

Rugby

WORKSHEET A

Rugby is a sport that has (1) _____ of fans around the world, even though there are some countries in which it is hardly played at all.

The old saying that rugby is ‘a ruffian’s game played by gentlemen’ was always partly a joke but it does indicate two things: first that rugby is a (3) _____ game (although it can also be beautiful and spectacular), and second that it was developed in an ‘upper class’ environment. Indeed, its name comes from the fact that it is said to have been invented on the (5) _____, an exclusive private school in England, in the 1820s.

There are now (7) _____ main forms of rugby, the more widespread of which is played by two teams of fifteen players on a grass pitch about (9) _____ metres long and 70 metres wide.

It’s probably fair to say that the rules are more complicated than those of football and that someone watching it for the first time might sometimes find it difficult to understand (11) _____.

The basic idea, however, is for each team to move the oval-shaped ball towards the end of the pitch defended by their opponents. The players can (13) _____ as well as kicking it (although they can only throw it backwards or sideways, not forwards), and when a player is carrying the ball forwards the opposing players are allowed to stop him by pulling him to the ground.

There are different ways to score points but the highest number ((15) _____) is for a ‘try’, which is when an attacking player manages to get through the defending players to put the ball down on the ground behind the line at the end of the pitch.

As with football and cricket, rugby spread around the world in the nineteenth century with the expansion of the British Empire. The game is popular in the ex-British colonies of (17) _____ – three countries whose national teams are always among the best in the world. Not all the major rugby nations are English-speaking, though: France are one of the best teams and Argentina – better known for football, of course – have also been doing well.

Like football, rugby has a World Cup competition that takes place every four years. The last one was in 2007, in France, when the champions were South Africa, who beat (19) _____ 15-6 in the final. The next World Cup will be in New Zealand in 2011, when the home team – known as the ‘All Blacks’ because of their black shirts, shorts and socks – will probably be the favourites.

Rugby

WORKSHEET B

Rugby is a sport that has many millions of fans around the world, even though there are some countries in which it is hardly played at all.

The old saying that rugby is '(2) _____' was always partly a joke but it does indicate two things: first that rugby is a physically tough and occasionally violent game (although it can also be beautiful and spectacular), and second that it was developed in an (4) _____ environment. Indeed, its name comes from the fact that it is said to have been invented on the playing fields of Rugby school, an exclusive private school in England, in (6) _____. There are now two main forms of rugby, the more widespread of which is played by two teams of (8) _____ players on a grass pitch about 100 metres long and (10) _____ metres wide.

It's probably fair to say that the rules are more complicated than those of football and that someone watching it for the first time might sometimes find it difficult to understand what's going on.

The basic idea, however, is for each team to move the (12) _____-shaped ball towards the end of the pitch defended by their opponents. The players can pick up, carry and throw the ball as well as kicking it (although they can only throw it backwards or sideways, not forwards), and when a player is carrying the ball forwards the opposing players are allowed to stop him by (14) _____.

There are different ways to score points but the highest number (five) is for a 'try', which is when an attacking player manages to get through the defending players to put the ball (16) _____ behind the line at the end of the pitch. As with football and cricket, rugby spread around the world in the nineteenth century with the expansion of the British Empire. The game is popular in the ex-British colonies of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa – three countries whose national teams are always among the best in the world. Not all the major rugby nations are English-speaking, though: France are one of the best teams and Argentina – better known for football, of course – have also been doing well.

Like football, rugby has a (18) _____ that takes place every four years. The last one was in 2007, in France, when the champions were South Africa, who beat England 15-6 in the final. The next World Cup will be in New Zealand in 2011, when the home team – known as the 'All Blacks' because of (20) _____ – will probably be the favourites.

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WORKSHEET C

Exercise 1

Team A

Write questions to find out the missing information in the text on Worksheet A.

1. How many _____ ?
3. What kind _____ ?
5. Where _____ ?
7. How many _____ ?
9. About how _____ ?
11. What _____ ?
13. What _____ ?
15. How many _____ ?
17. Whose _____ ?
19. Who _____ ?

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Team B

Write questions to find out the missing information in the text on Worksheet B.

