

THE CHRONICLES OF SPLATS PRESENT...

THE ANCIENT GREEK OLYMPIC SHOW

BY MIKE REDWOOD



FOR SPLATS ENTERTAINMENT

Primary text

ACT ONE

SPEAKING CHARACTERS

MILO
DAISY
MILO'S MUM
MILO'S DAD
SHIP'S CREW 1
SHIP'S CREW 2
SHIP'S CREW 3
SHIP'S CREW 4
SHIP'S CREW 5
PIRATE 1
PIRATE 2
PIRATE 3
ZEUS
RUNNER

SQ - Opening Music

The cast hold up the vases with that spell out 'Ancient Greek Olympic show' and takes poses of the Greek vase silhouette style. There is a drum on stage which is used throughout the show.

NARRATOR: This is the story Milo of Kroton the greatest Olympian ever. Ah, I see you have never heard of him and why should you as he was an Ancient Greek. He lived around 554 BC that's 2,500 years ago or like your gran's or grandad's grandad 88 times ago.

All cast begin to say 'Grandad' 88 times.

NARRATOR: Yes, that many. So here he is off to the Ancient Olympics. Hello Milo of Kroton.

MILO: *(waving)* Hello!

There cast are in small groups; some create the galleon with one cast member being a figurehead, a few sit around the side holding ribbons for waves, two hold red and white sheets for sails, some cast sit as the rowers, one bangs out the rowing rhythm. Others are people on the key side waving goodbye while the NARRATOR talks. MILO and DAISY are Upstage with the Narrator.

MILO: Hello. You can call me Milo, Kroton is the town I am from.

NARRATOR: That's right, Kroton was a town in southern Italy but Milo was a Greek. The Greeks being brilliant sailors travelled all over the Mediterranean sea setting up ports to buy and sell stuff from the people all around it.

SHIP'S CREW: Get your lovely Egyptian cotton!

CROWD ON SHORE: We will swap for urns of wine!

SHIP'S CREW 1: What's a Greek Urn?

SHIP'S CREW 2: About ten pounds a week!

A boom from the drum. Both CROWDS groan. MILO'S MUM and DAD step forward.

NARRATOR: Let us begin. Our story starts when Milo and his pet cow Daisy were going to enter their first youth Olympics.

MILO steps forward with DAISY, who moos.

NARRATOR: Ah, yes, the pet cow. Well Milo was very big and very strong and the story goes that as a child his dad gave him a pet cow to look after..

MILO'S MUM: Milo can you bring Daisy the cow in for milking.

MILO brings in DAISY on his shoulders. MUM is not looking directly and does a double take.

MILO'S DAD: That's good. Do that everyday and you will get stronger and stronger and be Olympic champion.

MILO: As the cow grows bigger everyday I will grow stronger and also have a refreshing drink.

DAISY starts shimmying.

MILO: And she makes milkshakes.

NARRATOR: And so Milo carried Daisy the cow on his back every day and as Daisy grew bigger Milo grew stronger. On the day they left for the Olympics the whole town waved Milo and Daisy off as they sailed to Olympia. They had watched him train hard everyday well, you can't miss a boy with a cow on his back...

Milo and Daisy get on the ship The cast wave him off. The ships crew row to the beat of the drum.

SQ - Rowing sounds

NARRATOR: But once they were out to sea the crew saw a pirate ship.

Cast members from on shore make a pirate ship the same way as the first ship and sway to show they are starting to chase. The PIRATES have scary faces and swords.

CROWD: Pirates! Pirates!
PIRATES: Get them they look rich!
NARRATOR: But Milo had an idea. Milo said...
MILO: *(Pulling the sail down)* Let them catch us. I will talk to them.

SQ - Ride of the Valkyries - fading up and down if necessary

SHIPS CREW 3: He's mad first he carries a cow.
SHIPS CREW 4: And now he talks to pirates.
SHIPS CREW 5: We are all going to die!
NARRATOR: But Milo said to the pirates...
MILO: Excuse me, we are going to Olympic games.

The PIRATES all make sweet faces at this news.

PIRATE 1: Oh, sorry!
PIRATE 2: You wont tell mighty Zeus?

Enter ZEUS white hair white beard throwing lightening bolts made out of cardboard and painted yellow.

PIRATE 3: We didn't know.
ZEUS: Ok, I will let you off.

The PIRATES split into two lines and fight a battle. The others are the runners.

NARRATOR: You see, a month before the Olympic games messengers went running out from Olympia and told everyone the games were about to start and all wars and fighting had to stop. I will tell you about Olympia when we get there.
RUNNER: The Olympic games are about to start let everyone pass or the mighty god Zeus will strike you down with a lightening bolt.

