

Sports events that could have become a milestone in the world's history:

Two Koreas to share flag for Winter Olympics 2018

South and North Korea have agreed to use the same flag at Winter Olympics 2018. The Olympics took place between the 9th and 25th of February in the South Korean city of PyeongChang. Many people were worried about what might happen when the North Korean team attended the games. Tensions between the two countries have been very high recently because North Korea has tested many missiles. However, there have been high-level talks between the North and the South. Both sides have decided to use a "unified Korea" flag at the games. In addition, they agreed to enter a joint ice hockey team. This cooperation could mean that relations between the two countries could be improving. The thaw in relations between the two countries could open the door for more peace talks. The Korean peninsula has been divided since the 1950-53 Korean War. In the past few decades, there have been many attempts at improving ties between the two. The Winter Olympics could have helped this. The games meant the cross-border road would open for the first time in two years. However, not all Koreans were happy with this news. Tens of thousands of people have signed online petitions asking President Moon Jae-in to forget about the plan. South Korea's hockey coach was not happy because he said a united hockey team could damage South Korea's chances of winning a medal.

Sources:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/worldasia42721417>

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2018/01/356_242637.html

<http://edition.cnn.com/2018/01/16/opinions/olympics-diplomacy-north-korea-lemmon-opinion/index.html>

A. WARM-UPS

1. OLYMPICS EVENTS:

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- curling
- cross-country skiing
- figure skating
- ski jumping
- speed skating
- slalom skiing
- ice hockey
- bobsleigh

B. VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. agreed | a. A weapon that flies through the air to hit buildings or cities. |
| 2. attended | b. Make or become united or whole. |
| 3. recently | c. Had the same opinion as someone else about doing something. |
| 4. missiles | d. The way in which two or more things or people are joined or connected. |
| 5. unified | e. Went to an event, meeting or function. |
| 6. cooperation | f. At a time in the past that was not long ago. |
| 7. relations | g. The process of working together for the same reason. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 8. thaw | h. A written request signed by many people to ask the government to change or stop something. |
| 9. peninsula | i. Make something friendlier and less angry. |
| 10. divided | j. An area of land almost surrounded by water or sticking out into an ocean, sea or lake. |
| 11. decades | k. Making or becoming better. |
| 12. improving | l. A period of ten years. |
| 13. border | m. Split or separated into two or more parts. |
| 14. petitions | n. The line between two countries, cities, towns, etc. |

C. BEFORE READING / LISTENING

1. TRUE / FALSE:

Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The Koreas agreed to share the same flag at the 2022 Winter Olympics. **T / F**
- b. The Olympics will be held in a city in South Korea. **T / F**
- c. Relations have been strained recently due to North Korean missile tests. **T / F**
- d. There was a joint Korean ice hockey team at the Winter Olympics. **T / F**
- e. The article says there has been a thaw in relations between the Koreas. **T / F**
- f. The Koreas became divided before a war that started in 1950. **T / F**
- g. The cross-border road between the Koreas will stay closed this year. **T / F**
- h. S. Korea's ice hockey coach is happy about his team's medal chances. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

(The words in bold are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. agreed to | a. concerned |
| 2. take place | b. joint |
| 3. worried | c. discussions |
| 4. talks | d. melt |
| 5. improving | e. tries |
| 6. thaw | f. decided on |
| 7. divided | g. opportunities |
| 8. attempts | h. getting better |
| 9. united | i. happen |
| 10. chances | j. split |

3. PHRASE MATCH:

(Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. South and North Korea have agreed to | a. in relations |
| 2. Tensions between the two countries | b. for more peace talks |
| 3. there have been high- | c. ice hockey team |
| 4. they agreed to enter a joint | d. online petitions |
| 5. relations between the two countries could | e. use the same flag |
| 6. The thaw | f. level talks |
| 7. open the door | g. border road will open |
| 8. the cross- | h. be improving |
| 9. thousands of people have signed | i. of winning a medal |
| 10. damage South Korea's chances | j. have been very high |

D. GAP FILL

South and North Korea have (1)_____ to use the same flag at next month's Winter Olympics. The Olympics will take (2)_____ between the 9th and 25th of February in the South Korean city of PyeongChang. Many people were (3)_____ about what might happen when the North Korean team (4)_____ the games. Tensions between the two countries have been very high recently because North Korea has tested many (5)_____. However, there have been high-level (6)_____ between the North and the South. Both sides have decided to use a "unified Korea" flag at the games. In addition, they agreed to enter a (7)_____ ice hockey team. This cooperation could mean that relations between the two countries could be (8)_____.

place missiles improving agreed attended joint worried talks

The (9)_____ in relations between the two countries could open the door for more peace talks. The Korean (10)_____ has been divided since the 1950-53 Korean War. In the past few (11)_____, there have been many (12)_____ at improving ties between the two. The Winter Olympics could help this. The games mean the cross-(13)_____ road will open for the first time in two years. However, not all Koreans are happy with this news. Tens of thousands of people have signed online (14)_____ asking President Moon Jae-in to forget about the (15)_____. South Korea's hockey coach is not happy because he said a united hockey team could damage South Korea's (16)_____ of winning a medal.

decades plan thaw border chances peninsula petitions attempts

E. ROLE PLAY

Role A –Curling

You think curling is the best Winter Olympics sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): figure skating, ice hockey or bobsleigh.

