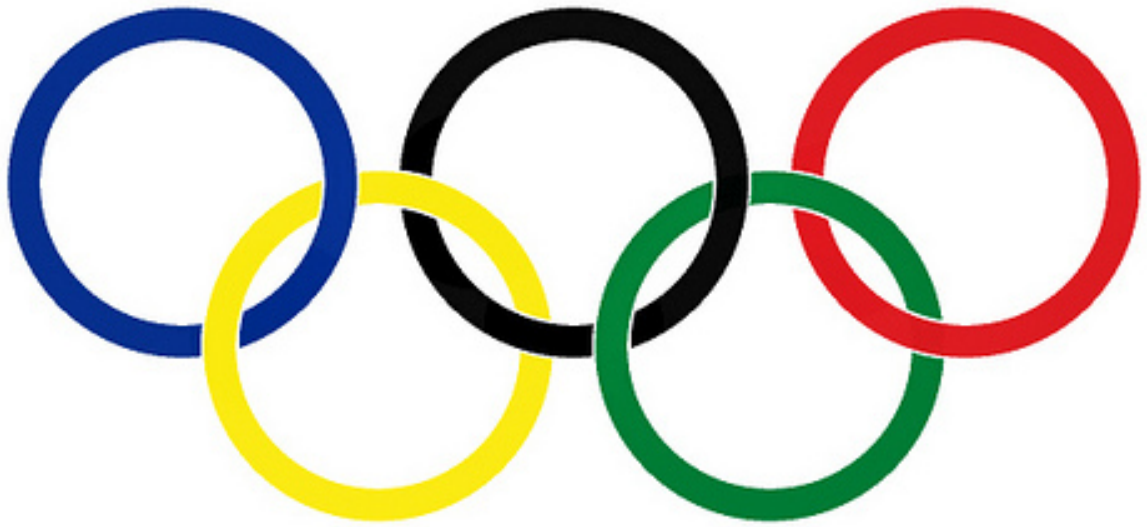
**Sportsmanship:** fairness and honesty in sports

**Torch:** a large flame on a stick

**Victory:** a win

**Host:** a person who receives or entertains other people as guests (in this case what country holds the Olympic games).

## Vocabulary List: Olympics



1. Amateur
2. Athlete
3. Anthem
4. Broadcaster
5. Compete
6. Contestant
7. Sportsmanship
8. Torch
9. Victory
10. Host

### **The home stretch**

- The last part of something difficult.

*We were on the **home stretch** of the science project.*

### **the ball is in your court**

- When it is a person's turn to make a decision or move.

*I can't decide that for you; **the ball is in your court** now.*

### **jump the gun**

- When a person starts something before they should.

*He really **jumped the gun** when he bought a car without checking his wife.*

### **on the ball**

- When a person is ready and prepared for something.

*It was clear she was **on the ball** for her work presentation because she could answer every question they asked her.*

### **skating on thin ice**

- When a person is close to a dangerous or negative outcome.

*He was **skating on thin ice** to be teasing his annoyed friend so much.*

### **throw in the towel**

- To quit or give up on a task.

*He decided to throw in the towel after trying six times to convince her to go to the concert.*

**shot in the dark**

- Taking a chance when the odds of success are very low.

*It was a **shot in the dark** to ask if the famous movie star could come to their event.*

**Give it your best shot**

- try your hardest

*He gave it his best shot even though he didn't study for his exam.*

**Touch base with someone**

- be in contact, communicate with

I wanted to touch base with you because I haven't heard from you in weeks!

## Idiom Quiz

You're \_\_\_\_\_ by not saving part of your income now. **skating on thin ice**

If they don't accept our offer this time we are going to \_\_\_\_\_ and look for something else. **throw in the towel**

Steven has a \_\_\_\_\_ because he is always helping others.  
**A heart of gold**

When you arrive in New York, remember to \_\_\_\_\_ us. We'll be waiting for your call. **touch base**

He was \_\_\_\_\_ for breaking up with her on Valentine's Day. **Cold-hearted**

It's not up to me anymore. I've done my part, now \_\_\_\_\_.  
**the ball is in your court**

I couldn't believe after 3 years at Ball State University I was finally in \_\_\_\_\_ and was almost finished with my undergraduate degree. **The home Stretch**

She was going to sell the house but had \_\_\_\_\_ at the last minute. **A change of heart**

We had a \_\_\_\_\_ about the issue and we're getting on much better now.  
**A heart to heart**

## Idiom Quiz

<b>Skating on thin ice</b>	<b>Touch base</b>
<b>Cold-hearted</b>	<b>Throw in the towel</b>
<b>The home stretch</b>	<b>The ball is in your court</b>
<b>A heart to heart</b>	<b>A heart of gold</b>
	<b>A change of heart</b>

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## Conversation Questions

Do you watch the Olympics?

Do people in South Korea like the Olympics?

What do you enjoy watching the most?

Do you like the summer or the winter Olympics better?