

Sports B1-B2

1/ Read the texts about popular sports. Fill in suitable words into the gaps. Choose from the following words for the first 2 texts: *bat, catcher, court, field, glove, helmet, pitcher, net, racket, scoreboard, spectators, umpire*

TENNIS

Tennis is played on a ¹ . The players use a ² to hit the ball over the ³ . The ⁴ checks that the players follow the rules. The ⁵ can see who's winning by looking at the ⁶ .

BASEBALL

Baseball is played on a ⁷ with a diamond. The ⁸ throws (or pitches) the ball and the batter hits it with a ⁹ . The backstop, or ¹⁰ , stands behind the batter. He has to wear a special ¹¹ to help him catch the ball and a ¹² for protection.



Words to choose from for the next 2 texts:

athlete, boots, field, goal, goalkeeper, javelin, lane, pitch, referee, stadium, track, whistle

FOOTBALL

A football match is played on a ¹³ . The ¹⁴ (or goalie) protects the ¹⁵ and tries to stop the other team scoring. The ¹⁶ blows a ¹⁷ if a player does something wrong. The players wear football ¹⁸ to stop them slipping.



ATHLETICS

Most sports in athletics involve running, jumping or throwing. Running races, except for the marathon, are held inside the ¹⁹ , and each runner has a numbered ²⁰ marked out on the ²¹ . To go completely around, each ²² has to run 400 m. Sports like throwing the ²³ take place on a ²⁴ in the central area.



2/ Read the text about a baseball stadium, choose correct answers – write A, B or C.

The Yankee Stadium – the old and the new!



Yankee Stadium is one of the ¹____ sporting stadiums in the world. However, not ²____ outside the United States realises that the building they see now is not the original stadium. Home to the New York Yankees baseball team, the original Yankee Stadium ³____ in 1923 in the Bronx, in the north of New York City. Over 70,000 people went to the stadium to ⁴____ the first game the Yankees played ⁵____ the Boston Red Sox. It was a historic moment and the Yankee Stadium became one of the most famous stadiums in the world. But in 2005, with the original stadium becoming more and more ⁶____ to run, it was announced that the Yankees would build a new stadium just one block away. ⁷____ new stadium took three years to build and cost over two billion US dollars, making it ⁸____ expensive than almost any other stadium in the world.

In April, 2009, the New York Yankees ⁹____ their first game at the new Yankee Stadium. However, many people weren't happy about it, saying that the stadium was too modern and didn't have as ¹⁰____ character. They felt that the great atmosphere that they had previously enjoyed had disappeared. Clearly, it wasn't possible ¹¹____ a place with so many memories and so much history!

Although it is famous for baseball, the stadium is also the home of the New York City FC soccer team. Interestingly, the new stadium is bigger in size ¹²____ the original, but it doesn't fit as many people. ¹³____, fewer Yankee fans could watch their team play baseball. The tickets are more expensive as well, which a lot of fans complained about because they can't afford to come to games despite supporting the team for many years.

And what happened to the old Yankee Stadium? People were worried that it would be knocked down and replaced ¹⁴____ a shopping mall, or a carpark. It became a park with baseball fields and an American football field. It is a place ¹⁵____ young people can now play these sports and dream of playing at the Yankee Stadium in the future.

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1 A famous | B too famous | C most famous |
| 2 A anyone | B someone | C everyone |
| 3 A is built | B was built | C had built |
| 4 A watch | B look | C notice |
| 5 A between | B against | C among |
| 6 A rich | B valuable | C expensive |
| 7 A – | B A | C The |
| 8 A most | B more | C enough |
| 9 A had played | B played | C have played |
| 10 A much | B too | C many |
| 11 A replacing | B replace | C to replace |
| 12 A than | B to | C from |
| 13 A As a result | B However | C For example |
| 14 A with | B of | C from |
| 15 A that | B where | C which |

3/ Read the task and the announcement. There is some information missing. Find it out and write it in the box below.

Your school have invited Ester Ledecká, the best Czech Olympic winter athlete, to talk about her sporting experiences. Write an announcement for the school website and magazine (60–70 words) in which you:

- ▶ explain who is coming,
- ▶ describe her achievements,
- ▶ ask students to prepare questions for her,
- ▶ provide information about the time and place.

A *very* SPECIAL GUEST

Do you want to meet Olympic athlete Ester Ledecká?

Then come to the school gym
next Wednesday at 3 p.m.!

Ester will be talking about her sporting career.
Join us for a party afterwards where you can
talk to Ester about her experience in the
last winter Olympics.

If you are interested, reserve a ticket
on our school website.

Note: bring your trainers, we must change
our shoes before we go into the gym.

4/ Complete the sentences with the missing words. The first letters are given.

1. There were 32 tennis players in the t_____ and the first prize was 1 million pounds.
2. Football fans travel to different stadiums to s_____ their teams.
3. I s_____ two goals in the match yesterday!
4. No one wants to lose. Everyone wants to be a w_____.
5. The World Cup is one of the most important sporting e_____ of this year.
6. The long jumper has just b_____ the record – his was the longest jump ever!
7. The famous boxer decided to appear in the r_____ one last time before retiring.
8. Our volleyball team took part in a c_____ for all the schools in the region.
9. Petra Kvitová is one of our most s_____ tennis players.
10. Some athletes try to lose weight in o_____ to run faster.
11. I am afraid I am not fit e_____ to become a professional skier.
12. I would like to try sailing but you need so much e_____ and it's not cheap to buy it all.