Role B –Figure Skating

You think figure skating is the best Winter Olympics sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): curling, ice hockey or bobsleigh.

Role C –Ice Hockey

You think ice hockey is the best Winter Olympics sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): figure skating, curling or bobsleigh.

Role D –Bobsleigh

You think bobsleigh is the best Winter Olympics sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): figure skating, ice hockey or curling

F. LISTENING –

Listen and fill in the gaps

South and North Korea (1)_____ use the same flag at next month's Winter Olympics. The Olympics will take place between the 9th and 25th of February in the South Korean city of PyeongChang. Many people were worried about (2)_____ when the North Korean team attended the games. Tensions between the two countries have been very high recently because North Korea has (3)_____. However, there have been (4)_____ between the North and the South. Both sides have (5)_____ a "unified Korea" flag at the games. In addition, they agreed to enter a joint ice hockey team. This cooperation could mean that relations between the two countries (6)_____. The (7)_____ between the two countries could open the door for more peace talks. The Korean peninsula has (8)_____ the 1950-53 Korean War. In the past few decades, there have been many attempts (9)_____ between the two. The Winter Olympics could help this. The games mean the cross-border road will open for (10)_____ in two years. However, not all Koreans are happy with this news. Tens of thousands of people have signed (11)_____ asking President Moon Jae-in to forget about the plan. South Korea's hockey coach is not happy because he said a united hockey team could damage South Korea's (12)_____ a medal.

G. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS:

1. When did the 2018 Winter Olympics begin?
2. In which country did the 2018 Winter Olympics take place?
3. What has North Korea been testing recently?
4. What kind of talks did the article say the Koreas had?
5. In what sport will the Koreas have a joint team for?
6. What could the thaw in relations open?
7. When was the Korean War?
8. What will open for the first time in two years?
9. What have people been signing?
10. Who was not happy according to the article?

H. AFTER READING / LISTENING

5. TEST EACH OTHER:

Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

•agreed •city •high •decided •addition •mean •door •since •few •border •online •medal

I. LANGUAGE - CLOZE

South and North Korea have (1)___to use the same flag at next month's Winter Olympics. The Olympics will (2)___place between the 9th and 25th of February in the South Korean city of PyeongChang. Many people were worried about what might happen when the North Korean team (3)___the games. Tensions between the two countries have been very (4)___recently because North Korea has tested many missiles. However, there have been high-(5)___talks between the North and the South. Both sides have decided to use a "unified Korea" flag at the games. In addition, they agreed to enter a (6)___ice hockey team. This cooperation could mean that relations between the two countries could be improving. The (7)___in relations between the two countries could open the door for more peace talks. The Korean peninsula has been (8)___since the 1950-53 Korean War. In the past few decades, there have been many attempts at improving (9)___between the two. The Winter Olympics could help this. The games mean the cross-(10)___road will open for the first time in two years. However, not all Koreans are happy with this news. Tens of thousands of people have (11)___online petitions asking President Moon Jae-in to forget about the plan. South Korea's hockey coach is not happy because he said a united hockey team could damage South Korea's (12)___of winning a medal.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. (a) agreed | (b) agrees | (c) agreement | (d) agreeing |
| 2. (a) have | (b) do | (c) take | (d) give |
| 3. (a) attention | (b) attestation | (c) attended | (d) attribute |
| 4. (a) many | (b) much | (c) big | (d) high |
| 5. (a) level | (b) limit | (c) loving | (d) lever |
| 6. (a) jointed | (b) joint | (c) jaunt | (d) janitor |
| 7. (a) thorn | (b) Thor | (c) saw | (d) thaw |
| 8. (a) added | (b) divided | (c) multiplied | (d) subtracted |
| 9. (a) cords | (b) ropes | (c) ties | (d) cravats |
| 10. (a) boulder | (b) border | (c) bolder | (d) boarder |
| 11. (a) sung | (b) sang | (c) singed | (d) signed |
| 12. (a) changes | (b) chances | (c) chants | (d) chandeliers |

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