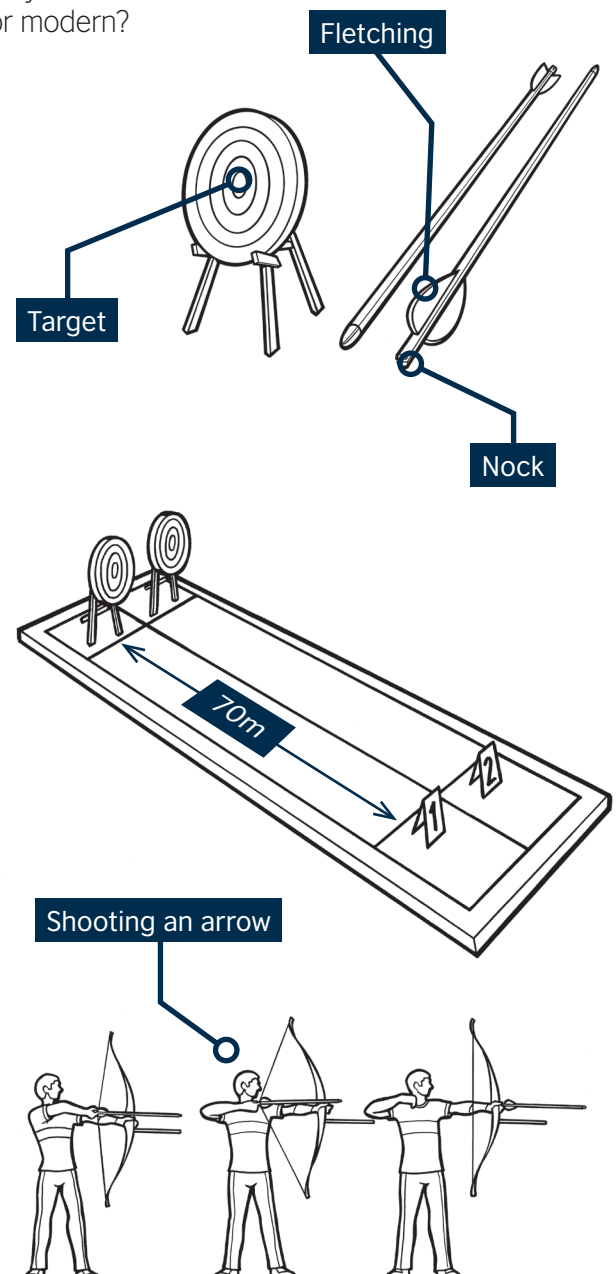
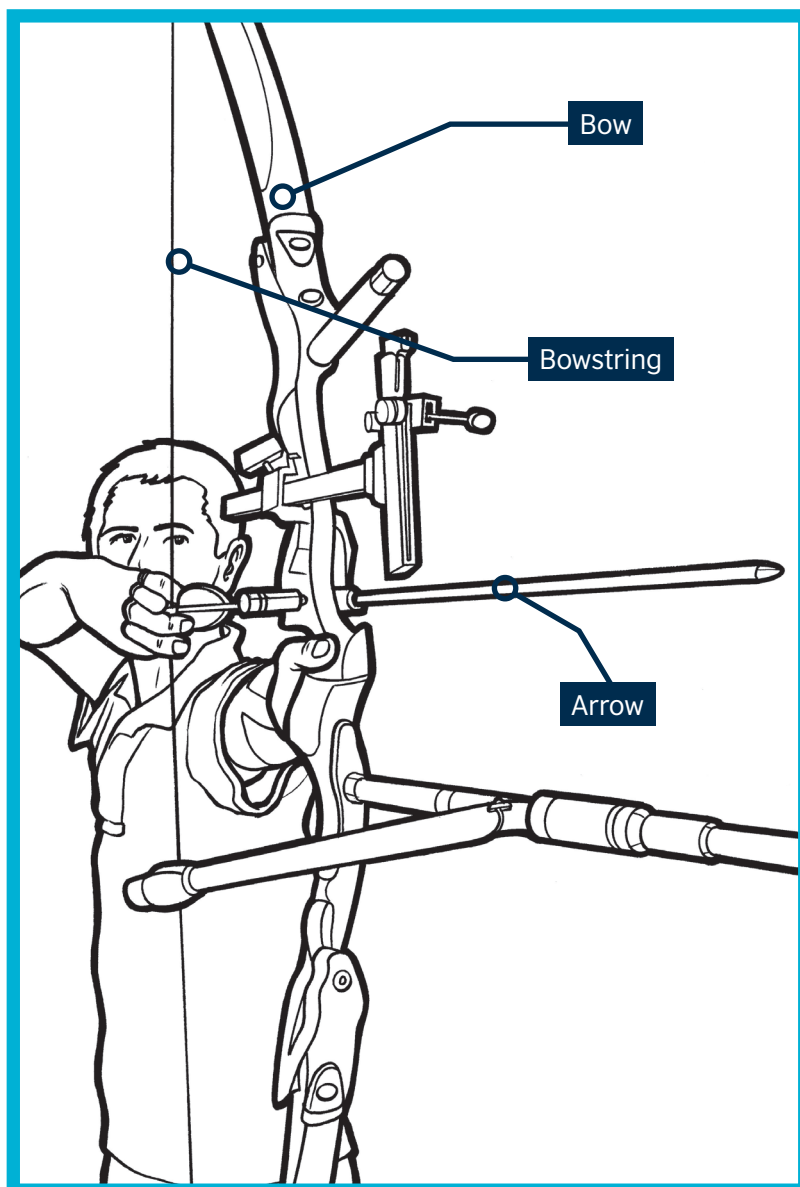


