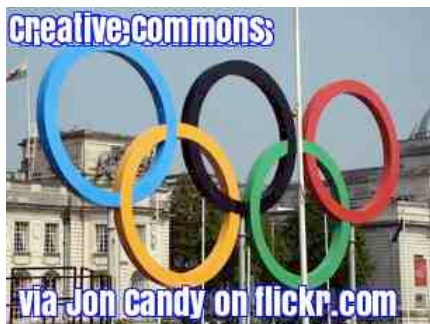


Rio Olympics medal predictions

4th August, 2016



The worldwide banking company Goldman Sachs has taken a break from guessing what will happen to the world's economy. Economists from the company have put their heads

together and made predictions about how many medals different countries will win at the 2016 Rio Olympics. Their predictions contain no real surprises. Most people could predict that the USA and China will win the most medals. Perhaps a slight surprise is that Goldman Sachs is predicting Great Britain will finish third, as they did in the 2012 London Olympics. The economists predicted 23 gold medals for team GB and 59 medals in total. They also predict that the world's second most populous country, India, will win just one gold medal.

There is good news for host nation Brazil. The country that hosts the Olympics usually gets 50 per cent more golds than usual, and 20 per cent more medals in total. Goldman Sachs predicts that Brazil will get a record 22 medals, including five golds. This would be Brazil's best ever performance in an Olympic games. The economists also predicted the Olympics would benefit Brazil's economy. They said: "As the country welcomes thousands of athletes and visitors and cheers the local favorites, it silently hopes that the soaring Olympic spirit will also help lift the spirits of the Brazilian economy." The 2016 Rio Olympics, Brazil-style, is sure to be one of the best ever.

Sources: *BusinessInsider.com / Bloomberg / CNBC*

Writing

The Olympics is the greatest show on Earth. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

banking / take a break / medals / Rio Olympics / predictions / surprises / India / gold / good news / hosts / 50 per cent / performance / benefit / athletes / visitors / spirits

True / False

- A bank has made predictions about which countries will win medals. T / F
- Economists at the bank worked together to make the predictions. T / F
- There are many big surprises in the predictions. T / F
- The bank predicted that India would win just one gold medal. T / F
- There was some bad news for Brazil. T / F
- Host nations usually win around 50% more medals than usual. T / F
- One of the predictions was that Brazil would win five gold medals. T / F
- The economists said the Olympics would not lift spirits. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. break | a. best ever |
| 2. predictions | b. small |
| 3. contain | c. increasing |
| 4. slight | d. nation |
| 5. country | e. rest |
| 6. record | f. gain |
| 7. performance | g. certain |
| 8. benefit | h. forecasts |
| 9. soaring | i. achievement |
| 10. sure | j. include |

Discussion – Student A

- How do you think it feels to win a gold medal?
- What kind of atmosphere will there be in Rio?
- What do you think of the ban on Russian athletes?
- How do you feel when you hear your national anthem at the Olympics?
- What do you think of athletes staying away because of the Zika virus?
- Is the Olympics the greatest sporting event in the world?
- Will the 2020 Tokyo Olympics be better than the 2016 Rio Olympics?
- What questions would you like to ask the head of the Olympics?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. put their heads | a. for host nation Brazil |
| 2. Their predictions contain no | b. populous country |
| 3. Great Britain will finish | c. ever performance |
| 4. win just | d. the spirits |
| 5. the world's second most | e. real surprises |
| 6. There is good news | f. together |
| 7. The country that | g. visitors |
| 8. This would be Brazil's best | h. one gold medal |
| 9. athletes and | i. hosts the Olympics |
| 10. help lift | j. third |

Discussion – Student B

- What are your predictions for the Olympics?
- How well do you think your country will do?
- What do you think of the Olympics?
- How good will Rio be at hosting the Olympics?
- What is your favourite Olympic sport and why?
- What is the 'Olympics spirit'?
- Which is best – the 100-metres or the marathon?
- Why does a country as big as India get so few medals?

Spelling

- The ldwwordie banking company
- different orstuince
- Their predictions nnoacit no real surprises
- A hltisg surprise
- Great Britain will finish idrrht
- the world's second most ulupposo country
- There is good news for host otnani Brazil
- Brazil's best ever opfnmrracee
- the country lweocesm thousands
- etsetahl and visitors
- cheers the lloca favorites
- lift the srpsiti of the Brazilian economy

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. h	3. j	4. b	5. d
6. a	7. i	8. f	9. c	10. g

Role Play

Role A – Canoeing

You think canoeing is the most exciting Olympic sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports are not that exciting. Also, tell the others which is the most boring of these (and why): the 100 metres, equestrian events or shooting.

Role B – 100 metres

You think the 100 metres is the most exciting Olympic sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports are not that exciting. Also, tell the others which is the most boring of these (and why): canoeing, equestrian events or shooting.

Role C – Equestrian

You think equestrian is the most exciting Olympic sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports are not that exciting. Also, tell the others which is the most boring of these (and why): the 100 metres, canoeing or shooting.

Role D – Shooting

You think shooting is the most exciting Olympic sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports are not that exciting. Also, tell the others which is the most boring of these (and why): the 100 metres, equestrian events or canoeing.

Speaking – Olympic sports

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

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| • canoe | • swimming |
| • heptathlon | • equestrian |
| • 100 metres | • weightlifting |
| • boxing | • shooting |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.