ZEUS looks at them they stop.

NARRATOR: The pirates said..
PIRATES: *(looking up)* Sorry Zeus we've been at sea for a while.
NARRATOR: Milo said...
MILO: Why don't you come with us?
PIRATES: Yes, and we can praise to the mighty God Zeus.

NARRATOR: And so they all sailed to Greece. They came across all sorts of weather..

The cast act out all sorts of weather with rough seas & storms.

NARRATOR: But eventually they saw land and it was..

SHIP'S CREW: Greece! Let's land!

NARRATOR: Yes indeed they have made it to Greece! Let's find out what happens to Milo in scene number two, but for now let's have a huge round of applause for everyone involved in scene number one!

SQ - Scene changeover music

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SPEAKING CHARACTERS

MILO

DAISY

JUDGE 1

JUDGE 2

ATHENIAN 1

ATHENIAN 2

SPARTAN 1

SPARTAN 2

MEGARAN 1

MEGARAN 2

SQ - Milo's training at Olympia

The cast become Greek statues of Olympic heroes and Gods in discus throwing poses, Javelin poses, jumping poses and gods poses. The cast who were on Milo's ship the pirate ships cast stand to attention in front as guards and judges of Olympia.

NARRATOR: Milo and Daisy walked in land to Olympia where they found a valley with enormous Temples to Zeus. It was next to the Mountain of Olympus where the gods lived and Zeus was the head of the Gods. It had all sorts of beautiful buildings and statues.

JUDGE 1: Halt. Who are you?

MILO: My name is Milo and I am here to compete in the Youth Olympics. This is my cow Daisy.

DAISY: Moo.

JUDGE 2: You must swear the Olympic Oath first.

JUDGE 1: All the contestants must swear to Zeus.

JUDGE 2: You must train for one month and only eat cheese and fruit.

MILO: Cheese. I'll bet no-one else brought their own cow?

NARRATOR: Milo and Daisy trained for a month. This was when Milo met the other competitors. They were from cities all over Europe where the Greeks lived. In those days there were no real countries and people were loyal to their city. They wanted their city's athletes to win and supported them like people today support football teams from their city. The big four teams were...

The cast members step forward for each of the four teams...

SQ: FANFARE

The cast make a fanfare movement with their hands.

NARRATOR: Welcome City of Athens! They were famous for being rich and clever city.
ALL ATHENS: We are Athens!
ATHENIAN 1: We are rich and clever
ATEHINIAN 2: And you are poor and stupid.

They look at the audience condescendingly.

NARRATOR: How common!
Some thoughts they were show off's and everyone wanted to beat them.

SQ: FANFARE

The cast make a fanfare movement with their hands

NARRATOR: And now the City of Sparta! They were famous for being tough and doing anything to win even cheating. All Spartans had to trains from the age of 7 to be soldiers.
SPARTANS: We are Sparta!
SPARTAN 1: We are the toughest and meanest of them all.
SPARTAN 2: We don't care what we do as long as we win.

Everyone Boos.

NARRATOR: Spartans were famous for being the toughest soldiers, once 300 of their soldiers stopped 100,000 Persians soldiers but that's another story. The Spartans wanted to be toughest scariest of them all.

The Spartans growl at the audience.

SQ: FANFARE

The cast make a fanfare movement with their hands

NARRATOR: The city of Megara!
MEGARANS: We are Megarans.
MEGARAN 1: We make the best clothes.
NARRATOR: Ah, yes, the Athletes in the Greeks Olympics didn't wear clothes.

MEGARANS: What?!?
NARRATOR: But they did cover themselves in Greek Olive oil.
MEGARANS: Urgh!
NARRATOR: Some historians believed they didn't wear clothes so everyone was equal.
MEGARAN 2: That's not fair.
NARRATOR: Some said it made them go faster and some just thought it was an early product sponsorship for Greek Olive Oil. So making fine clothes didn't really help them win.

The Megarans are sad.

NARRATOR: And finally Milo of Kroton.

There is no fan fare, just silence so DAISY looks round and moos loudly.

DAISY: Mooooooooo!
MILO: I am Milo of Kroton and I will have the lot of you.
ALL: Where's Kroton? We've never heard of it.
MILO: Oh, you will.

The cast line up and take a bow.

NARRATOR: And so it was Milo prepared for the Olympic games Lets see how he gets on with group number three but for now let's give a round of applause to group number two!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SPEAKING CHARACTERS

MILO

DAISY

PYTHAGORAS

PUPIL SPORTS REPORTERS

SQ - Milo's training at Olympia

MILO is continuing training at Olympia.

