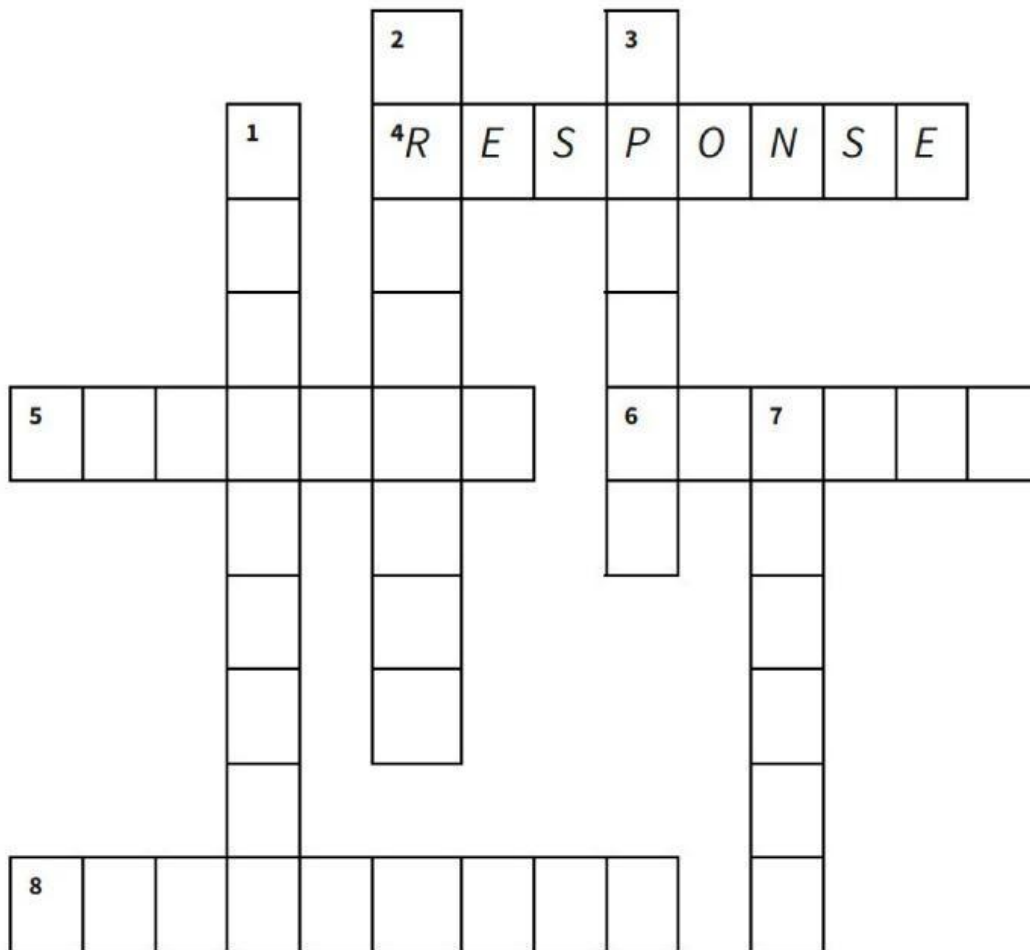


1 Use the clues to complete the crossword.



Across

- 4 a reaction to something that has been said or done
 5 a brief remark
 6 the possibility that something bad will happen
 8 when you say that something or someone is bad

Down

- 1 something that someone says or writes officially
 2 a suggestion for a plan
 3 new information
 7 a fact that lots of people talk about that may or may not be true

2 **Complete the sentences with the words in the box.**

confession confirmation hints
 predictions rumours ~~statement~~ update

Early this year, Frank Towers made a **1**.....*statement*..... that he would retire after this year's Wimbledon tennis championship. This provided the **2**..... that the press had been looking for. He has been suffering from fitness problems recently and there were **3**..... of retirement, with people making **4**.....

that he would stop at the end of last year. However, his emotional **5**.....
 that the pain was too much was sad to watch. Now, however, the tennis player has had
 a successful operation and in a recent news **6**..... he has
 made **7**..... that his competing days might not be over.

3 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences. Write the reporting verb in the correct tense.

- 1** confirm / the first match / on Saturday / The / is / coach / that
*The coach confirmed that the first match is on Saturday.*
- 2** didn't remember / medicine / she / that / any / claim / taking / She

- 3** on the team / beg / let them / me / to / They / play

- 4** football / after school / to go / Mum / me / remind / to / training

- 5** top / afternoon / players / this / They reveal / ten / the

- 6** sports / My parents / enjoyed / me / always / encourage / to try / the / I

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

admit ~~argue~~ declare
 emphasise propose tell

- 1** We*argued*..... about the throwing technique and I still don't agree with him.
- 2** The teacher me to come to the classroom at four o'clock.
- 3** The coach the truth – that she hadn't watched the whole of my final match.
- 4** After 12 rounds of boxing, there was no clear winner so the referee a draw.
- 5** The trainer that Kate try skating with a different partner.
- 6** The teacher the importance of stretching before and after exercise.

5 Choose the correct options.

A: So, how did training go today?

B: It was good. My coach finally **(1)** *declared* / *proposed* / *revealed* that my backhand has improved and I hit **(2)** *a record* / *an unlimited* / *a minimum* number of winning shots in the final game and beat him. He actually **(3)** *argued* / *encouraged* / *reminded* me to apply for the national competition.

A: Wonderful! My **(4)** *criticism* / *prediction* / *mention* was right, you just needed to practise more.

B: I know, I know.

A: Did you just **(5)** *beg* / *reveal* / *admit* that I was right?

B: Maybe! Anyway, my coach **(6)** *emphasised* / *begged* / *proposed* that I need to train six days a week.

A: Well, that will increase your **(7)** *treatment* / *fitness* / *weakness*!

B: I hope so. I'm feeling quite **(8)** *insensitive* / *mean* / *optimistic* anyway.