

In this unit, you will learn about the **Maccabiah Games**

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* Indicates required question

The next Maccabiah will take place on July 8, 2025. <https://www.maccabiah.com/en/>



Image taken from: <https://freerangestock.com/photos/143765/male-runner-on-start-position-at-the-stadium.html>

1. Name: *

Learn Vocabulary

Before you read the text learn this [vocabulary in Hebrew](#) - [match game](#).

Here it is in [Arabic](#) - [match game](#).

1. Olympics – الألعاب الأولمبية / אולימפיאדה
2. Athletes – رياضيون / ספורטאים
3. Compete – يتنافس / להתחרות
4. eSports – الرياضة الإلكترونية / ספורט אלקטרוני
5. Division – قسم / חלוקה
6. Talent scouts – مكتشفي المواهب / צידי כשרונות
7. Career – مهنة / קריירה
8. Historic – تاريخي / היסטורי
9. Paralympic – الألعاب البرالمبية (الألعاب الأولمبية للمعاقين) / פראלימפי
10. International – دولي / בינלאומי

Read the following text and answer the questions below.

The Maccabiah 22: More Than Just Sports!

Have you ever heard of the "Jewish Olympics"? That's the nickname for the Maccabiah Games, a huge international sports event held in Israel. In 2022, the 21st Maccabiah took place, and now everyone is getting ready for Maccabiah 22 in 2025!

Imagine thousands of athletes from over 80 countries coming together to compete in cool sports like swimming, basketball, and even fencing, cricket and chess! Yes, you read that right - the Maccabiah includes sports that aren't typically popular in Israel.

But the Maccabiah isn't just about winning medals. It's also a chance for young people to make friends from all over the world. Many teenagers join the "Junior Maccabiah" division, where they can show off their skills and maybe even be spotted by talent scouts!

Did you know that some famous athletes started their careers at the Maccabiah? Olympic swimming champions like Mark Spitz and Lenny Krayzelburg first made a splash here! And it's not just swimming – stars in tennis, basketball, and other sports have all competed in the Maccabiah.

The Maccabiah is also a great way to explore Israel. When athletes aren't competing, they can visit amazing places like the beaches of Tel Aviv or the historic Old City of Jerusalem. Many participants say this cultural experience is just as important as the sports competitions!

One cool thing about the Maccabiah is how it brings together Jewish athletes from different backgrounds. You might see a surfer from Mexico competing against one from Australia, or a chess player from Russia facing off with one from Argentina. It's like a global party where sports are the main activity!

The games also include Paralympic events, giving athletes with disabilities a chance to shine on an international stage. This shows that the Maccabiah is truly for everyone who loves sports.

So, whether you're into sports, meeting new people, or exploring different cultures, the Maccabiah has something for everyone. Who knows? Maybe you'll be part of a future Maccabiah! And even if you're not competing, watching these games can be super exciting and inspirational.

2. **Answer the following Questions**

*

10 points

1. What is the nickname for the Maccabiah Games?

Mark only one oval.

- a) The Israeli Olympics
- b) The Jewish Olympics
- c) The Middle Eastern Olympics
- d) The Mediterranean Olympics

3. 2. When will the 22nd Maccabiah take place? *

10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) 2024
- b) 2025
- c) 2026
- d) 2027

4. 3. Which of these sports is included in the Maccabiah but isn't very popular in Israel?

* 10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) football
- b) Surfing
- c) cricket
- d) swimming

5. 4. What is the "Junior Maccabiah"? * 10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) A division for teenage athletes
- b) A mini-version of the games for children
- c) A training program for future athletes
- d) A series of games held in junior high schools

6. 5. Which famous Olympic swimmer started their career at the Maccabiah? * 10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) Michael Phelps
- b) Ian Thorpe
- c) Mark Spitz
- d) Katie Ledecky

7. 6. What can athletes do when they're not competing? * 10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) Only stay in their hotels
- b) Visit places like Tel Aviv and Jerusalem
- c) Participate in other sports
- d) Coach younger athletes

8. 7. How many countries typically participate in the Maccabiah Games? * 10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) Over 20
- b) Over 40
- c) Over 60
- d) Over 80

9. 8. What does the inclusion of paralympic events in the Maccabiah show? * 10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) That the games are not inclusive
- b) That the games are truly for everyone who loves sports
- c) That the games are focusing less on traditional sports
- d) That the games are becoming more competitive

10. 9. According to the text, what is as important as the sports competitions? * 10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) Winning medals
- b) Meeting famous athletes
- c) The cultural experience
- d) Learning new languages

11. 10. What kind of athletes might you see competing against each other in the Maccabiah? * 10 points

Mark only one oval.

- a) Only athletes from neighboring countries
- b) Only athletes from the same sport
- c) Athletes from diverse backgrounds, like a surfer from California vs one from Australia
- d) Only athletes who have competed in the Olympics

12. 11. How do you think events like the Maccabiah can help bring people from different countries together and Why does Israel want people to come together in this way? (This is a bonus activity).
-

Click on Submit and then click on View your score.

תלמידים יקרים, כדי לראות את הציון שלכם לחצו על

Submit

על View your score, ואז על

: :) צלמו את המסך ושלחו למורה

أيها الطلاب الاعزاء

view your score. وبعدها على submit اذا اردتم مشاهدته علامتكم النهائية اضغطوا على

صوروا الشاشة وأرسلوها الى معلمكم/تكم

Watch this video about the Maccabiah Games

Fill in the blanks in this [exercise](#).



[http://youtube.com/watch?](http://youtube.com/watch?v=GXGp9_8Mt9I)

[v=GXGp9_8Mt9I](http://youtube.com/watch?v=GXGp9_8Mt9I)

Solve this [Crossword Puzzle](#)

Use these Definitions:

1. Olympics - A major international sports competition held every four years.
2. Athletes - People who are trained in or good at sports and exercise.
3. Compete - To strive for something that others are also trying to achieve.
4. eSports - Competitive video gaming.
5. Division - A section or group within a larger organization.
6. Talent scouts - People who search for talented individuals, especially in sports or entertainment.
7. Career - A person's occupation or profession.
8. Historic - Important or famous in history.
9. Paralympic - The Olympics for athletes with disabilities.
10. International - Relating to or involving two or more countries.

Suggested Discussion Questions

1. Would you like to participate in the Maccabiah? Why or why not?
2. Do you think it's a good idea to include eSports in the Maccabiah? Why?
3. How do you think events like the Maccabiah can help bring people from different countries together?
4. Why do you think exploring Israel is an important part of the Maccabiah experience?
5. If you could add a new sport to the Maccabiah, what would it be and why?
6. Do you believe that winning is the most important aspect of the Maccabiah, or are there other values that are equally important?
7. How can the Maccabiah promote Jewish culture and heritage around the world?
8. In what ways can the Maccabiah contribute to building bridges between different cultures and religions?

Links

The

Maccabiah, Official Website

<https://www.maccabiah.com/en>

The History of the Maccabiah

<https://youtu.be/RfGFHKTEaNk?si=qXt4CcQVEc4RNKY4>

Maccabiah Games, Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maccabiah_Games

History of the Maccabiah Games, Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Maccabiah_Games

Lesson plan the Maccabiah

<https://meyda.education.gov.il/files/Pop/0files/english/Chativa-Elyona/maccabiah.pdf>

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