2. What is _____ ?
4. What kind _____ ?
6. When _____ ?
8. How many _____ ?
10. About how _____ ?
12. What _____ ?
14. How _____ ?
16. Where _____ ?
18. What _____ ?
20. Why _____ ?

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WORKSHEET D

Exercise 2

The text from Worksheet A has been copied below, but now contains 25 mistakes – can you find and correct them?

Rugby is a sport that has many millions of fans around the world, even there are some countries in which it is hard played at all.

The old say that rugby is ‘a ruffian’s game played by gentlemen’ was always partly a joke but it does indicate two things: first that rugby is a physically though and occasionally violent game (although it can also be beautiful and spectacle), and second that it was develop in an ‘upper class’ environment. Indeed, its name comes from the fact that it is said to have been invented on the playing fields of Rugby school, an excluder private school in England, in the 1820s.

There are now two main forms of rugby, the more spread of which is played by two teams of fifteen players on a grass pitch about 100 metres long and 70 metres wide. It’s probably fare to say that the rules are more complicated than those of football and that someone watching it for the first time might sometimes find it difficult to understand what’s going up.

The base idea, however, is for each team to move the oval-shaped ball towards the end of the pitch defended by their opposants. The players can pick up, carry and throw the ball as well as kicking it (although they can only throw it backwards or side, not forwards), and when a player is carrying the ball forwards the opposing players are allowed to stop him by pull him to the ground.

There are different ways to core points but the highest number (five) is for a ‘try’, which is when an attacking player manages to get through the defending players to put the ball down on the ground behind the line at the end of the patch.

As with football and cricket, rugby read around the world in the nineteenth century with the expansion of the British Empire. The game is popular in the ex-British colons of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa – three countries whose national teams are always among the best in the world. Not all the minor rugby nations are English-speak, though: France are one of the best teams and Argentina – better known for football, of course – have also been doing well.

Like football, rugby has a World Cup compet that takes place every four years. The last one was in 2007, in France, when the champions were South Africa, who won England 15-6 in the final. The next World Cup will be in New Zealand in 2011, when the home team – know as the ‘All Blacks’ because of their black shirts, shorts and sacks – will probably be the favourites.

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WORKSHEET E

Rugby is a sport that has many millions of fans around the world, even **though** there are some countries in which it is **hardly** played at all.

The old **saying** that rugby is ‘a ruffian’s game played by gentlemen’ was always partly a joke but it does indicate two things: first that rugby is a physically **tough** and occasionally violent game (although it can also be beautiful and **spectacular**), and second that it was **developed** in an ‘upper class’ environment. Indeed, its name comes from the fact that it is said to have been invented on the playing fields of Rugby school, an **exclusive** private school in England, in the 1820s.

There are now two main forms of rugby, the more **widespread** of which is played by two teams of fifteen players on a grass pitch about 100 metres **long** and 70 metres wide.

It’s probably **fair** to say that the rules are more complicated than those of football and that someone watching it for the first time might sometimes find it difficult to understand what’s going **on**.

The **basic** idea, however, is for each team to move the oval-shaped ball towards the end of the pitch defended by their **opponents**. The players can pick up, carry and throw the ball as well as kicking it (although they can only throw it backwards or **sideways**, not forwards), and when a player is carrying the ball forwards the opposing players are allowed to stop him by **pulling** him to the ground.

There are different ways to **score** points but the highest number (five) is for a ‘try’, which is when an attacking player manages to get through the defending players to put the ball down on the ground behind the line at the end of the **pitch**.

As with football and cricket, rugby **spread** around the world in the nineteenth century with the expansion of the British Empire. The game is popular in the ex-British **colonies** of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa – three countries whose national teams are always among the best in the world. Not all the **major** rugby nations are English-**speaking**, though: France are one of the best teams and Argentina – better known for football, of course – have also been doing well.

Like football, rugby has a World Cup **competition** that takes place every four years. The last one was in 2007, in France, when the champions were South Africa, who **beat** England 15-6 in the final. The next World Cup will be in New Zealand in 2011, when the home team – **known** as the ‘All Blacks’ because of their black shirts, shorts and **socks** – will probably be the favourites.