# Archery

When athletes come together from around the world to compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Games, they are fulfilling their dreams and competing at the highest level. Billions of people across the globe join in; watching, listening to and reading about the greatest global celebration of sport. To celebrate the London 2012 Games, the British Council is making a wide range of classroom resources available for learners of English worldwide.

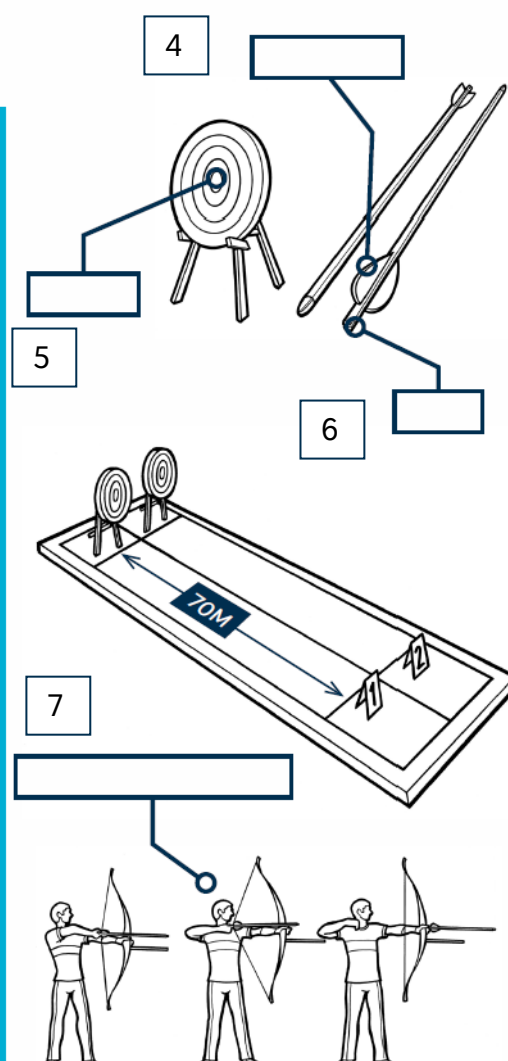
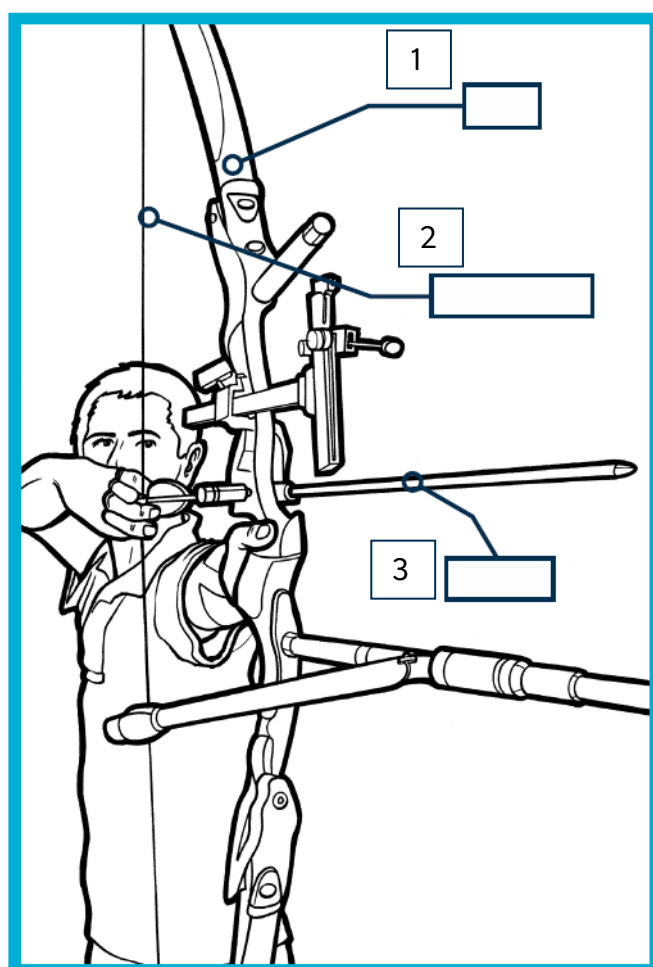
What do you know about archery? Do you like this sport? Why/why not?  
Is there a tradition of archery in your country? Are there any stories in your national history about archery? Do you know any famous archers – ancient or modern?



