

The 2018 Winter Paralympic Games

The Winter Paralympics take place every four years, straight after the Winter Olympics. In 2018, the Winter Paralympics will take place in PyeongChang, South Korea, beginning on 9th March and ending on 18th March with a closing ceremony.

There will be 670 athletes taking part in the event from 80 countries.

Paralympic History

The Paralympic Games began in 1948 for injured soldiers from the Second World War. The purpose of the Paralympic Games was to create a sports competition for people with physical injuries which would be equal to the Olympic Games. Now, the Paralympics is open to people with physical and mental impairments.

The Paralympic Sports

There are six sports in the Winter Paralympics. They are alpine skiing, biathlon, cross-country skiing, ice sledge hockey, snowboarding and wheelchair curling.

The Athletes

Athletes who take part in the Winter Paralympics have a physical disability. This means that some athletes will need to use different equipment or have support from others, so that they can take part.

A blind skier will have a guide telling them information about the slope.

The Medals

There will be gold, silver and bronze medals to be won. They are designed with the Paralympic logo on one side and more traditional South Korean patterns of clouds, mountains, wind and wood on the other side.



Did You Know...?

The 2018 Winter Paralympics mascot is called Bandabi.

It is based on an Asiatic black bear.

The bear is symbolic of having a strong will, courage and determination.

Asiatic black bears have a white half-moon on their chest. The mascot also has a half-moon shape on its chest.

Questions

1. What year did the Paralympics begin? Tick one.

2000

1984

1948

2. Where will the 2018 Winter Paralympics take place? Tick one.

Phuket

Pakistan

PyeongChang

3. Find and copy one word which means **being the same as**.

4. Match up the sentences.

There are 80

on the 9th March.

There are 670

countries taking part.

The Winter Paralympics begin

athletes taking part.

5. What will **not** be displayed on the Winter Paralympic medals? Tick one.

wind

mountains

rivers

6. What does the mascot of the Winter Paralympics represent?

7. Name two things that some of the Paralympic Games athletes might have when taking part in the sports?

8. Which definition is closest in meaning to **logo**? Tick one.

a small design used by an organisation

a medal

a guide

Answers

1. What year did the Paralympics begin? Tick one.

2000

1984

1948

2. Where will the 2018 Winter Paralympics take place? Tick one.

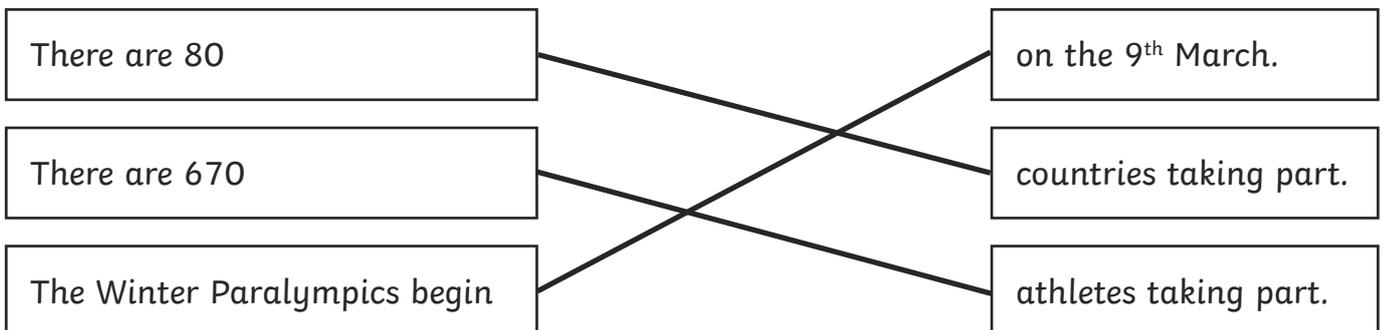
Phuket

Pakistan

PyeongChang

3. Find and copy one word which means **being the same as**.
equal

4. Match up the sentences.



5. What will **not** be displayed on the Winter Paralympic medals? Tick one.

wind

mountains

rivers

6. What does the mascot of the Winter Paralympics represent?

The mascot of the Winter Paralympics represents strong will, courage and determination.

7. Name two things that some of the Paralympic Games athletes might have when taking part in the sports?

Some of the Paralympic Games athletes might have different equipment or support from others.

8. Which definition is closest in meaning to **logo**? Tick one.



a small design used by an organisation



a medal



a guide

The 2018 Winter Paralympic Games

Every four years, the Winter Paralympics take place straight after the Winter Olympics. The Paralympics are for athletes who have a physical disability which means that these Games are organised in a different way to the Olympics and with fewer sports.

In 2018, the Winter Paralympics will take place in PyeongChang, South Korea. They will begin on 9th March and end on 18th March. There will be 670 athletes taking part in the event from 80 countries, all hoping to win one or more of the 80 medals available.

