

Teacher Instructions:

Problem Title: Let the Games Begin...

The Main Problem: *Fifteen sports were chosen for the 2014 Winter Olympics, although there is always discussions to add more sports in future Games. You are the head of the International Olympic Committee. What criteria should be used when selecting new sports for the Games, and which sports might be the best additions?*



What sport should make the cut?

Students will review criteria used by the International Olympic Committee for choosing sports

Step ①

**Review
Stimulus**

Stimulus Item #1: "Questions to Consider when Evaluating Sports"

Stimulus Item #2: "Winter Olympic Sports – Existing and Possible Options" (list)

Stimulus Item #3: "Ski-Jumping - Our Olympic Story" (Article)

***Students should take notes as they review the Stimulus Items*

Step ②

**Classroom
Discussion**

Lead a **class discussion** about issues related to the topic. You are being provided a sheet to help you guide the classroom discussion.

Step ③

**Student
Response**

Extended Response Items: Have students answer the following questions using the online assessment system. Remind students to use information from the Stimulus Items to support their response.

- 1) **What are the most important factors that should be considered when choosing a sport to become part of the Olympic Games?**
- 2) **What new sport should be added to the Olympic Games? Will any modifications need to be made from the way the sport is played now? Why is this sport the best selection?**

****students should have access to their notes as they enter their answers*

****students may also have access to the Stimulus Items as they enter their answers*

Product Option: Divide students into groups, with each group preparing to meet with the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The groups must **write a "Formal Request"** to include a new sport in future Winter Games. This request should describe the sport and explain why it is being chosen as a new addition to the Games (consider why the sport itself is appropriate, as well as how including it will help the future of the Olympic Games). Share the requests with the rest of the class who will serve as the deciding members of the IOC and will vote on which sports to include.

Step ④

Analysis

Rubrics to grade student entries have been provided, and all questions have been mapped to the content standards. Results can be analyzed through the online system.