## 1. Vocabulary

a. Write the correct words in the spaces provided.

a. bow	b. nock	c. fletching	d. shooting an arrow
e. bowstring	f. arrow	g. target	



## 2. The rules of Archery

- There are individual and team competitions for both men and women.
- The target is placed at a distance of 70 metres.
- Preliminary rounds are held to select the best 8 archers for the finals.
- In the finals, archers shoot 4 ends of 3 arrows each.
- Time is important too. The archer has a 40-second time limit per arrow.
- The target has 10 rings, from very big on the outside to the small circle in the centre.
- Each ring on the target is worth from 1 to 10 points. The smallest, in the middle, is worth 10 points.
- The winner is the archer who scores most points.
- The results of the preliminary rounds in the individual competition are also used to select teams for the team events.
- In the team competition, each team has 3 archers.
- Each team shoots 3 ends of 9 arrows each. Each archer on the team shoots 1 end.
- Team members have 3 minutes each to finish their end.

### a. Match the words in the table with their definitions.

a. archer	b. arrow	c. bow	d. end
e. ring	f. round	g. target	

1. A circle on the target
2. A group of arrows shot in one sequence
3. A long curved piece of wood or other material, with a string attached to both ends, which is used to shoot arrows
4. A part of a competition
5. A person who shoots arrows from a bow for sport
6. A weapon that is like a long thin stick with a sharp point at one end which is shot from a bow
7. The object which the archers try and hit when they shoot each arrow

### 3. Questions & Answers

**Archery? What's that?**

A sport. You use a bow and shoot an arrow. You try to hit the target with the arrow.

**Didn't people do that 10,000 years ago?**

Yes. People had bows and arrows then in Japan, the Middle East and many other parts of the world. But it wasn't a sport. Soldiers used them in wars and hunters used them to shoot animals for food.

**Then what happened?**

In the 12th century people started making guns, which were much better than bows and arrows. So archery almost disappeared.

**'Almost'? What do you mean 'almost'?**

In the 1700s in England, medieval things became fashionable. Archery became popular again.

**Is this when archery became a sport?**

That's right. Archery competitions were a great social network then. Men and women used them to meet, flirt and fall in love.

**So if someone wanted to get married, it was a good idea to take up archery?**

Exactly. Apparently some people thought that women looked very beautiful when they were holding a bow!

**How exciting! So I suppose it was a very popular Olympic sport then?**

Not really. In the 1920 Olympics in Antwerp, Belgium, only three countries sent archers. And they were all men. And then there were no Olympic archery competitions for many years.

**Oh dear. So did archery go out of fashion again?**

Well, the real problem was that every country had its own rules about archery. Archery couldn't be an Olympic sport without international rules.

**And are there international rules now?**

Yes, there are. Archery became an Olympic sport again in the 1972 Olympics in Munich, Germany.

**So who are the best archers in the world nowadays?**

The South Koreans have dominated the sport for several years now. The current Olympic Men's Champion is Viktor Ruban from Ukraine. And China and Britain won several gold medals in the Paralympic archery events in the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

**a. Choose the correct answer to each of the following questions and statements.**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. What was archery originally used for?  | a. Fighting<br>b. Hunting<br>c. Social networking<br>d. Sport   |
| 2. Did archery disappear when guns were invented?   | a. Yes<br>b. No   |
| 3. According to the text, things from the Middle Ages became popular in the 1700s in England. | a. True<br>b. False   |
| 4. Only people who practised archery got married in the 1700s in England.                     | a. True<br>b. False   |
| 5. There were international rules for archery.  | a. 10,000 years ago.<br>b. at the 1920 Olympics in Antwerp.<br>c. at the 1972 Olympics in Munich.<br>d. at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.<br>e. in the 1700s in England. |

**b. Complete each question with one of the question words at the top.**

How	What	When	Where	Who	Why
-----	------	------	-------	-----	-----

- ..... did archery become a sport? In the 1700s.
- ..... are the best archers in the world nowadays? The South Koreans.
- ..... were the 1920 Olympics held? In Antwerp, Belgium.
- ..... was archery used for 10,000 years ago? Fighting and hunting.
- ..... did archery almost disappear? Because guns were invented.
- ..... did men and women used to meet in the 1700s in England? By going to archery competitions.

## 4. Solution

### Exercise 1a

1. a; 2. e; 3. f; 4. c; 5. g; 6. b; 7. d

### Exercise 2a

1. e; 2. d; 3. c; 4. f; 5. a; 6. b; 7. g

### Exercise 3a

1. a, b; 2. No; 3. True; 4. False; 5. c, d

### Exercise 3b

1. When; 2. Who; 3. Where; 4. What; 5. Why; 6. How