Paralympic History

The first Olympic Games took place over 2700 years ago in Greece but the first Paralympic Games did not occur until 1948; they were for injured soldiers from the Second World War to take part in. The purpose of the modern Paralympic Games is to create a sports competition for people with physical and mental impairments which would be equal to the Olympic Games.



The Paralympic Athletes

The different athletes have a range of impairments so they may need to use equipment to allow them to participate; some may need to have a guide with them. A skier with impaired vision will need a guide to ski beside them to give them information about the ski slope.

There are clear guidelines regarding the type of equipment that can be used. This is to make sure that the competition remains fair and that no rules are broken.

There are six sports in the Winter Paralympics. The sports are in subcategories depending on whether the athletes are men or women, whether they will be sitting or standing and the type of impairment they have. A blind skier will have a guide telling them information about the slope.

Did You Know...?

The 2018 Winter Paralympics mascot is Bandabi.

It is based on an Asiatic black bear. These bears have a white crescent on their chest. The mascot also has a half-moon shape on its chest.

The Asiatic black bear is symbolic of having a strong will, courage and determination.

The Medals

The medals are designed with the Paralympic logo on one side and traditional South Korean patterns of clouds, mountains, wind and wood on the other side.

The text on the medals is written in Hangeul, the official writing system of Korea. The strap is made from gapsa, a traditional South Korean fabric, and the design of the box each medal is stored in is based on traditional Korean houses called hanok.



Questions

1. Using the first two paragraphs, write three facts about the Winter Paralympics.

2. Who took part in the first Paralympic Games? Tick one.

soldiers from the Second World War

soldiers from the First World War

soldiers from Greece

3. Write a synonym for the word in bold.

The **purpose** of the Paralympic Games was to create a sports competition for disabled people which would be equal to the Olympic Games.

4. Why might some Paralympic athletes be allowed to use different equipment?

5. Find and copy one word that means a **half-moon shape**.

6. Why might a skier with impaired vision in the Winter Paralympics need a guide to give them information about the slope?

7. Explain why there are subcategories for athletes entering some of the Winter Paralympic sports.

Questions

8. How could it be said that the Asiatic black bear is a good animal to choose as the mascot of the Winter Paralympics?

9. Tick all the true statements.

The first Paralympic Games took place in Greece.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The mascot for the 2018 Winter Paralympics is called Bandabi.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The 2018 Winter Paralympics will finish on 18 th March.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The medals have an illustration of fish on one side.	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. Which fact has interested you the most? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Using the first two paragraphs, write three facts about the Winter Paralympics.

Accept any three of the following: The Winter Paralympics will take place in PyeongChang, South Korea; The Winter Paralympics begin on 9th March and end on 18th March; 670 athletes are taking part; Athletes will come from 80 countries; There are 80 medals available to win.

2. Who took part in the first Paralympic Games? Tick one.

soldiers from the Second World War

soldiers from the First World War

soldiers from Greece

3. Write a synonym for the word in bold.

The **purpose** of the Paralympic Games was to create a sports competition for disabled people which would be equal to the Olympic Games.

Accept any suitable synonym, such as: function, intention, aim.

4. Why might some Paralympic athletes be allowed to use different equipment?

Some Paralympic athletes might be allowed to use different equipment for support as there are a range of disabilities that the athletes may have.

5. Find and copy one word that means a **half-moon shape**.

crescent

6. Why might a skier with impaired vision in the Winter Paralympics need a guide to give them information about the slope?

A skier with impaired vision may need a guide to give them information about the slope because they cannot see clearly. There might be things sticking up out of the snow or there might be a sharp drop which they need warning about.

7. Explain why there are subcategories for athletes entering some of the Winter Paralympic sports.

There are subcategories in some of the sports because the athletes have different types of disabilities. This means some will be sitting or standing so the aim is to keep the competition fair.

8. How could it be said that the Asiatic black bear is a good animal to choose as the mascot of the Winter Paralympics?

The Asiatic black bear is symbolic of having a strong will, courage and determination. These are qualities which the Paralympic athletes need to have to try to win at their chosen sport.

9. Tick all the true statements.

The first Paralympic Games took place in Greece.	✓
The mascot for the 2018 Winter Paralympics is called Bandabi.	
The 2018 Winter Paralympics will finish on 18 th March.	✓
The medals have an illustration of fish on one side.	

10. Which fact has interested you the most? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses with explanation.

The 2018 Winter Paralympic Games

Every four years, the Winter Olympics take place and are immediately followed by the Winter Paralympics. The Paralympics are for athletes who have a physical or mental impairment. This means that these Games are organised in a different way to the Olympics and involve fewer sports.

In 2018, the Winter Paralympics will take place in the host city of PyeongChang, South Korea, after the Winter Olympics have ended. It will begin with an opening ceremony on 9th March and end with an elaborate closing ceremony on 18th March. There will be 670 athletes participating in the event, from 80 countries, all vying for one of the 80 medals available to win.

