

Name _____

Activity

- 1 Look at the photos (A–C). What's the sport in each photo? What are the people doing?



SPORTS LESSONS THAT ARE NOT JUST ABOUT PLAYING SPORT

At Larbert High School, sport is not just something students ¹....., it's something they can teach. As well as learning to play sports, students can learn other skills such as coaching. After they finish the coaching ²....., students can help teach sports such as swimming to primary school children. There are also courses in refereeing and sports journalism. Students who ³..... the refereeing course can referee youth games. They can even make a bit of money doing it in their ⁴..... time. There is also a sports journalism team. The skills the students learn from sports journalism also help them at school with their maths, English and DT. The sports reporters are ⁵..... because there are thirty clubs for twenty different sports. The school even has its ⁶..... mountain-biking track. Is this the future of all sports lessons at school?

Read on

- 2 Read the article below quickly. What is unusual about sports lessons at Larbert High School?

exam tip: multiple-choice cloze

Think about words that go together. For example: *play/teach/watch football* (but not *make football*).

- 3 e Read the exam tip. Read the article again and choose the correct answer (A, B or C) for each gap.

- | | | |
|------------|------------|-----------|
| 1 A make | B go | C do |
| 2 A course | B study | C subject |
| 3 A lose | B complete | C miss |
| 4 A other | B empty | C free |
| 5 A busy | B full | C fast |
| 6 A only | B own | C one |

4 Read the article below. Does Paddy enjoy being a tennis coach? _____

5 Read the article again and answer the questions.

- 1 What do some of the children find difficult at the beginning of their classes? _____
- 2 What does Paddy find hard about coaching sometimes? _____
- 3 Why does Paddy never teach alone? _____
- 4 How does Paddy think he's got better as a coach? _____
- 5 How does Paddy feel about the things the children ask him? _____

6 Find words or phrases in the article that have these meanings.

- 1 get better (*v*)
- 2 the thing you use to hit a tennis ball (*n*)
- 3 a fully-grown person (*n*)
- 4 easy to understand (*adj*)
- 5 the thing you like the most (*adj*)



Meet Paddy, the teen tennis coach



Hi, my name's Paddy and I'm a tennis coach. I teach children from the age of five. When they start, most children can't hit the ball at all – it goes everywhere! Some of the children I'm teaching at the moment couldn't hold a racket properly when they started. It's great to see them improve. I find coaching quite easy, but big groups of kids can be difficult to control. Luckily, I always work with an adult – I can't teach on my own yet because of my age. I think I'm a better coach now than I was a year ago. I could explain things well, but at first the children didn't listen to me because I talked too much! Now they can understand me better because my instructions are clearer and simpler. The funny thing about the little kids I teach is that they ask loads of questions! They want to know all about me: 'What's your favourite food?' 'Can you play the guitar?' Sometimes they ask too many questions!

"The ball's in your court" means 'it's your decision now'.