A sporting chance?

Use the Olympics to explore inequality

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MATHS SESSION

Measuring the gaps
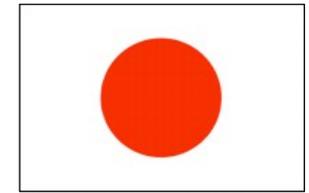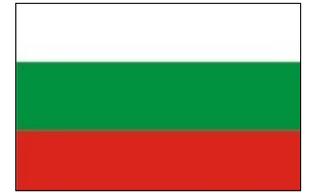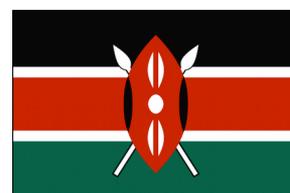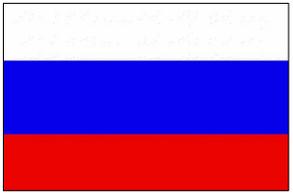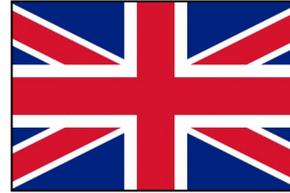
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RIO OLYMPIC GAMES 2016

10,500 athletes from **206** nations will be taking part. During the **17** days of the games there will be **306** medal events. For each event, **three** medals will be awarded – gold, medal and bronze.

- How many medals will be awarded in total during the games?

- If each nation participated in every single sporting event and had an equal chance of winning a medal, approximately how many medals would each nation expect to win?

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FLAG SPOTTING
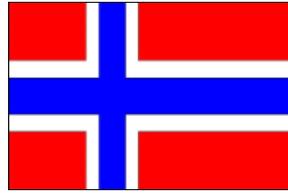
NUMBERS OF ATHLETES

United Kingdom **556**

India **83**

Russian Federation **437**

Sierra Leone **2**

Brazil **267**
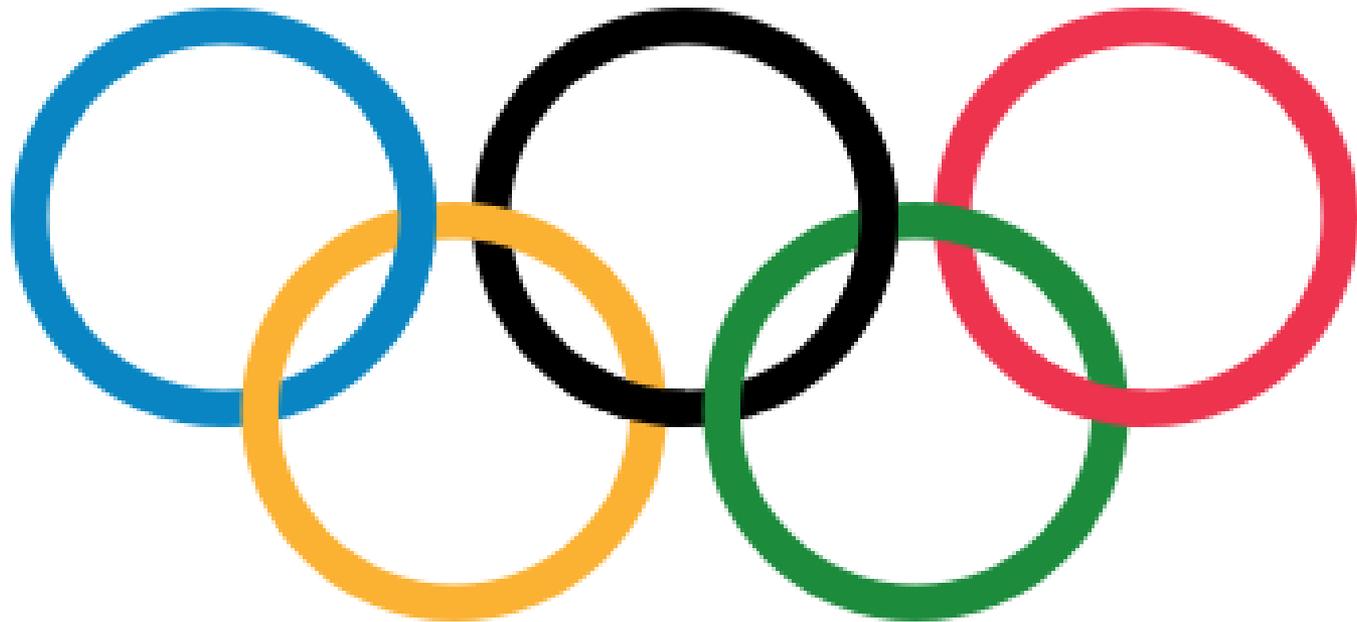
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WHAT'S IMPORTANT?

