

TV Segment: EXPERT ANALYSIS

A) Watch the expert analysis for the US Open men's final 2016. Was there a clear favourite before the final?

B) Watch again and say who the following refer to: Novak Djokovic (N) or Stan Wawrinka (S)?

has been injured

is the defending champion

he looks very solid

the last thing he wants to do is lose another final to this rival

he has acquired a lot of faith in his game in the last years

has got a great, explosive, beautiful one-handed backhand

has been in this stage before

has won the tournament three times

is experienced

has won the last ten finals in which he has appeared

he will approach the match really believing he can beat his opponent

thinks that if he plays close to his optimum level he can beat his opponent

C) Find words in point be that contain the sounds below. Practice reading them out loud.

/dʒ/ (as in Arg <u>u</u> ntina)	/θ/ (as in <u>th</u> anks)	/d/ (as in <u>D</u> urban)	/ai/ (as in <u>ti</u> tle)

D) Look at the expressions below, taken from the video you've just seen. What do they refer to?

to blast winners	as likely to be good as to be bad
one-handed backhand	to hit the ball with great strength and get the point
his hit or miss shot tends to be the forehand	tennis shot in which one swings the racquet around one's body with the back of the hand preceding the palm, holding the racquet with one hand only.

E) Read more about tennis shots. Replace the vocabulary items in the correct place:

cross-court serve between their legs volleys
backhands smash slice forehands

Tennis shots can be categorized according to when they are hit (serve, groundstroke, volley, half volley), how they are hit (smash, forehand, backhand, flat, side spin, block, slice, topspin shot), or where they are hit (lob, passing shot, dropshot, cross-court shot, down-the-line shot).

The is the opening shot of a point. Groundstrokes are hit after the ball has already bounced, and can be either (struck from the dominant side of the

body) or (struck from the non- dominant side of the body). A lob is a groundstroke hit well over the head of an opponent who is positioned at the net. A passing shot is a groundstroke that is hit out of reach of an opponent at the net far to his left or right. A *shot* is a shot hit from the left (or right) side of one player's court to the left (or right) side of the other player's court (from each player's own point of view), so that it crosses the lengthwise centerline of the court. A *down-the-line shot* is one that is hit more or less parallel to, and near to, one of the sidelines, so that it never crosses the centerline.

Shots hit during a point without the ball having bounced are called, while shots hit just a split second after the ball bounces are called half volleys.

A is hit with the racket well above one's head with great velocity. A drop shot is a groundstroke or volley that is hit lightly so that it barely goes over the net.

A is a groundstroke or volley hit with backspin, while a *topspin shot* is a groundstroke or occasionally a volley hit with topspin.

The "tweener" is a rarely used shot in which a player hits the ball, generally with their back facing the net. Also known as the between-the-legs shot or the *Gran Willy* (after Guillermo Vilas, an early pioneer), it is generally performed when the player runs to recover a lob and has no time to turn back around.