

Wimbledon

WORKSHEET A

The most famous sights every year at Wimbledon are people eating strawberries and cream and sitting under their umbrellas “enjoying” the British weather!

“Open” tennis started at Wimbledon in 1968, meaning that amateurs and professionals of all levels could play against each other. In 2012, Czech Lukáš Rosol came from obscurity and defeated Spanish champion Rafael Nadal.

Wimbledon is a suburb of London. The zip code for the area is SW19, one of the most famous zip codes in the world.

American Serena Williams won the women’s title in 2012 for the fifth time. Both she and men’s winner Roger Federer are over 30 years old.

Wimbledon is the only Grand Slam tournament which is held on grass. Also, all the players must dress only in white.

Roger Federer, Swiss winner of Wimbledon in 2012, has won more times than anyone except the retired American Pete Sampras, who also won seven times. Even more impressive is women’s champion Martina Navratilova with nine wins.

Unlike almost all other sporting events, Wimbledon is free from sponsorship. This means that there are no advertising banners around the courts.

Tennis started in France nearly 1,000 years ago. The game was originally played in the courtyards of royal palaces, using the walls (like squash) rather than a net, and the palms of players’ hands rather than rackets. The scoring (15, 30, 40) is thought to be based on the four quarters of a clock face.

The words *love* and *deuce* come from French words. *Deuce* comes from *deux*, meaning *two*, telling us that two more consecutive points are needed to win the game. *Love* comes from the word *l’oeuf*, meaning *egg*, which represents *zero*.

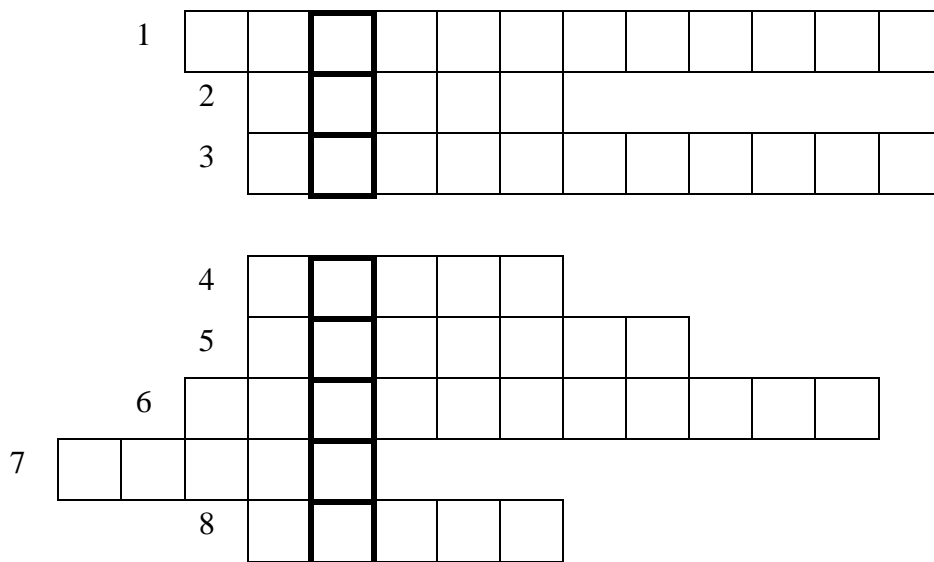
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WORKSHEET B

Exercise 1

Complete the crossword below. If all the words are correct, the name of a 1960s Wimbledon champion will read from top to bottom.

1. People often eat these at Wimbledon.
2. He beat Nadal this year.
3. You won't see any of this around the courts – only on the players.
4. The scoring in tennis is thought to have come from the face of a what?
5. Along with Federer, he holds the title for highest number of men's singles victories at Wimbledon.
6. She won the women's singles title nine times.
7. The players must all dress in this.
8. Wimbledon is the only Grand Slam tournament to be played on this.



Exercise 2

Answer as many of these questions as possible in two minutes.

1. How long ago did tennis start?
2. When did "open" tennis start at Wimbledon?
3. What's the zip code of Wimbledon?
4. Which French word does "love" come from?
5. Which French word does "deuce" come from?
6. When tennis started, what was used instead of a net?
7. Who is the 2012 women's champion?
8. Who is the 2012 men's champion?