

Read the *Prepare to write* box. Then read the letter again and answer the questions.

- 1 What informal phrases for starting and ending a letter does Stuart use? What other features of informal language does he use?
- 2 Why does Stuart say, 'You weren't expecting that were you?'?
- 3 Why does he say, 'Having said that ...'?
- 4 He claims that golf is always on Scottish TV. Is this a fact or an opinion?
- 5 Stuart argues that aim of the game is simple. Is this a fact or an opinion?

1.-

2.-

3.-

4.-

5.-

3 Choose the correct answers.

¹ *There's no question that / It's no surprise that* the Murray brothers have raised the profile of tennis in Scotland: tennis is in the news in Scotland every time there's a major international tournament.

² *Which means that / In spite of this*, more people play football (16%) than tennis (2%). ³ *I'd say that / Consequently*, there are more football pitches than tennis courts.

I love racket sports like squash, badminton and table tennis.

⁴ *Having said that, / Which means that* I like swimming, too. And I live opposite a swimming pool, ⁵ *in spite of that / which means that* I go swimming more than I play racket sports. An article in a recent edition of a journal revealed the medical benefits of swimming, and ⁶ *it's estimated that / it seems clear to me that* swimming prevents 100,000 deaths every year.