Friendship   **Excellence**

        Determination   **Respect**

Inspiration   **Courage**   **Equality**

COUNTRY INCOMES

The World Bank classifies each country as one of the following:

- a low-income country (LIC)

- a lower-middle-income country (LMIC)

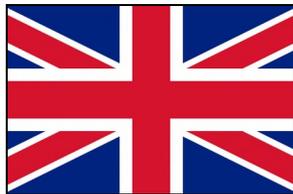- an upper-middle-income country (UMIC)

- a high-income country (HIC)

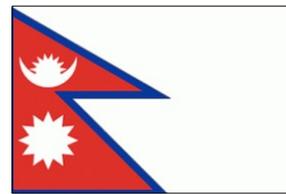Which group do you think each of these countries is in?

Brazil

UMIC

UK

HIC

Nepal

LIC

Nigeria

LMIC

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TIME TO THINK

- Which group of countries has the highest percentage of countries winning at least one medal?

- Which group of countries has the lowest percentage of countries winning at least one medal?

- Why do you think the percentage of countries winning at least one medal is greater in the higher income country groups than in the lower income country groups?

- According to this data, which group of countries is the most likely to contain a country that wins at least one medal? Which group of countries is the least likely to contain a country that wins at least one medal?

- What other factors might affect the chances a country has of winning at least one medal?

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OLYMPIC SPORTS
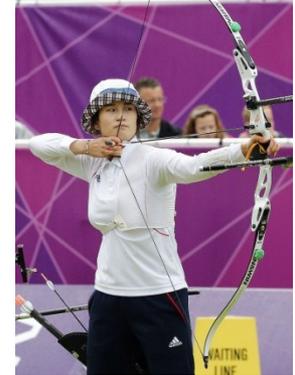
TIME TO THINK

- Which sporting events do you think might have few or no athletes from lower-income countries taking part and winning medals? Why do you think this?

- Which sporting events do you think might have more athletes from lower-income countries taking part? Why do you think this?

- How could you investigate this?

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INEQUALITY BETWEEN COUNTRIES

There is inequality between countries in the world.

This means things are not shared fairly between countries.

For example, some countries are wealthy while others are extremely poor.

INEQUALITY <u>WITHIN</u> COUNTRIES

There is also inequality within countries.

This means things are not shared fairly within the same country.

For example, some people may have more money than others.

The UK's
5 RICHEST
families own
more wealth than
12.6 MILLION
of us put together

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SCORING INEQUALITY WITHIN COUNTRIES

Countries can be given a score (called the Gini index) to show how equal or unequal they are.

0 ✓

A score of 0 means that the country is completely equal, that everyone in that country has the same amount of money.

That would look something like this:

In reality, no country looks like this.

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SCORING INEQUALITY WITHIN COUNTRIES

A score of 100 means the country is completely unequal.

This would look something like this:

100 ❌

In reality, thankfully, no country looks like this either.