NARRATOR: Milo and Daisy were training very hard. All the other City's competitors laughed at him and his training ways.

MILO and DAISY train together. The other cities stand around watching and laughing at MILO.

MILO: I can't stand this any more.

DAISY: Moo.

MILO: What magic olives?

DAISY: Moooo.

MILO: Pythagoras gave them to you in case I needed help?. I will try them and see if I can summon him.

NARRATOR: You see, Milo had a friend who was a famous genius called Pythagoras. He sounds like a dinosaur but was very clever at maths. And so Pythagoras appeared.

SQ - Mysterious music

The cast move mysteriously in a time travel way.

PYTHAGORAS: What is the matter Milo?

DAISY: Moo.

PYTHAGORAS: You did the right thing. Why did you call me with the magic Olives?

MILO: I want to go home everyone is laughing at me.

DAISY: Moo

PYTHAGORAS: Let me show you something. Take my hand.

SQ - Mysterious music

The cast move mysteriously in a time travel way.

NARRATOR: Pythagoras flew Milo and Daisy forward in time to the Modern Olympics. I told you he was a mathematical genius.

PYTHAGORAS: Look at these heroes.

SQ - Sports news music underscore

The children chose 4 Olympic or Para-Olympic heroes/heroines from the modern day (after 1905). and perform and create a special t.v style report on them.

If you create four groups to make a news report each. First, they will need to do a little research into Olympic heroes. This can be done before the day. Then each group chose one hero and each will have a line about the hero.

For example:

Child 1: Our hero or heroines names and which Olympics.

Child 2: What sport they were involved in.

Child 3: What was hard, brave or dedicated about what they did.

Child 4: What did they win. How many times(maybe they didn't win but competed well)

Child 5: Why is it a good example of courage and perseverance for Milo.

NARRATOR: What brilliant sports reporting Milo!

MILO: That's right all these people kept going and fought their fear and so will I. Take me back.

At the end of the reports MILO and PYTHAGORAS travel back forward in time. The cast move mysteriously in a time travel way.

NARRATOR: And so Milo went to his own Olympic games in Ancient Greece Lets see how he gets on with group four.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

SPEAKING CHARACTERS

MILO

DAISY

COMMENTATOR 1

COMMENTATOR 1

COMMENTATOR 1

COMMENTATOR 1

JUDGE 1

JUDGE 2

JUDGE 3

JUDGE 4

JUDGE 5

JUDGE 6

JUDGE 7

SQ - Preparing for the games

The athletes are assembled in their teams of Athen, Sparta, Megara, and Croton with their banners.

NARRATOR: The Olympic games village was no ordinary village. It was a place of worship for the god Zeus with huge Temples all around. The games were an act of worship to please the King of their gods Zeus who they believed liked to watch sport. By hosting the games himself the God Zeus made sure he could get tickets. At the beginning of the games they all swore the Olympic Oath. The Athletes, their dads and all the trainers...

DAISY: Moo

NARRATOR:and their cows.

JUDGE 1: Repeat after me. I promise that I have been in training for 10 months.

All the athletes teams say it. Daisy Moos.

JUDGE 2: I promise that I wont cheat.

All the athletes teams say it. Daisy Moos.

JUDGE 3: I promise I wont take money to deliberately lose.

All the athletes teams say it. Daisy Moos. One cast member of each team moves to the start line.

NARRATOR: The games were every four years and some say they started in as early as 776 BC. To begin with it was just a foot race but the games were so popular that they grew and by the time Milo arrived they had all different competitions.

COMMENTATOR 1: Welcome!. In lane 1 we have Athens

COMMENTATOR 2: Lane 2 Sparta

COMMENTATOR 3: Lane 3 Megara

COMMENTATOR 4: And in lane 4 Kroton, represented by just one person called Milo.

ALL: Start the Sprint race!

NARRATOR: The judge started the race with the Olympic saying.

JUDGE: Higher! Faster! Stronger!

SQ - The Games - Chariots of Fire

One competitor from each city starts the race in slow motion towards the audience in a straight line with MILO coming out first.

JUDGE 2: Milo wins.

JUDGE 3: Now....The javelin!

ALL: Higher! Faster! Stronger!

One competitor from each city line up and throw peacock feathers one at time. MILO and the SPARTAN joint first.

JUDGE 4: Milo and Sparta are equal.

JUDGE 5: The discus!

ALL: Higher! Faster! Stronger!.

One competitor from each city line up fly their spinning plates with their back to audience like a discuss thrower. They move like a discuss thrower and watch the plate like it's a discus flying. The Spartan wins.

JUDGE 6: The Spartan wins.

