

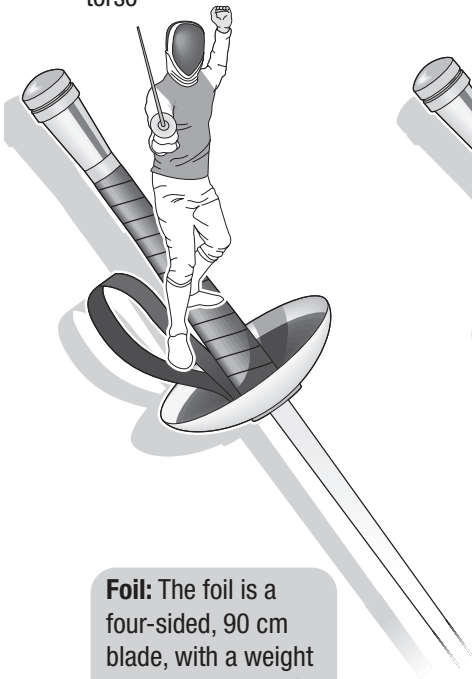
Fencing

Fencing is practised in a number of forms, all in some way connected to its historic past as a style of combat.

The sport of fencing is most often seen in the Olympic Games and the World Cup. Competitions follow the rules created by the *Fédération Internationale d'Escrime* (International Fencing Federation). This is the international governing body for fencing. Its rules have evolved from the fencing techniques found in Europe between the mid-17th and early-20th centuries.

Foil

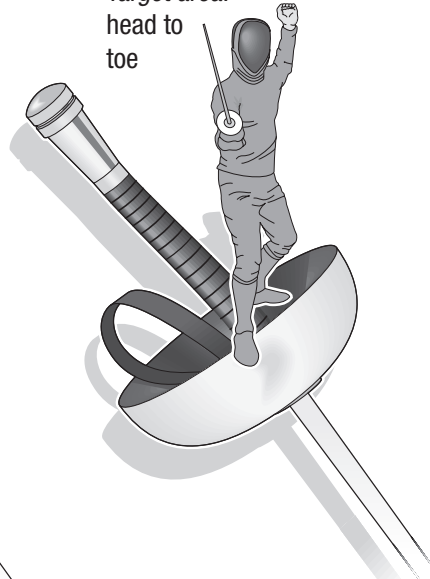
Target area:
torso



Foil: The foil is a four-sided, 90 cm blade, with a weight up to 500 g. The **hit** registers only when pressure on the point is at least 500 g.

Épée

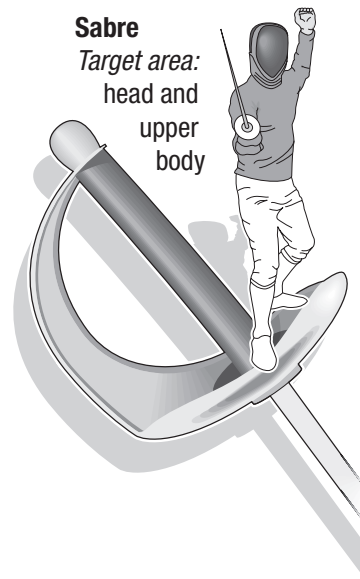
Target area:
head to
toe



Épée: The épée is a three-sided, 90 cm blade, weighing up to 770 g. The **hit** registers only when pressure on the point is at least 750 g.

