

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

THE OLYMPICS

- **VOCABULARY:** Can you find the **SEVEN** words on the left used in the essay? (The first one is already circled for you.)

OPINION ESSAY: “The Olympic Games are a waste of money. Do you agree or disagree?”



Many cities want to spend a lot of money to be the host city for the Olympics. However, many people think that there is no reason to spend so much money for this. This essay will look at some of the arguments for and against spending money on the Olympics.

First of all, sports stadiums take many years to build and they cost many millions of dollars. Instead, cities could use this money to help the people who live there. Secondly, drug testing shows that many athletes take drugs to help them win. Maybe we shouldn't spend money on sports events where people use drugs.

However, millions of young people all over the world love both the Summer Games and the Winter Games. As a result, they play more sports and do more exercise, and they become strong and healthy. Furthermore, countries from all over the world join the Olympic games. It is not really important who the winners are because the people from many different countries can become friends.

In summary, there are good reasons both for and against spending money on the Olympics. Nevertheless, I feel strongly that cities should continue to spend money on these games.

(200 words)

- A** athlete *n.*
- B** boycott *n., v.*
bronze *adj., n.*
- C** compete *v.*
- D** drug testing *n.*
- E** event *n.*
- F** flag *n.*
- G** gold *adj., n.*
Greece *n.*
- H** host city *n.*
- S** silver *adj., n.*
stadium *n.*
Summer Games *n.*
- T** torch *n.*
- W** winner *n.*

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THE OLYMPICS

- **CONNECTORS:** Can you find the **EIGHT** words / phrases used in the essay? (The first phrase is already circled for you.)

OPINION ESSAY: “The Olympic Games are a waste of money. Do you agree or disagree?”



Connecting Words and Phrases

As a result

First of all

Furthermore

However (X2)

In summary

Nevertheless

Secondly

Many cities want to spend a lot of money to be the host city for the Olympics. However, many people think that there is no reason to spend so much money for this. This essay will look at some of the arguments for and against spending money on the Olympics.

First of all, sports stadiums take many years to build and they cost many millions of dollars. Instead, cities could use this money to help the people who live there. Secondly, drug testing shows that many athletes take drugs to help them win. Maybe we shouldn't spend money on sports events where people use drugs.

However, millions of young people all over the world love both the Summer Games and the Winter Games. As a result, they play more sports and do more exercise, and they become strong and healthy. Furthermore, countries from all over the world join the Olympic games. It is not really important who the winners are because the people from many different countries can become friends.

In summary, there are good reasons both for and against spending money on the Olympics. Nevertheless, I feel strongly that cities should continue to spend money on these games.

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- **ESSAY ANALYSIS:** Write your answers to the questions below.

1. How many paragraphs are there in the **essay**? _____
2. How many sentences are there in **Paragraph 1**? _____
3. Is **Paragraph 2** 'for' or 'against' spending money on the Olympics?
(a) for
(b) against
4. Is **Paragraph 3** 'for' or 'against' spending money on the Olympics?
(a) for
(b) against
5. Write the two REASONS given in **Paragraph 2** and in **Paragraph 3**:

Paragraph 2
(1) <i>The money used for stadiums could help other people.</i>
(2)

Paragraph 3
(1)
(2)

6. Add one more REASON of your own for **Paragraph 2** and for **Paragraph 3**:

Paragraph 2
(3)

Paragraph 3
(3)

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THE OLYMPICS

- **GRAMMAR-IN-CONTEXT:** Choose the correct words to fill the gaps.

Many cities want to spend a lot of money to be the host city for the Olympics. However, many people think that there is no reason to spend so much money for this. This essay (1)_____ at some of the arguments for and against (2)_____ money on the Olympics.

First of all, sports stadiums (3)_____ many years to build and they cost many millions of dollars. Instead, cities could use this money to (4)_____ the people who live there. Secondly, drug testing (5)_____ that many athletes take drugs to help them win. Maybe we shouldn't spend money on sports events where people (6)_____ drugs.

However, millions (7)_____ young people all over the world love both the Summer Games and the Winter Games. As a result, (8)_____ play more sports and do more exercise, and they become strong (9)_____ healthy. Furthermore, countries from all over the world join the Olympic games. It is not really important who the winners are because the people (10)_____ many different countries can become friends.

In summary, there (11)_____ good reasons both for and against spending money on the Olympics. Nevertheless, I feel strongly that cities should (12)_____ to spend money on these games.