Spartans cheer. Everyone else 'Boos'

JUDGE 7: The scores are equal it is all down to last competition the Greek wrestling.

NARRATOR: This was like boxing and Kung Fu together it was Milo and the Spartan for the Olympic title. There is only one champion of all things and no second place.

Slow motion fight where Milo takes all the hits with his guard up until the Spartan collapses exhausted. Everybody except the Spartans cheer. The Spartans nod and clap.

NARRATOR: And so it was that Milo had the Olympic crown as he was so strong that his opponent collapsed exhausted. They all went for a big celebration. Milo won the the Olympic crown. This was made of laurel leaves from the Olive tree of Zeus. There was no second of third prize. Milo went to onto Win the next five Olympics and that is why he is the greatest Olympian ever.

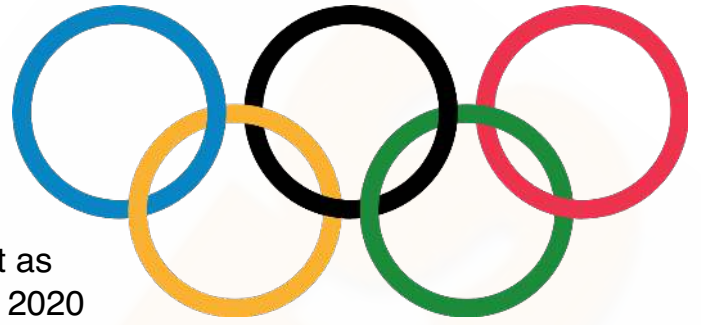
SQ: 'We are the Champions'

The cast use the circus ribbons and make the Olympic logo in a group of five. Milo walks around arms in the air champion style. The cast line up and take a bow.

NARRATOR: Ladies and gentleman the cast of the Splats Ancient Olympic Show!!

A LETTER TO PIERRE DE COUBERTIN

Pierre De Courbertin was the father of the modern Olympics and in 1896 organised an event that would take the ancient ideas of 'Higher, Faster, Stronger' to completely new levels.



The first modern olympics had only 9 sports but as the years went on it grew and grew. In Tokyo in 2020 there will be 33 different sports to take part in at the summer games.

Over the years there have been many great champions - but also some fairly strange sports included in the competitions. These have the tug of war, croquet, live pigeon shooting, - even a long jump for horses!

Imagine that you have the chance to ask Pierre De COUBERTIN for a new sport to be included in the Olympics. How would you convince him to put your choice on the events programme? Write a short note to him below - detailing why you think your sport should be included!

Dear Pierre,

SCRIPTWRITING: LAYOUT

Writing a playscript means writing in a very different style and format. Playwrights are responsible for writing down not only who says what and when, but also for describing what happens on stage for the actors.

Look at the example below from Act Three of the Splats version of A Midsummer Nighs Dream.

A list of characters is included

The scene title is clearly marked

Stage Directions - which are the movements of the actors - are included

The character who speaks each line is included

Props which are used are written down

ACT THREE

SPEAKING CHARACTERS
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DAISY
PYTHAGORAS
PUPIL SPORTS REPORTERS

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DAISY: Moo.
PYTHAGORAS: You did the right thing. Why did you call me with the magic Olives?
MILO: I want to go home everyone is laughing at me.
DAISY: Moo
PYTHAGORAS: Let me show you something. Take my hand.

SCRIPTWRITING: MILO'S MUM & DAD

In our story, we very briefly get to meet MILO'S Mother & Father before he goes off on his big adventure to compete at the Olympics? As he was growing up, they must have realised that their son was an incredible athlete and had a very special gift.

Imagine that Milo is only a small boy but has just done something amazing that his father has just witnessed. Dad is trying to explain to Mum just what has happened but it's so amazing that she doesn't believe it to be true. It could be that Milo has picked up something really heavy, run somewhere very quickly or maybe even jumped over something that no one else could. It's up to you to decide!

Think about these questions -

- *Where will your scene take place?*
- *Will anyone else be there when they meet?*
- *What time of day is this scene happening?*
- *What are they wearing, holding or using when the scene happens?*

Write the opening of your scene below - try and stick to the layout of the Splats playscript wherever you can.

Lined writing area consisting of horizontal lines for text entry.



READING COMPREHENSION: TOKYO 2020

THE MODERN OLYMPICS

The first Olympics in modern times saw the games return to its ancient birthplace of Athens in 1896. 14 nations competed with the largest teams coming from Greece, Germany, France & Great Britain.

Notable wins at this event were from American James Connolly who in winning the triple jump became the first Olympic champion in over 1,500 years. The Greek team were keen to win the marathon and were pleased that local athlete Spyridon Louis won the event by over seven minutes. As he approached the finish line he was greeted by over 100,000 spectators!

