

Topic 7 Competing and the Winter Olympics

Background:

To compete means to try to win by doing something better than others who are trying to do the same thing. People compete in many areas of life: the Olympics, chess, cooking, a writing contest, soccer, a job position, etc. If you are “in competition,” you are a “competitor.”

Group Discussion Questions:

1. Have you watched any of the Winter Olympics? If so, please tell your classmates about your experience - what did you enjoy, etc.
2. Do you like to compete? Why or why not? What are some benefits of competition? What are some negative results of competition?
3. When you play a game at home or with friends, are you extremely competitive or is it more important to have fun than to win?
4. What do you think these terms mean? “good sport,” “poor sport,” “good winner”, “good loser”
5. Is being a “good sport” important in your culture?
6. Did you compete in any sport or other event as a child? If so, please describe your experience. If you didn’t compete, do you regret that or not? Explain your answer.
7. Did you or someone you know ever want to be a champion athlete? Explain. Are there Olympic athletes which particularly inspire you?
8. Snow skiing, snowboarding, luge, ice hockey, ski jumping, bobsleigh, figure skating, speed skating, cross country skiing are some of the sports in the Winter Olympics. Are there particular sports you are interested in? If so, please explain.
9. Have you ever participated in winter sports? If so, please tell which sports you have done and how you enjoyed or didn’t enjoy your experiences. If you haven’t participated in a winter sport, is there any winter sport you’d like to try? Please explain your answer.
10. How can the Olympics be helpful in building relationships between countries?

New Words and Idioms: compete, competition, board game, competitive, good loser, good winner, poor sport, good sport, sports, Olympics, inspire, snow skiing, snowboarding, luge, ice hockey, ski jumping, figure skating, speed skating, cross country skiing, fostering