1.
(A) looked
(B) will look
(C) looking
(D) are looking

5.
(A) shows
(B) show
(C) showing
(D) are showing

9.
(A) so
(B) but
(C) and
(D) because

2.
(A) spent
(B) spends
(C) spend
(D) spending

6.
(A) uses
(B) is using
(C) using
(D) use

10.
(A) at
(B) from
(C) for
(D) to

3.
(A) take
(B) took
(C) are taking
(D) taking

7.
(A) in
(B) at
(C) for
(D) of

11.
(A) has
(B) have
(C) is
(D) are

4.
(A) helped
(B) helps
(C) help
(D) helping

8.
(A) their
(B) them
(C) they
(D) they're

12.
(A) continue
(B) continuing
(C) continues
(D) continued

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THE OLYMPICS

- **LISTEN-AND-WRITE:** Listen to your teacher and try to spell the missing words.



Many cities want to spend a lot of money to be the host city for the Olympics. (1) *However*, many people (2) _____ that there is no reason to spend so much money for this. (3) _____
_____ look at some of the (4) _____
(5) _____ spending money on the Olympics.

(6) _____, sports stadiums take many years to build and they cost many millions of dollars. Instead, cities (7) _____ use this money to help the people who live there. (8) _____, drug testing shows that many athletes take drugs to help them win. (9) _____ spend money on sports events where people use drugs.

(10) _____, millions of young people all over the world love both the Summer Games and the Winter Games. (11) _____
_____, they play more sports and do more exercise, and they become strong and healthy. (12) _____, countries from all over the world join the Olympic games. It is not really important who the winners are (13) _____ the people from many different countries can become friends.

(14) _____, there are good reasons both for and against spending money on the Olympics. (15) _____, I feel strongly that cities (16) _____ continue to spend money on these games.

LESSON

Opinion Essay: The Olympics

Aim Practice writing opinion essays

Level Intermediate to Advanced

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary

Many cities want to spend a lot of money to be the **host city** for the Olympics. However, many people think that there is no reason to spend so much money for this. This essay will look at some of the arguments for and against spending money on the Olympics.

First of all, sports **stadiums** take many years to build and they cost many millions of dollars. Instead, cities could use this money to help the people who live there. **Secondly**, **drug testing** shows that many **athletes** take drugs to help them win. Maybe we shouldn't spend money on sports **events** where people use drugs.

However, millions of young people all over the world love both the **Summer Games** and the Winter Games. As a result, they play more sports and do more exercise, and they become strong and healthy. Furthermore, countries from all over the world join the Olympic games. It is not really important who the **winners** are because the people from many different countries can become friends.

Connectors

Many cities want to spend a lot of money to be the host city for the Olympics. **However**, many people think that there is no reason to spend so much money for this. This essay will look at some of the arguments for and against spending money on the Olympics.

First of all, sports stadiums take many years to build and they cost many millions of dollars. Instead, cities could use this money to help the people who live there. **Secondly**, drug testing shows that many athletes take drugs to help them win. Maybe we shouldn't spend money on sports events where people use drugs.

However, millions of young people all over the world love both the Summer Games and the Winter Games. **As a result**, they play more sports and do more exercise, and they become strong and healthy. **Furthermore**, countries from all over the world join the Olympic games. It is not really important who the winners are because the people from many different countries can become friends.

In summary, there are good reasons both for and against spending money on the Olympics. **Nevertheless**, I feel strongly that cities should continue to spend money on these games.

Essay Analysis

- (1) four
- (2) three
- (3) against (b)
- (4) for (a)
- (5) Paragraph 2:
 1. *The money used for stadiums could help other people.*
 2. *We shouldn't spend money on sports events where people use drugs.*Paragraph 3:
 1. *Millions of people love the Olympics (so they do more exercise).*
 2. *People from different countries can become friends.*
- (6) Answers will vary.

Grammar-in-Context

- | | | |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. B | 5. A | 9. C |
| 2. D | 6. D | 10. B |
| 3. A | 7. D | 11. D |
| 4. C | 8. C | 12. A |

Listen-and-write

1. However
2. think
3. This essay will
4. arguments
5. for and against
6. First of all
7. could
8. Secondly
9. Maybe we shouldn't
10. However
11. As a result
12. Furthermore
13. because
14. In summary
15. Nevertheless
16. should