

# Shine Brighter 2de

## Shortfile 22 Together in sport

Extrait p. 187 : article adapté du site *funkidslive.com*.

### **Top 5 Facts About The Commonwealth!**

The Commonwealth is an international organisation of 56 countries that work together to promote democracy, human rights and development. Here are 5 facts about the Commonwealth, from the organisation's rich history to its modern-day importance.

#### **1. The Commonwealth originated from the British Empire.**

Lots of countries were once ruled by Britain. It was called the British Empire.

When these countries started to become independent, they still had a link to the United Kingdom. Indeed, the Queen was the Head of the Commonwealth until her death in 2022. Now, Charles is King and he's not just the King of the UK... He is the King of some of the Commonwealth countries, including Australia and Canada.

#### **2. The Commonwealth started in 1926.**

This is when it changed from the British Empire to the Commonwealth.

It was agreed that certain countries would still have the Queen as their Head of State, however the United Kingdom would not rule over them any longer.

#### **3. Around one third of the world is in the Commonwealth.**

Around one third of the world is a part of it!

There are around 2.5 billion people in Commonwealth countries.

#### **4. There are 56 countries in the Commonwealth.**

They are:

- In Africa: Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa...
- In America: Jamaica, Canada...
- In Oceania: Australia, New Zealand...
- In Asia: India, Sri Lanka...

And of course the United Kingdom!

**5. The Commonwealth Games is a sports event held every four years.**

The Commonwealth Games is also known as the Friendly Games. It's a sports event where all of the countries in the Commonwealth compete against each other. It's held every four years.

Adapted from *funkidslive.com*

Extrait p. 188 : article du site *polovalley.com*

A game for kings and queen Polo, often dubbed<sup>1</sup> as the “Sport of Kings,” boasts a rich tapestry of history, extending back over 2,000 years. It’s a game entwined<sup>2</sup> with nobility, strategic prowess<sup>3</sup>, and most importantly, the enduring partnership between horse and rider. Let’s journey back in time to explore the fascinating origins of this equestrian sport.

Around the 6th Century BC, in the expansive grasslands of Central Asia, the earliest forms of polo took root. Nomadic tribes, ancestors to the modern Mongols and Persians, played a rudimentary form of the game [...]. Fast-paced, physical, and requiring supreme equestrian skill, it was a means for warriors to hone<sup>4</sup> their cavalry skills, improve teamwork, and provide entertainment during times of peace.

But it was the British who globalized polo. British tea planters discovered the game in Manipur, India, in the 19th Century. Intrigued by this dynamic sport, they established the first polo club in Silchar in 1859. The sport, modified and codified, was transported back to England, where it took off among British aristocracy and military, becoming an emblem of the Empire’s power and sophistication.

Today, polo is played in over 77 countries, and while it retains an air of exclusivity, the sport has become more accessible to a broader audience. It’s more than a game; it’s a cultural phenomenon that embodies skill, strategy, and an unspoken bond between horse and rider. Its rich history accentuates its appeal, rooting it in traditions that span<sup>5</sup> continents and millennia.

*polovalley.com*, 2023

1. call 2. combine 3. capacity 4. improve 5. s’étendre sur

Extrait p. 190 : article de John Duerden, *dw.com*, 2024.

### **Is there a future for an event that some feel is a relic of Empire?**

In April 2022, the Australian state of Victoria was awarded hosting rights for the 2026 edition, when over 70 nations were expected to participate. But just over a year later, it backed out. Organizers have not found it easy to find a replacement. Even if the next games go ahead, there are doubts as to whether it can survive into the second half of the century.

The Commonwealth Games, a quadrennial multi-sport event featuring nations that were formerly part of the British Empire, is in trouble. [...]

“One of the Commonwealth Games’ biggest problems is identifying and emphasizing why it exists and what its role is,” said Simon Chadwick, Professor of Sport and Geopolitical Economy. “In a post-colonial world, the event seems like an anachronism and out of kilter<sup>1</sup> with the strong sense of national selfidentity and pride that many Commonwealth countries now have.”

While many nations of the Commonwealth still have strong links with the United Kingdom, Chadwick sees a need for change. “It carries with it associations with colonialism, oppression, and enslavement,” he said, adding that it needs rebranding and repackaging if there is to be any survival. [...]

Even that may not be enough. “I can’t see a future,” said Wong, former sports editor. “What are the Games but a celebration or reminder of a time of British colonialism? It’s become a sporting relic and increasingly irrelevant competitively, and I won’t be surprised if they cease to exist by 2040.”

John Duerden, *dw.com*, 2024

**1.** en décalage

## Évaluation de la compréhension de l'écrit – Guide pédagogique

Extrait : article de “Commonwealth Games : what changed for indigenous people since Cathy Freeman’s triumph”, *BBC Sport*

Indigenous elders from Australia performed a smoking ceremony<sup>1</sup> as the Birmingham Games came to a close.

It was a moment of inclusion that underlined how things have changed since Australian sprinting legend Cathy Freeman won gold at the 1994 Commonwealth Games. She won both the 200 m and the 400 m, but during those Games, she experienced something that would become part of sporting history.

Freeman celebrated her 400 m win by running a victory lap while carrying the Aboriginal flag. Australia’s chef de mission for the Games, Arthur Turnstall, responded with a public statement reprimanding her and warned if she did it again, she would be sent home. [...]

That was nearly 30 years ago. So how much have things changed for Indigenous athletes competing at the 2022 Commonwealth Games, and what does the event mean to them?

Ash Gardner was part of the gold medal-winning Australian cricket team at Birmingham.

“I’m a proud Marwari<sup>2</sup> woman,” she said. “I love being able to represent not only myself, but my culture and my people as well.”

So, before coming to an event like the Commonwealth Games, which has such strong links to colonialism, did Gardner think about its history?

“It certainly crossed my mind,” she admitted. “But we can look at it and celebrate who the First Nations people are from all different countries around the world, especially Commonwealth countries.”

Miriam Walker-Khan, *BBC Sport*, 2022

**1.** ritual performed by aborigines **2.** a community of Indian origin