

READING

1 Work in pairs. Read the definition of American football. What are the similarities and differences between football and American football?

American football (n) a game played by two teams of eleven players, using an oval ball which is kicked, thrown or carried. Teams try to put the ball over the other team's line.

THE SUPER BOWL



THE SUPER BOWL is the most important event for American football, and people in the USA, however young or old, seem to stop everything to enjoy it. So how and when did it start? American football was invented in the 19th century when different aspects of traditional European football and rugby were combined. It wasn't until 1966, however, when the National Football League (NFL) and its rival the American Football League (AFL) decided to merge, that the decision to host a large-scale championship game was made.

It was Lamar Hunt, owner of the American football team Kansas City Chiefs and co-founder of the AFL, who invented the name Super Bowl. The story goes that he was inspired by watching his children playing with a Super Ball, a popular toy created at that time by a manufacturer called Wham-O. Hunt didn't really believe the name would stick – it was simply a nickname for the event. But after a while the name was adopted and eventually became official.

The first Super Bowl was played on 15 January 1967, at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in front of 61,946 fans and a lot of empty seats. At the time, nobody imagined how popular the games would become, so tickets were priced at



between only six and twelve dollars. Today tickets can cost as much as \$1,000. The game, which saw the Green Bay Packers beating the Kansas City Chiefs, was shown across America on two major TV networks. There were around 60 million viewers, making it the largest number to ever see a sporting event at that time.

Today Super Bowl Sunday is a day for family and friends. If people aren't at the game, they're huddled around the TV, or holding a Super Bowl party and dressing up in their favourite team's sporting gear. Super Bowl Sunday, like the World Cup Final, is a great day to travel because the streets are practically empty. Food is an integral part of the celebrations. It's said that the only day on which there is a higher consumption of food in America is Thanksgiving – though it's not turkey on the menu for the Super Bowl, but pizza and rib-eye steak.

People also enjoy the half-time show, which has effectively become a mini-concert. Each year it is bigger and better than the last, with huge stars such as Bruce Springsteen performing. So, if you're not into sport, you can enjoy the music, and if you're not into music, you can enjoy the fireworks, and if you're not into fireworks, you can be amazed by the lavish commercials. One 30-second television spot costs anywhere up to \$3 million. But then that's not surprising when you think of the millions of consumers it will reach.

Wielokrotny wybór

2 EXAM TASK ➤ Przeczytaj tekst powyżej. Z podanych odpowiedzi wybierz właściwą, zgodną z jego treścią. Zakreśl literę A, B, C lub D.

- 1 The first Super Bowl took place ...
A to celebrate the beginning of American football.
B as a result of a partnership between two groups.
C to mark a change in the rules of American football.
D as a way of spreading the game to other countries.
- 2 Lamar Hunt named the games Super Bowl because ...
A one of his children suggested it.
B he thought it was a memorable name.
C his children had a toy with a similar name.
D it was recommended by a toy manufacturer.
- 3 What is true of the first Super Bowl?
A The tickets were over-priced.
B The game ended in a draw.
C There was hardly any TV coverage.
D It had a record number of spectators.
- 4 People traditionally celebrate Super Bowl Sunday by ...
A holding street parties.
B sharing meals with friends and family.
C going to restaurants.
D imitating the Thanksgiving celebration.
- 5 According to the writer, the audience is huge because the organisers ...
A invite famous people to be among the spectators.
B spend millions of dollars on advertising the event.
C provide a variety of entertainment.
D make the football game more important than anything else.
- 6 The writer's main aim in writing the text is to ...
A explain why the Super Bowl is so popular.
B describe the techniques of the game.
C criticise the money-making side of the Super Bowl.
D encourage people to take part in more sport.

3 Work in pairs. Can you name other sporting events in the world? What makes them important or spectacular?

Vocabulary

4 Read the sentence from the text. What is the meaning of however in this context?

The Super Bowl is the most important event for American football and people in the USA, however young or old, seem to stop everything to enjoy it.