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INEQUALITY WITHIN COUNTRIES
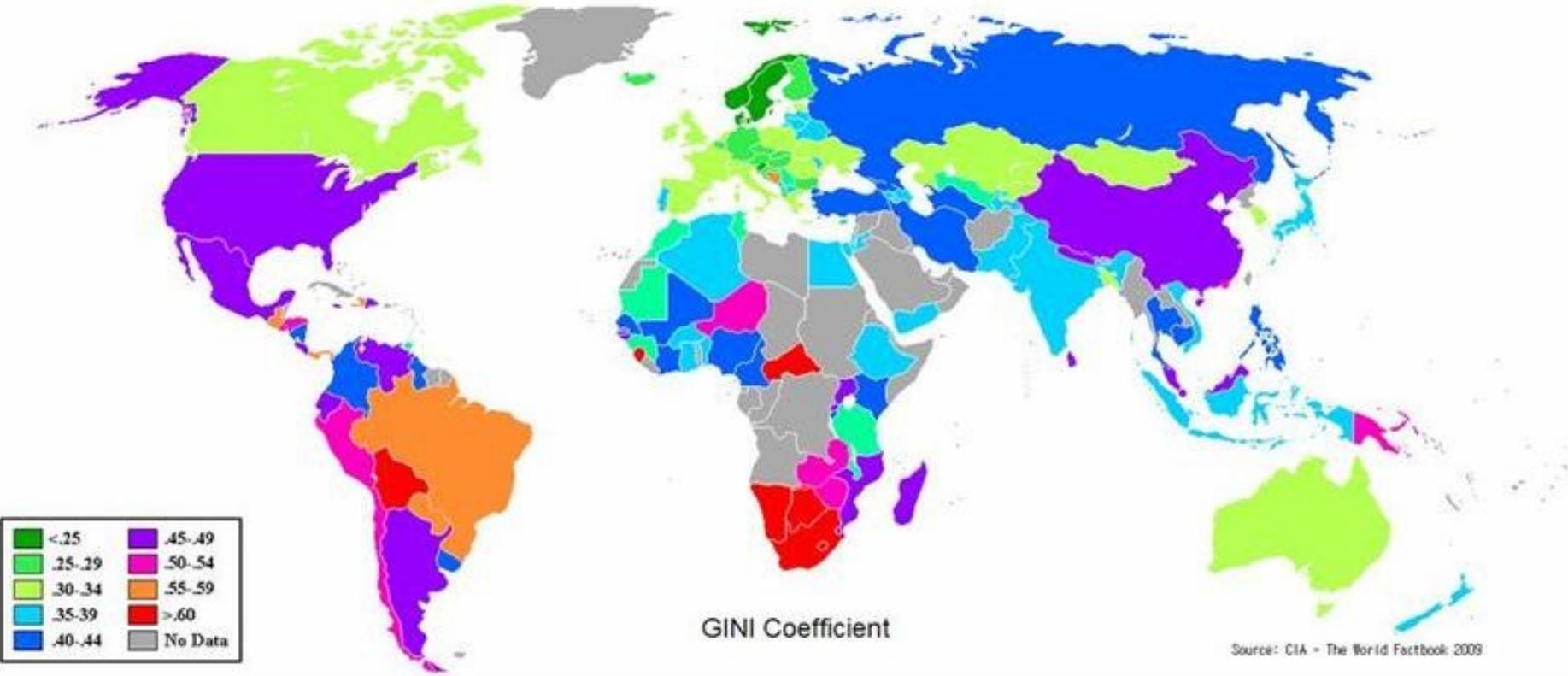
What do you think the equality score for the UK is?

What do you think equality score for Brazil is?

Where would they come on the chart below?

| 0 | 25 | 50 | 75 | 100 |

Completely equal

Completely unequal

↑
UK

↑
Brazil

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INEQUALITY AROUND THE WORLD

GINI Coefficient

Source: CIA - The World Factbook 2009

Legend:
- <.25
- .25-.29
- .30-.34
- .35-.39
- .40-.44
- .45-.49
- .50-.54
- .55-.59
- >.60
- No Data

FAIRNESS SCORE

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THINKING ABOUT INEQUALITY

Inequality is not just about how money is shared between and within countries.

There can also be inequality in the kinds of opportunities people have in life.

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