

On Your Marks... 离伦敦奥运还有一年

英语学习点: *Tense review* 时态复习

Londoners are **under starter's orders** as the city gets ready for the Olympic Games, which will begin one year today.

To mark the start of the 366-day **countdown** (2012 is a leap year), special events are planned for today.

The design of the Olympic medals will be **unveiled** tonight in a live ceremony from Trafalgar Square.



Construction is now complete at all six of the main Olympic venues

Over at the brand new Aquatics Centre, Britain's star diver Tom Daley is going to perform an official launch dive into the Olympic pool.

With this building, the organisers have attempted to give London a landmark to rival Beijing's Water Cube from 2008. It was designed by the prestigious architect Zaha Hadid and has a wave-like roof that is 160 metres long.

Today's special events are designed to arouse interest in the Olympics around the world and to encourage British fans too.

Many failed to get Olympic tickets in the recent sales process. According to a new survey for the BBC, 53% of Londoners think the process was "not fair".

But the same survey found support is growing for London 2012. Of the 1,000 people surveyed, 73% said they backed the Games - up from 69% in 2006.

Olympics minister Hugh Robertson said: "We are **under budget** and ahead of time and as a nation we have a reputation of really **getting behind** these big events."

Our website bbcukchina.com is also marking the start of the one-year countdown as we launch Talking Sport, a new weekly video series.

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. Why is the countdown 366 days' long, not 365 days?
2. Has the recent UK ticketing round been controversial?
3. Is this statement true, false or not given? *According to a new survey, most Londoners support the Olympics.*
4. Look at the article. Can you see a phrase meaning 'to be ready to start something'?
5. Look at the article. Can you see a synonym for the verb 'to back something'?

Exercise 练习

时态练习。不要参考例文，请选择合适的时态来完成以下句子。

1. The Olympic Games _____ one year today.

| | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|-------------------|
| have begun | are beginning | will begin | will be beginning |
|------------|---------------|------------|-------------------|

2. The design of the Olympic medals _____ unveiled tonight.

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|----------|----------------------|
| will be | is going to be | is being | (any of those three) |
|---------|----------------|----------|----------------------|

3. The organisers _____ to give London a landmark to rival Beijing's Water Cube from 2008.

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| attempt | have attempted | attempted | will attempt |
|---------|----------------|-----------|--------------|

4. Many people _____ to get Olympic tickets in the recent sales process.

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|--------|
| are failing | were failing | will fail | failed |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|--------|

5. "We _____ a reputation of really getting behind these big events."

| | | | |
|------|------------|-------------------|-----------|
| have | are having | are going to have | will have |
|------|------------|-------------------|-----------|

Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. Why is the countdown 366 days' long, not 365 days? Because 2012 is a leap year, so there are 29 days in February next year.
2. Has the recent UK ticketing round been controversial? Yes – 53% of Londoners think it was unfair.
3. Is this statement true, false or not given? *According to a new survey, most Londoners support the Olympics.* True. 73% back the Olympics, according to the survey.
4. Look at the article. Can you see a phrase meaning 'to be ready to start something'? To be under starter's orders.
5. Look at the article. Can you see a synonym for the verb 'to back something'? To get behind something. You can also say 'to support something'.

Exercise 练习

1. The Olympic Games will begin one year today.
2. All three are correct:
The design of the Olympic medals will be unveiled tonight.
The design of the Olympic medals is going to be unveiled tonight.
The design of the Olympic medals is being unveiled tonight.
3. The organisers have attempted to give London a landmark to rival Beijing's Water Cube from 2008.
4. Many people failed to get Olympic tickets in the recent sales process.
5. "We have a reputation of really getting behind these big events."

Glossary 词汇表

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|--|-------------------------------|
| to be under starter's orders (体育成语) 做好了开始的准备 | to mark something 标志什么 |
| countdown 倒计时 | a leap year 闰年 |
| to be unveiled 即将揭晓 | a landmark 一个标志性建筑 |
| prestigious 享有声望的 | to back something 支持某件事 |
| under budget 在预算之内 | to get behind something 支持、撑腰 |