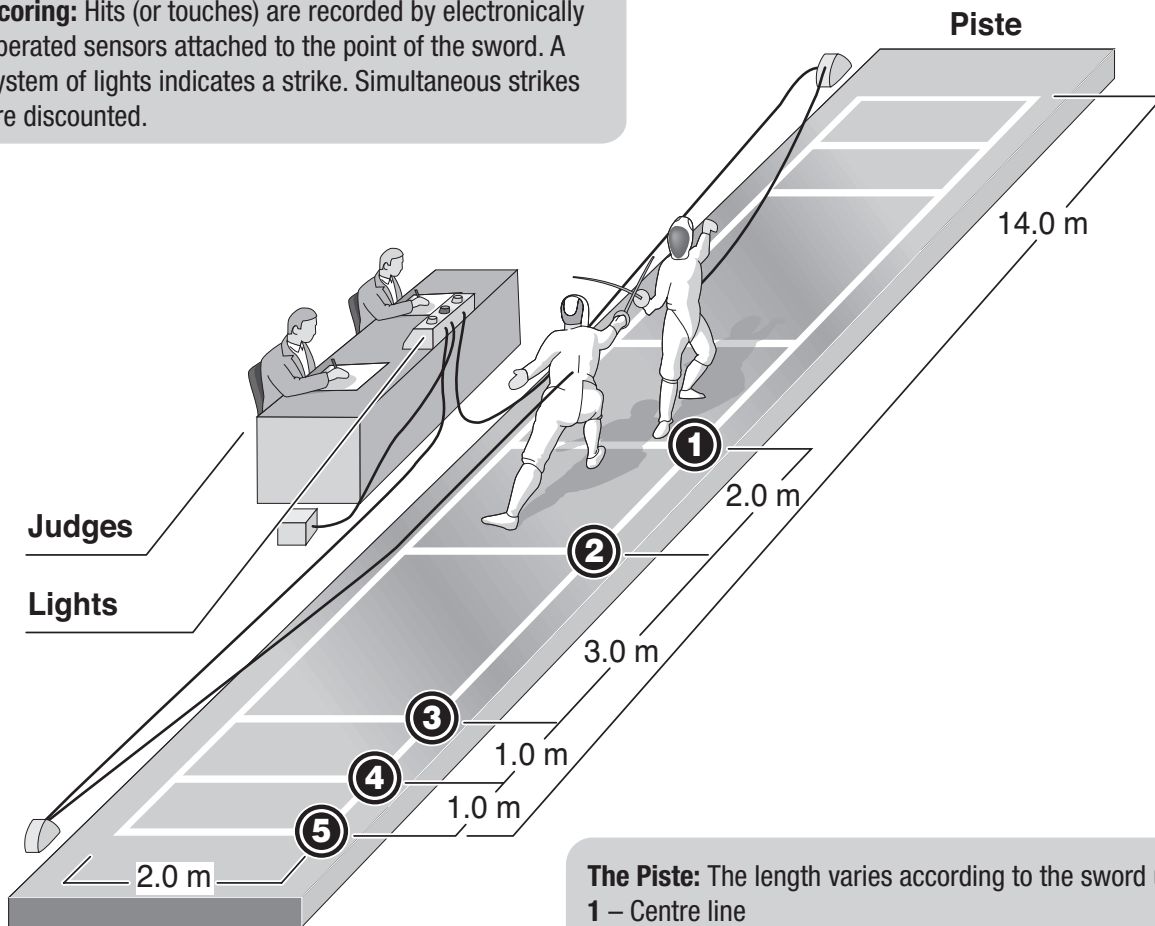
Sabre

Target area:
head and
upper
body



Sabre: The sabre is a Y-shaped, 88 cm blade that may be curved. It can weigh up to 500 g. Unlike the foil or épée swords, a **hit** is registered with the edge or point of the sabre.

Scoring: Hits (or touches) are recorded by electronically operated sensors attached to the point of the sword. A system of lights indicates a strike. Simultaneous strikes are discounted.



The Piste: The length varies according to the sword used.
 1 – Centre line
 2 – On-guard line
 3 – Épée/sabre warning line
 4 – Foil warning line
 5 – Rear limit for all swords

18 With the épée, a hit registers if the pressure on the point is at least

- a 90 g.
- b 500 g.
- c 750 g.
- d 770 g.

19 What is the *Fédération Internationale d’Escrime* (International Fencing Federation)?

- a an organization that oversees fencing
- b different fencing teams around the world
- c different fencing techniques used in the past
- d an electronic sensor that counts points in fencing

20 Look at the picture below.



Why is this picture of fencers included on the first page of the text?

- a to create better fencers
 - b to illustrate where fencers stand
 - c to show the target areas on fencers
 - d to explain the importance of fencing
- 21** What does the word “piste” refer to?
- a the sword the fencer uses
 - b the equipment the fencer wears
 - c the floor the competition takes place on
 - d the arrangement of the judges and lights

22 Explain how the text, diagrams and shaded boxes work together to help the reader understand the sport of fencing. Use details and examples from the text to support your answer.

23 Explain why it is important to have judges and lights when scoring fencing. Use information from the text and your own ideas to support your answer.
