*What is your association with the word ‘Olympics’?*

*Are you a big fan of the Olympics?*

*What do you like and dislike about them?*

American athletes attending the Sochi Winter Olympics have been told that their Team USA uniforms pose a potential security risk if worn outside designated security zones. Security is reported to be the tightest ever for any Olympics. It includes the "Ring of Steel" – a heavily fortified zone that stretches for 90 kilometres along the coast and 40 kilometres inland. There are checkpoints everywhere and everyone will be X-rayed as they enter the zone. A US State Department official advised that: "If you are an American Olympic athlete, you don't want to advertise that far outside the Olympic venues." It added: "Wearing conspicuous Team USA clothing in non-accredited areas may put your personal safety at greater risk."

There are fears that the games may be targeted by militants from Russian states that want to break away from Russia. One group from Dagestan recently posted a video claiming responsibility for two suicide bombings in the southern city of Volgograd which killed 34 people and injured dozens more. President Vladimir Putin has given his personal assurance that the games will be safe and successful. Russian security officials are currently hunting for three potential female suicide bombers, one of whom is suspected to be in the Sochi area. US officials have warned there will be more threats to come as the time for the opening ceremony draws nearer. The games will be held between February 7 and 23.

attending – navštěvující

pose – představovat

designated – určený

fortified – opevněný

venues – dějiště, místa

conspicuous – nápadný

militants – radikálové, ozbrojenci

threats – výhružky

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| 1.Where is it unsafe for US athletes to wear their team uniforms?2.How many Olympics before Sochi had tighter security?3.What is the name of the security area?4.What will happen to people as they enter the security zone?5.What did a US Sate Department official could be at risk?6.Who might attack the games?7.Who claimed responsibility for suicide bombings in Volgograd?8.How many suspected suicide bombers are security officials looking for?9.How many of the suspected suicide bombers are thought to be in Sochi? |
| 10.What did US officials warn there will be more of?

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| **Conversation:***Do you think the Olympics will be safe?**Would you worry about security if you attended the Sochi Olympics?**What would militants gain from attacking the Olympics?**Should Russia accept the help offered by America's security forces?**Is President Putin's personal assurance of safety reassuring?**Have you ever been searched?**Have you ever felt your personal safety was at risk?**Which is better, the Winter Olympics or the Summer Olympics?**What winter sport would you like to win a gold medal in (and why)?**Which Olympics can you remember well?**Would your town be good at hosting the Olympics?**What does hosting the Olympics do for a country?**What is your favourite event at the Olympics and why?**What do you know about the Olympics rings and flag?**What do you think it’s like to win Olympic gold and stand on the podium with your national anthem playing?**How do officials keep drugs out of the Olympics?**Would you like to carry the Olympics torch?**Why are the Olympics always held in rich cities? Should they be held in a poor country for once?**What do you think about people who boycott the games over political issues?* **What is your opinion:**"The most important thing in the Olympic games is not to win but to take part."The games have become too commercialized. The Olympics are a waste of time and money Sports can unite people. The Olympics aren't about sport now but they're a competition to see which country has spent the most money on preparing their competitors. Athletes aren't thinking about competing for their countries at the Olympics, but they are thinking about what sponsorship deals they may win if they are successful.SOCHI.RU 2014 Infographic |

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