Paralympic History

The Paralympic Games originally began in 1948 for veterans of the Second World War, who were injured in service. The intention behind the Paralympic Games was to create a sports competition for people with physical and mental impairments that would be the equivalent to the Olympic Games.



The Paralympic Athletes

Due to the range of impairments, some athletes will need different equipment to enable them to take part, or they may have guidance from others. A skier with impaired vision will require a guide to ski alongside them to provide information about the terrain. There are specific guidelines regarding the type of equipment that can be used to ensure fairness and that no rules are violated.

There are six sports for athletes to compete in during the Winter Paralympics. The sports are in subcategories depending on whether the entrants are men or women, whether they will be

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The 2018 Winter Paralympics mascot is Bandabi.

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sitting or standing and the type of disability they have. Within most of the sports, there are a number of different events. For example, the alpine skiing category includes events for slalom, giant slalom, super giant slalom and downhill. The biathlon combines cross-country skiing and shooting. This was part of military training in Norway before it became an official sport.

The Medals

The medals are designed with the Paralympic logo on one side and traditional South Korean patterns of clouds, mountains, wind and wood on the other side.

The text on the medals is written in Hangeul, a system of writing which dates back to the fifteenth century. The strap is made from gapsa, a traditional South Korean fabric that clothing can be made from. The design of the box each medal is stored in is based on traditional Korean houses called hanok.



Questions

1. Explain why you think the Paralympic Games are a separate event to the Olympic Games.

2. Look at the second paragraph. Identify the main points in this paragraph.

3. Which word is closest in meaning to **vying**? Tick one.

- support
- compete
- assist

4. Explain why you think the idea for the original Paralympic Games involved Second World War veterans?

5. Use a dictionary to write a definition for each of these words.

veteran: _____

terrain: _____

intention: _____

6. Do you think the Asiatic black bear is a suitable choice for the 2018 Winter Paralympics mascot? Explain your opinion.

Questions

7. Rewrite the following sentence, using synonyms for the words in bold.

There are **specific** guidelines regarding the type of equipment that can be used to **ensure** fairness and that no rules are **violated**.

8. Tick true or false for the following statements.

	True	False
Athletes will take part in the same event, regardless of whether they sit or stand.		
A skier who is blind will have a guide skier beside them.		
The Winter Paralympics is just for athletes who have been injured in war.		
The biathlon is a sport which includes shooting and skiing.		

9. Explain why the design of the medals is significant to the Winter Paralympics.

10. What benefits do you think the Winter Paralympics could have?

Answers

1. Explain why you think the Paralympic Games are a separate event to the Olympic Games.

The Paralympic Games are a separate event to the Olympic Games because the Paralympics are for people with a physical or mental impairment.

2. Look at the second paragraph. Identify the main points in this paragraph.

The main points in this paragraph are: The Winter Paralympics will take place in PyeongChang; The event runs from 9th to 18th March; There will be 670 athletes taking part from 80 countries.

3. Which word is closest in meaning to **vying**? Tick one.

support

compete

assist

4. Explain why you think the idea for the original Paralympic Games involved Second World War veterans?

I think the idea for the Paralympic Games came about after the Second World War because there were so many injured soldiers who needed to do something with their time or do something energetic, that training for the Paralympic Games gave them a positive focus to work towards.

5. Use a dictionary to write a definition for each of these words.

veteran: **a person who has served in the armed forces.**

terrain: **a stretch of land with particular features.**

intention: **an aim or a plan.**

6. Do you think the Asiatic black bear is a suitable choice for the 2018 Winter Paralympics mascot? Explain your opinion.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the Asiatic black bear is a suitable choice for the 2018 Winter Paralympic mascot because it represents strong will, courage and determination. These qualities are what all the athletes need to have to compete.

7. Rewrite the following sentence, using synonyms for the words in bold.

There are **specific** guidelines regarding the type of equipment that can be used to **ensure** fairness and that no rules are **violated**.

Accept any suitable response, such as: There are clear guidelines regarding the type of equipment that can be used to guarantee fairness and that no rules are breached.

8. Tick true or false for the following statements.

	True	False
Athletes will take part in the same event, regardless of whether they sit or stand.		✓
A skier who is blind will have a guide skier beside them.		✓
The Winter Paralympics is just for athletes who have been injured in war.		✓
The biathlon is a sport which includes shooting and skiing.	✓	

9. Explain why the design of the medals is significant to the Winter Paralympics.

The medals have been designed with aspects of South Korean traditions. For example, images of the surrounding areas of mountains have been included in the design, as well as the traditional language, material and housing. The design is significant to the event because it is taking place in South Korea.

10. What benefits do you think the Winter Paralympics could have?

Pupils' own responses, such as: The Winter Paralympics could raise awareness of certain types of impairments and promote more involvement in sport from people who have an impairment.