

The Outstanding Olympics

11 Do you believe that you have the power needed to compete
21 against men with Heracleian strength? Yes? Well, if I were
30 you, I would apply for this outstanding opportunity to
41 be a part of the Spartan Olympic team and honour Zeus
46 (the King of the Gods).

55 You will have the chance to choose between javelin,
62 discus, jumping, pankration (a combination of boxing
70 and wrestling), chariot racing or running. Strength of
80 mind and body are required for all events but especially
89 the marathon, when you will be required to run
97 bare-footed in memory of Phidippides, who helped win
105 the Battle of Marathon with his epic running.

109 Women need not apply.



Quick Questions



1. What is 'pankration'?



2. Find two words that are synonyms of each other.



3. Why does the author include a sentence in the subjunctive mood following the initial question?



4. Why do you think the advert ends with the phrase 'Women need not apply'?

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Answer



1. What is 'pankration'?

A combination of boxing and wrestling



2. Find two words that are synonyms of each other.

Accept 'power' and 'strength'



3. Why does the author include a sentence in the subjunctive mood following the initial question?

Accept a reasonable explanation focusing on the effect of this being to give advice to the reader to apply for the Olympics / to persuade.



4. Why do you think the advert ends with the phrase 'Women need not apply'?

Accept a reasonable explanation that focuses on the fact that 'men' are mentioned at the beginning of the advert, so these Olympics must be only for men/ women were not allowed to compete.