

Read the theory and solve.

**A** Complete this text by putting in the correct passive forms of the verbs in brackets.

## Rugby Union

Rugby is a team game that 1 ..... (play) in Britain since the middle of the 19th century. According to legend, it 2 ..... (invent) at Rugby School in England in 1823 by a boy who 3 ..... (call) William Webb Ellis. A game of football 4 ..... (play) at the school when Webb Ellis suddenly picked up the ball and ran with it. This story might 5 ..... (make up) but it 6 ..... (tell) whenever the history of the game 7 ..... (explain).

Towards the end of the 19th century, official rules for the game 8 ..... (write) and it began 9 ..... (play) in more and more countries, such as France, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. International matches and tours 10 ..... (organize) since the beginning of the 20th century and since 1987 a World Cup tournament 11 ..... (hold). At present, more and more countries 12 ..... (add) to the list of those that take part in the tournament. Television audiences for international matches are high and it is hoped that the game 13 ..... (watch) by even more people in the future.

Until 1995, Rugby Union was an amateur game but the top players said that they were in favour of 14 ..... (pay) to play and that the sport should 15 ..... (turn into) a professional one. Despite various problems, this seems 16 ..... (do) successfully and the sport is growing in popularity, with spectator numbers rising in Britain and elsewhere.

In Rugby Union, there are 15 players in each team and different skills 17 ..... (require) in each position. People of all shapes and sizes 18 ..... (attract) to the game because some positions 19 ..... (suit) to very big people while others can 20 ..... (fill) by smaller people.

**B** Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

- 1 My parents lent me the money.  
The money .....
- 2 They gave her a special prize at the ceremony.  
She .....
- 3 The company sent me these brochures.  
I .....
- 4 My girlfriend bought me this watch.  
This watch .....
- 5 The salesman showed me various kinds of hi-fi system.  
I .....
- 6 A neighbour sold the car to her.  
The car .....

- C** Rewrite this newspaper report, changing all the verbs from active to passive forms and including an agent where necessary.

## Agreement on New Football Stadium

The local authority announced yesterday it has agreed that the Earlsdon Rangers Football Club can build a new football stadium on the outskirts of the city. The club has done a great deal of research and has found a suitable site. It seems that the planners have solved problems concerning transport to and from the site – the plans are going to include a new railway station and special train service. They also had to consider environmental issues and the opinions of local residents, who say that they are not opposed to the club building the stadium. Builders will start work on the new stadium next year and they should complete it within 18 months. The club is planning a special match to celebrate the opening of the stadium and they will give details of this when they have finalized them.

Yesterday it 1 ..... that  
it 2 ..... that a new  
stadium 3 ..... on the  
outskirts of the city. A great deal of research  
4 ..... and a suitable  
site 5 ..... . Problems  
concerning transport to and from the site seem  
6 ..... – a new railway  
station and train service 7 .....  
in the plans. Environmental issues and the opinions  
of local residents also had to  
8 ..... and the local  
residents say that they are not opposed to the  
stadium 9 ..... . Work  
10 ..... next year and  
it 11 ..... within 18  
months. A special match to celebrate the opening of  
the stadium 12 .....  
and details of this 13 .....  
when they 14 .....

- D** Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using passive forms.

- 1 Police discovered that the thieves had stolen over £1 million from the bank.  
It ..... had stolen over £1 million from the bank.
- 2 John doesn't like other people telling him what to do at work.  
John doesn't like ..... at work.
- 3 Someone should have dealt with this problem a long time ago.  
This problem ..... a long time ago.
- 4 People felt that the government wasn't spending enough money on this issue.  
It ..... was being spent by the government on this issue.
- 5 I think that he could have written this letter more politely.  
I think that this letter ..... more politely.
- 6 Helen expects other people to praise her all the time.  
Helen expects ..... all the time.
- 7 Applicants must return this form by 21st March.  
This form ..... by 21st March.
- 8 Heavy traffic delayed him and that's why he was late.  
He ..... and that's why he was late.
- 9 They had closed the road and the emergency services were treating the injured.  
The road ..... the emergency services were treating  
the injured.
- 10 The judge is considering the case and he will give his decision tomorrow.  
The case ..... and the judge will give his decision  
tomorrow.

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