

Speaking:

1. Do you think the Olympics are a good thing or a waste of money?
2. What are your (least) favourite Olympic events? Why?
3. Should Buenos Aires try to host the Olympics?

Pitching for the Opening Ceremony - Buenos Aires 2020

What aspects of life in Buenos Aires and Argentina would you represent at the ceremony? How would you do it?

Prepare a three minute presentation outlining your bid to organize the opening ceremony.

1 August 2012 Last updated at 19:23 GMT

GB gold medal winners honoured with special stamp



Bradley Wiggins features on a stamp after winning the cycling time trial

Great Britain's first gold medal winners of the London 2012 Olympics are being honoured 1) _____ special stamps, which are being rushed 2) _____ by Thursday lunchtime.

Helen Glover and Heather Stanning rowed to a stunning win 3) _____ the women's pairs on Wednesday, 4) _____ the first British women 5) _____ to win rowing gold.

Gold medal 6) _____ cyclist Bradley Wiggins will also be honoured with his 7) _____ stamp after finishing first in the men's time trial 8) _____.

Wiggins has become the 9) _____ decorated Olympian in British history, with a total of seven medals.

The special edition stamps are being printed and are due 10) _____ sale at 500 Post Offices 11) _____ the United Kingdom on Thursday.

Royal Mail has pledged to issue a stamp for 12) _____ Team GB gold during the Games.

Glover and Stanning are the first all-female sports team to appear on a Royal Mail stamp.

A fleet of 90 Royal Mail vans will deliver the stamps across 13) _____ of the UK by early afternoon on Thursday, including Glover's home town of Penzance in Cornwall, but not reaching Stanning's home town of Lossiemouth in the north-east of Scotland until Friday.

14) _____ both towns will have a post box turned gold in an overnight paint job.

The stamps cost 15) _____ normal first class price of 60p.

Retrieved from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-19083289> on 1/8/12

Speaking - Two minute talk:

Olympic Games have been an important feature of peace-making in the world

- unity
- sportsmanship
- organisation

Olympic Games are an investment in future generations

- inspiration
- infrastructure
- future funding

Use of English – Word Formation

1 August 2012 Last updated at 15:01 GMT

Bradley Wiggins wins Olympics gold in cycling time trial

Bradley Wiggins claimed a British record seventh Olympic medal with a 1) _____ gold in the men's time trial.

The **Tour de France winner** stopped the clock at 50 minutes 39 seconds for the 44km course.

This was a convincing 42 seconds quicker than Germany's world champion Tony Martin, and 68 seconds faster than British team-mate Chris Froome, 2) _____ to Wiggins in Paris 10 days ago.

Wiggins' seven Olympic medals - four golds, a silver and two bronzes - give him one more than rowing great Sir Steve Redgrave.

"I don't think my sporting career will ever top this now," said Wiggins. "That's it. It will never, never get better than that. Incredible."

He added: "It had to be gold today or nothing. What's the point of seven medals if they're not the right colour?"

"The main number is that is gold number four. So I have got to carry on to Rio now and make it five. Just to be mentioned in the same breath as Sir Steve Redgrave and Sir Chris Hoy is very special."

Comparisons between different eras and sports are 3) _____ subjective, but Wiggins' results in 2012 put him among a select group of British sports heroes.

His victory at the Tour, the first by a British rider, was already an achievement of historic 4) _____, but to back that up with a fourth gold medal - in three different events, across three Games - is 5) _____ in cycling history.

At the 2000 Sydney Olympics he was part of the group that won the bronze medal in the team pursuit event, following that up in Athens by becoming the first Briton in 40 years to win three medals at a Games, before winning the pursuit and team pursuit in Beijing.

British 6) _____ Chris Boardman, whose 1992 individual pursuit gold inspired a young Wiggins, is in no doubt as to where the 32-year-old Londoner's achievements should be ranked.

"His sporting performances this year have been 7) _____," said Boardman. "The greatest British cyclist of all time, I have no qualms about saying that. One of the top British sportsmen, also."

8) _____ in time trials of this distance since losing to Martin at the 2011 World Championships in Copenhagen, Wiggins came into this race as the bookies' favourite. That status might faze some, but the Chorley-based cyclist has been dealing with rising expectations all year.

9) _____ down on his German rival at the first time check at 9km, he did not panic. His body position, all important in this discipline, remained perfectly aerodynamic as he turned his pedals with 10) _____ efficiency and power.

By 18km, he was 11 seconds up; at 29km, his lead was 23 seconds. There was no catching him then, as he was roared home by a massive crowd.

What was in doubt, though, was if the Kenyan-born Froome could claim a one-two finish to match the pair's Tour de France exploits.

But the impressive Martin, who has suffered two serious injuries this season, gritted his teeth to split the Team GB stars.

Taylor Phinney picked up a second fourth-place finish in London 2012's road cycling events - an 11) _____ return for the talented American - while defending champion Fabian Cancellara could only manage seventh.

A special mention also to Luis Leon Sanchez Gil. The unfortunate Spaniard, an outside medal hope, saw his chain snap as he accelerated away from the starting ramp, before puncturing a tyre out on the course.

But this day belonged to one man, the owner of what French newspaper L'Equipe has described "as the most famous sideburns since Elvis Presley", and probably the 12) _____ of British sport's next knighthood.

Retrieved from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/0/olympics/18905559?print=true> on 1/8/12

1 sense

2 run

3 note

4 portion

5 parallel

6 blaze

7 cede

8 beat

9 margin

10 match

11 agony

12 receive