



The first marathon

1. What's the word?

Write the word under the pictures.



Persian soldier	Greek soldier	messenger	plain of Marathon
Spartan	arrow	postman	ships
			
	Persian soldier		
			

2. What's the order?

Listen to the story and put the sentences in order.



1

A Greek messenger, Pheidippides, ran to ask the Spartans for help, but they said no.

Now Pheidippides ran 40km to Athens to warn them that the Persians were coming.

In 490 B.C. the Persians wanted to take Athens from Greece.

Because of Pheidippides' 40km run to save Athens, the 'marathon' race was created.

There were 10,000 Greeks on the hill and 48,000 Persians on the plain of Marathon.

The Greeks and Persians fought. The Greeks won.

The Persians tried to escape by ship and go to Athens.

Pheidippides got to Athens with the message. Athens was safe, but then he died.



3. True or False.

Circle True or False for these sentences.

- a. The winner of the first modern marathon was Spiridon Louis in 1896. *True* *False*
- b. Spiridon Louis was a Greek postman, a messenger like Pheidippides. *True* *False*
- c. The fastest marathon ever was run in 59 minutes and 59 seconds. *True* *False*
- d. The first modern marathon started in the city of Marathon. *True* *False*
- e. There are 20 sports in the Olympics. *True* *False*
- f. In 2012, the Olympics were held in London. *True* *False*
- g. The first official Paralympics were held in 1970. *True* *False*



4. Write and draw!

Invent a sport for the Olympics! Write about the rules of the sport and what you have to do to win. Then draw a picture!

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