



Diving into the Modern Olympics

1. Why did Pierre de Coubertin want to have an international Olympic Games? Choose all that apply.

- He thought it would promote peace and prevent future wars.
- He believed that children need more physical activity and the Games would encourage them.
- He had always wanted to win a gold medal.
- He believed that bringing people from different nations together would help build friendships between nations.



2. Who was Edwin Flack? What life lesson could we learn from him?

3. In the podcast, we learned that Edwin Flack didn't want his boss finding out about his Olympic journey. What does this tell us about attitudes to work and sports in the late 1800s?

4. In the Shortcut, Bryce says that the very first modern Olympic Games, in 1896, weren't "all that modern". What did he mean? How are things different today?



5. The Paralympic Games, beginning after World War II and first held officially in 1960, are a major international event for athletes with disabilities. How have attitudes and opportunities for people with disabilities changed since the 1800s, and in what ways has the Paralympic Games contributed to these changes?



6. Why do you think the Olympic organisers chose to light the Olympic torch using the sun's rays instead of a match? How does this method add to the uniqueness and significance of the Olympic Games?

7. In 1928, a Japanese filmmaker created a short animated film called "Animal Olympic Games," where he imagined what it would be like if, for example, monkeys did gymnastics, or a kangaroo competed in boxing. Pick your favourite animal, and draw it competing in one of the Olympic sports!