TOKYO 2020

This will be the second time that the games will have visited Tokyo, with the first games here being held in 1964. The city beat off competition from Madrid and Istanbul to host the games and have been preparing hard since they were announced as host city in 2013.

The original Olympic stadium in Tokyo was completely demolished and is being replaced by a brand new £1 billion complex. Before the Olympics is hosted there, there stadium will be used for the 2019 Rugby World Cup, which is also being held in Japan.

Over 1,000 medals will be given out at the games and they have been made (at least in part) by collecting old recycled materials. Much of the metal used in the medals will have come from melting down old mobile phone parts!

NEW SPORTS

In 2020, there will be a host of new sports introduced to the Olympic Games including; 3 versus 3 basketball, climbing, skateboarding, baseball and karate. It is hoped that the new events will encourage new generations of athletes to take part in sporting activity - which is one of the main aims of the Olympic movement.

Sadly, there is no place for Wrestling in the 2020 programme despite it being one of the oldest Olympic sports. It was decided in 2013 that the sport should be dropped from the Olympic programme.



READING COMPREHENSION: TOKYO 2020

QUESTIONS

1. What year was the first modern Olympics? _____
2. Which countries had the biggest teams at the 1896 Olympics?

3. What was the first event where a medal was given out?

4. Can you name two athletes that won gold medal at the Athens games?

5. Which cities missed out on hosting the Olympics in 2020?

6. When were the Olympic Games last held in Tokyo?

7. What other major sporting event is happening in Japan in 2019?

8. Some of the metal for the medals at the games will be recycled from what?

9. Can you name at least two new sports events that will be part of the sporting programme in 2020? _____
10. Why is it disappointing that Wrestling won't be a part of the Olympics in 2020??

READING COMPREHENSION: ANSWERS

1. 1896
2. Greece, Germany, France, Great Britain
3. Triple Jump
4. James Connoly & Spyridon Louis
5. Istanbul & Madrid
6. 1964
7. The Rugby World Cup
8. Mobile Phones
9. Two from - 3 versus 3 basketball, climbing, skateboarding, baseball and karate.
10. It's one of the oldest Olympic sports.

WORDSEARCH

These fifteen words are all important to the story of *THE ANCIENT OLYMPIC SHOW* - can you find them in the wordsearch?

Z S D S E G D U J T Y M E L J N O
A X F D R F S A B J K F E H O L L
H T A I C Z V H I G H E R I P M Y
H A R S O K H T I L J V H C P R M
A A E C I O R U I K S D E R S H P
O F L U F O A M L U J O Y R P N I
Y H A S P A R R E Y P O F U T O C
H M N S G I S Z C G Y U T N Y I S
G G S A E R P T E K O I K N G T T
G N C X Z D A S E I C S U I L I E
G I R E E C R E R R F D G N L T Y
W L R E T S T A G F R E H G I E B
R E W R S T A T H L E T E S I P D
N V T S E O L C E Y L S M K N M J
E A H E L W R E S T L I N G G O O
A J A G I E I L X D S I E I I C K
S D G U F M I V I R E G N O R T S

OLYMPICS
GREECE
JAVELIN
RUNNING
HIGHER

FASTER
STRONGER
WRESTLING
DISCUS
ATHLETES

SPARTA
SPORT
JUDGES
COMPETITION
ZEUS

MAKING TASK

Hello

If all the children can dress in black that is great for the style of the show.

If each group can pick their favourite Olympic/ Para Olympic hero and group three will make a report for them. See scene three.

Group 1: If you can print out these vases and spell out 'Greek Olympic Show ' a letter on each vase. The children can colour and decorate the vases. They will held in begining of the scene Greek figures vase stlye. See the website below:
<http://www.schoolsliaison.org.uk/kids/siteactivities/greekvase.pdf>

Group 2: If you can print out three masks and colour them in for the statues.. See
<http://www.fantasyjr.com/greek-masks-printables-and-coloring-pages/>

Group3 : Can you look at the script. They will have the research on the Olympic Champions.

Jessie Owen - in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin Germany
i.e.
He was a sprinter

He was an African American taking part in the Olympics in racist, Nazi Germany.

He won 5 medals including the gold in the 100m sprint

The Nazi's thought that only a White man could win at the Olympics. Jessie proved them all wrong.

Group 4 If you can make a large banner up to a metre long for each Competing City State team teams Sparta, Athens and Megera .

If every group makes some scrolls for children to write some lines on for announcers etc..

You can also make some simple togas from sheets see below.

