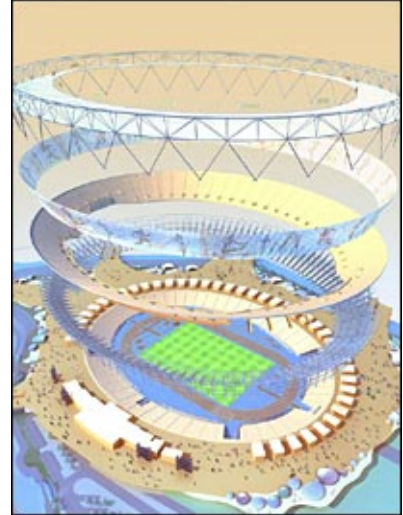


2012 Stadium

London 2012 officials have revealed the design for the new £496m Olympic Stadium to be built in Stratford, East London. It was initially expected to cost £280m but costs have been revised.

Diagram showing how the stadium will be pieced together

Work on the 80,000 seater stadium will begin three months ahead of schedule in April 2008. It will have to be finished at least six months ahead of the opening ceremony in July 2012 to allow for test events to take place.



Lord Coe, chairman of the London Organising Committee, said it would be a 'stadium for a new era'.

After the Olympic and the Paralympic games, the temporary seating will be removed to leave seating for 25,000 and a permanent athletics track. Olympics Minister Tessa Jowell felt the stadium would be a great addition to the capital's sporting facilities.

'It complements the other great stadia that London now has – Wembley, the Emirates and Twickenham,' she said.

This stadium is not bigger or more spectacular than previous ones, but it is a cleverer building. It will have fabric wrapped around the walls on which images can be projected. Organisers hope it will remain in use for many years to come and believe it is a forward looking design.

Based on an article in the Sunday Times, Nov 07, 2007.

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/sport/olympics/london_2012/article2823640.ece

Now answer the following questions:

1. The stadium will cost

- a) Nearly £400 million
- b) About £450 million
- c) Nearly £500 million

2. The revised cost is

- a) twice as much as the original estimate
- b) more than half as much again (of the original estimate)
- c) three times as much as the original estimate

3. Work was scheduled to start in

- a) July 2008
- b) May 2008
- c) February 2008

4. After the games the stadium will be used

- a) As a substitute for Wembley
- b) In addition to Wembley and others
- c) Instead of Wembley and others

5. Images will be projected

- a) In the roof
- b) On the walls
- c) On the building

Answers

1 c

2 b

3 a

4 b

5 b

Possible points (in the text) for discussion

Stadia – irregular plural

Complement – homophone (compliment)

Prefixes – meaning of para- (in Paralympics). Note: para – means alongside, besides (as in parallel, parachute).