

# Unusual Olympic Sports

Throughout its history, the Olympic Games have held a range of strange and unusual competitions that we no longer take part in today.

**Rope Climb:** Stopped in 1932, this was an event in which competitors had to climb up a rope as quickly and as stylishly as possible. The most impressive winner was George Eyser in 1904, who won gold despite having a wooden leg!

**Tug of War:** At every Olympic Games until 1920, teams of eight men would have to pull their opponents six feet over a line on the floor.

**Swimming Obstacle Race:** This event only happened in the 1900 Olympics. Swimmers had to climb over a pole and a row of boats, before swimming under another row of boats towards the finish line.



# Quick Questions



1. Find and copy two adverbs which describe how competitors had to climb up the rope.

---



2. In what year did the only Swimming Obstacle Race take place?

---



3. Why was George Eyser's gold medal win the "most impressive?" Explain your answer.

---

---

---



4. How do these sports compare to Olympic events we see today?

---

---

---

# Unusual Olympic Sports

Throughout its history, the Olympic Games have held a range of strange and unusual competitions that we no longer take part in today.

**Rope Climb:** Stopped in 1932, this was an event in which competitors had to climb up a rope as quickly and as stylishly as possible. The most impressive winner was George Eyser in 1904, who won gold despite having a wooden leg!

**Tug of War:** At every Olympic Games until 1920, teams of eight men would have to pull their opponents six feet over a line on the floor.

**Swimming Obstacle Race:** This event only happened in the 1900 Olympics. Swimmers had to climb over a pole and a row of boats, before swimming under another row of boats towards the finish line.



# Answers



1. Find and copy two adverbs which describe how competitors had to climb up the rope.  
**quickly, stylishly**



2. In what year did the only Swimming Obstacle Race take place?  
**1900**



3. Why was George Eyser's gold medal win the "most impressive?" Explain your answer.  
**It would be challenging to climb the rope with a wooden leg.**



4. How do these sports compare to Olympic events we see today?  
**Answers will vary.**