
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Take Away English 随身英语

A gold medal for ... partying

获得“派对狂欢比赛”金牌



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Vocabulary: partying 词汇: 派对狂欢

Brazilians certainly know how to **throw a party** – but will Rio be ready to welcome over 10,000 athletes and all the international visitors to the 2016 Olympics?

At the moment, some natives of Rio (known locally as 'Cariocas') aren't too enthusiastic about the Games. They know they'll be putting up with a lot more roadworks and **infrastructure** building before the Olympic torch is lit in the Maracanã Stadium next August.



Brazilians learnt a lot from hosting the 2014 World Cup

Delays in **venue** construction gave the International Olympic Committee a **fright** in 2014. The government has since **cleaned up its act** and was praised recently for being "**on the right track**", although the challenge of cleaning up the highly polluted waters of the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon and Guanabara Bay – venues for the sailing and rowing competitions – remains.

Fortunately, Brazil has learnt a lot from **hosting** the World Cup in 2014. Some businesses realised they were **missing a trick** by not communicating well with their international customers. Restaurants now know that using the internet to translate the menu isn't always a good idea: 'bife a cavalo' isn't really 'horse steak' – it's beef with a fried egg on top!

Security was a key challenge in 2014 – and during the Olympics, the police will be working hard to prevent street crime. As with other developing countries, crime rates are high, and visitors will be encouraged to **keep their wits about them** so as to avoid falling victim to **pickpockets** or **muggers**.

So while the Cariocas are already becoming athletes – by jumping and running across construction sites on their daily commute – they know that the Games have the potential to be a great spectacle, they will be able to **let their hair down**, and international visitors will **have a good time** in their company.

Even those Brazilians who have their **reservations**, know deep down something that others don't. An old local saying goes: 'Deus é Brasileiro' ('God is Brazilian'). They hope he will **give them a hand** to make the games a success. And you can be sure that whatever happens – or doesn't happen – Brazilians will show the world why they have such a reputation as party people!

词汇表

to throw a party	举行派对、聚会
infrastructure	基础设施
venue	场所
fright (noun)	惊吓
to clean up one's act	改进作风, 改善行为
on the right track	步入正轨, (做法、想法) 正确
to host	做东道主
to miss a trick	错过时机
to keep one's wits about one	保持头脑清醒, 保持警觉
pickpocket	小偷, 扒手
mugger	拦路抢劫犯
to let one's hair down	放松一下, 尽情享受
to have a good time	过得愉快, 玩得开心
reservations	疑义, 顾虑
to give someone a hand	祝某人一臂之力

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Why are some people from Rio unhappy about hosting the Olympics?
2. True or false? *The government has cleaned the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon at the request of the IOC.*
3. How did some Rio restaurants confuse international customers during the World Cup?
4. Which word in the article means 'regular travel between home and workplace'?
5. Who do Brazilians say will help guarantee success at Rio 2016?

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. _____ are a cause for concern in developing countries.

Quick hands	Crime rates	Belongings	Missing a trick
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2. The British Olympic swimming team did well in the last Olympic Games and _____ to win some medals in Rio. They have been training a lot.

are on the right track	missed a trick	are having a ball	let their hair down
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3. Hurry up! We're late for the swimming competition and we still have to find the _____.

venue	on the right track	building site	infrastructure
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4. Be careful when going home at night. This area is not very safe and you have to _____.

let your hair down	keep your wits about you	have a good time	give them a hand
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5. This is my dream job! I'm _____ doing what I love the most.

missing a trick	having a ball	cleaning up your act	throwing a party
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Why are some people from Rio unhappy about hosting the Olympics?

They have to deal with a lot of construction work in their city.

2. True or false? *The government has cleaned the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon at the request of the IOC.*

False. Cleaning the Lagoon will be a challenge, but the article doesn't say that they have done it already.

3. How did some Rio restaurants confuse international customers during the World Cup?

They used the internet to translate their menus, but some of the resulting names were confusing.

4. Which word in the article means 'regular travel between home and workplace'?

'Commute'. It's used as a noun in the article but can also be a verb.

5. Who do Brazilians say will help guarantee success at Rio 2016?

There is a saying that 'God is Brazilian', and many people believe he will help them.

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. **Crime rates** are a cause for concern in developing countries.

2. The British Olympic swimming team did well in the last Olympic Games and **are on the right track** to win some medals in Rio. They have been training a lot.

3. Hurry up! We are late for the swimming competition and we still have to find the **venue**.

4. Be careful when going home at night. This area is not very safe and you have to **keep your wits about you**.

5. This is my dream job! I'm **having a ball** doing what I love the most.