

EARLY DAYS OF FOOTBALL

Read the text and choose the correct word.

Football became the game we know today during the (0)_____ of Queen Victoria in the nineteenth century. So many different (1)_____ of the game were being played in Britain at that time, that in 1863 the Football Association was (2)_____ in order to draw up and agree the (3)_____ of the game.

Throughout the country new football (4)_____ were built and the development of the railways (5)_____ that football teams and their (6)_____ could travel to the matches. In 1888 the Football League was (7)_____ up with twelve clubs, and football became a national sport, (8)_____ to rugby by many people as the more popular game of the (9)_____.

Sometimes people played the game in just a field. In one town, Burnley, in the north of England, the field had a river (10)_____ along the side of it in which players (11)_____ baths after matches. People stood on banks (12)_____ from earth and it was not until the early 1900s that (13)_____ stands were built. The players would have had two wooden (14)_____ for the goals with tapes across the top instead of a cross bar, and nets were not (15)_____ until 1891.

