

# 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.

