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In August 1976, Word Ways presented a quiz of mine called "An Olympic Quiz". Readers were given 60 common words, ranging in length from one to seven letters, and asked to combine each of these in turn with the letters of OLYMPIC to make a new word. For example, GALA plus OLYMPIC gives POLYGAMICAL, and REACH plus OLYMPIC gives both MICROCEPHALY and PYROCHEMICAL.

Eight years later, in May 1984, Word Ways ran "An Olympic Quiz, 1984 Style". In the intervening years, I had toiled away to produce a further 60 words which could be combined with OLYMPIC. This time, I managed to include words ranging in length from one to nine letters. For example, E plus OLYMPIC gives POLYEMIC, and CHLORATES plus OLYMPIC gives THERMOSCOPICALLY.

I see that another eight years have passed. I have not been idle during that time. Another batch of 60 words has been discovered, all of which will combine with the letters of OLYMPIC. The following list covers lengths of two to eight letters. Take each of the words in the following list, merge the letters with those of OLYMPIC, and create a new word. Although there are quite a few everyday words here, I have had to include a fair sprinkling of less-common words. All are in the Merriam-Webster unabridged dictionaries except for GLYN and BEHRENS (Random House Unabridged), GREN (Chambers English Dictionary), and BIRSETEST and ORNATER (Official Scrabble Words).

Ag  bestain  hae  ornater  talced
already  birstiest  hat  petal  te
artic  cache  hate  rebaters  then
artistic  chat  he  rhyme  thetes
ashine  cleat  headpost  rich  thine
aslan  diamine  hermes  rota  tic
ba  enate  Hoh  sedation  to
bailor  erode  hoten  Serbs  tours
ban  fors  Houdans  shogs  undone
bat  gannets  hove  smoring  urnings
beaches  Glyn  meshier  solution  zered
Behrens  gren  nash  sum  zeroing

Answers can be found in Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.