5 Complete the sentences with the words below. Use each word twice.

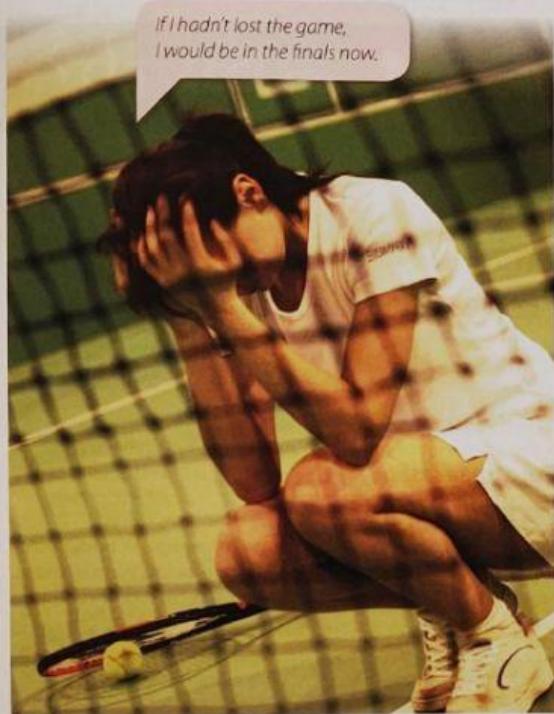
whichever whoever wherever whatever however

- 1 Do _____ you like.
- 2 _____ she goes, there are crowds of people waiting for her.
- 3 _____ says that is a liar.
- 4 It takes three hours, _____ route you take.
- 5 Take _____ action is needed.
- 6 He comes from Boula, _____ that is.
- 7 Choose _____ brand you prefer.
- 8 Sheila has the window open, _____ cold it is.
- 9 I don't want to see them; _____ they are.
- 10 _____ you look at it, it's going to cost a fortune.

USE OF ENGLISH (1)

Mixed conditionals

6 Look at the photo and read the speech bubble. Choose the correct answer. Explain your choice.



If I hadn't lost the game,
I would be in the finals now.

The player is upset because...

- a she's lost the game and she's also lost the finals.
- b she's lost the game and she won't play in the finals.
- c she's lost the game but she hasn't lost the finals.

► Kiedy mówimy o sytuacji z przeszłości, która ma wpływ na obecną lub przyszłą sytuację, stosujemy tzw. tryb warunkowy mieszany. Łączymy wówczas trzeci tryb warunkowy z drugim, np.
If Mark had trained harder, he would be in the national team now. (Ale nie trenował ciężko i nie jest teraz w drużynie narodowej).

► Trybu mieszanego używamy również wtedy, gdy obecny stan rzeczy mógłby mieć wpływ na jakąś sytuację w przeszłości, np.
If Christina were fitter, she would have won the race yesterday. (Ale nie jest sprawna i nie wygrała wczorajszego wyścigu).

7 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 If I _____ (be) a bad player, they _____ (not shortlist) me for the Championships last weekend.
- 2 Dan _____ (take part) in the race tomorrow if he _____ (not twist) his ankle on Saturday.
- 3 More people _____ (come) to watch the last football match if the stadium _____ (be) heated.
- 4 If I _____ (be) you, I _____ (not buy) these trainers. They don't look comfortable.
- 5 If Jack _____ (break) the rules, he _____ (stay) on the team for the upcoming summer games.

8 Rewrite the sentences using mixed conditionals.

- 1 My mother didn't wake me up. Now I'm late for the PE lesson.
- 2 Sonia can't ski so she didn't go skiing with her friends.
- 3 My brother is afraid of water so he has never learned to swim.
- 4 You didn't book the tickets so we won't be able to see the race.
- 5 Clare doesn't like jogging, so she refused to take part in the marathon.

Parafraza zdań

9 EXAM TASK Uzupełnij luki w zdaniach, tak aby zachować znaczenie zdania wyjściowego. Wykorzystaj wyrazy w nawiasie w niezmienionej formie. W podanych fragmentach zdań nie wolno niczego zmieniać. Wymagana jest pełna poprawność gramatyczna i ortograficzna.

- 1 I wasn't tall enough to play basketball.
If I were taller, I _____ basketball. (WOULD)
- 2 I'm sure the referee saw the foul.
The referee _____ the foul. (MUST)
- 3 The ski jumper has twisted his leg and he can't take part in the competition.
Had the ski jumper not twisted his leg, _____ in the competition. (COULD)
- 4 The coach didn't know he would be sacked a week later.
Little _____ sacked a week later. (DID)
- 5 People say the goalkeeper wasn't doing his best.
The goalkeeper is said _____ his best. (HAVE)
- 6 Please don't say anything to my parents; the student asked her PE teacher.
The student _____ anything to her parents. (BEGGED)
- 7 I strongly advise you to check the equipment before the tournament.
You _____ the equipment before the tournament. (HAD)
- 8 We had an unexpected visitor at the annual school race.
A visitor _____ at the annual school race. (TURNED)
- 9 What a pity I can't play in the match tomorrow.
I _____ the match tomorrow. (COULD)
- 10 The boxer was hit so hard that he became unconscious in the first round.
The boxer _____ in the first round. (OUT)

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