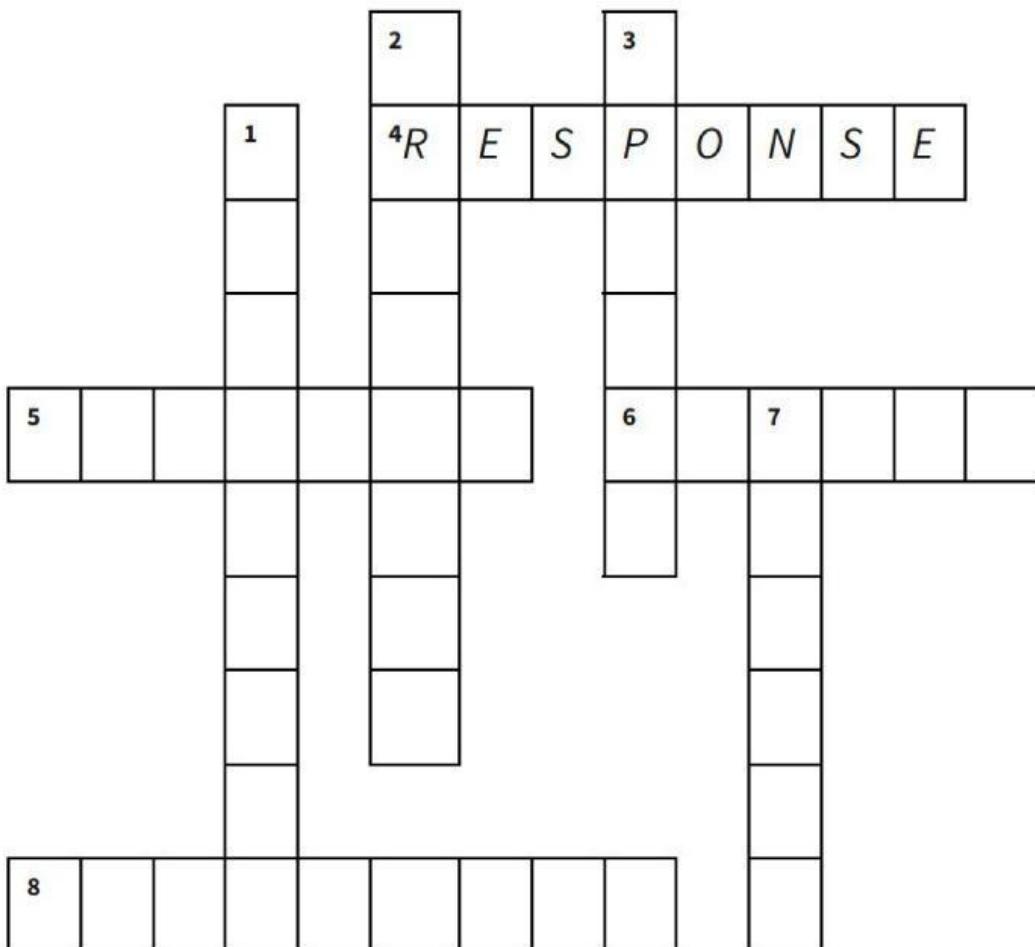


1 Use the clues to complete the crossword.



**Across**

- 4 a reaction to something that has been said or done
- 5 a brief remark
- 6 the possibility that something bad will happen
- 8 when you say that something or someone is bad

**Down**

- 1 something that someone says or writes officially
- 2 a suggestion for a plan
- 3 new information
- 7 a fact that lots of people talk about that may or may not be true

2 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

confession confirmation hints  
predictions rumours statement update

Early this year, Frank Towers made a 1.....statement..... that he would retire after this year's Wimbledon tennis championship. This provided the 2..... that the press had been looking for. He has been suffering from fitness problems recently and there were 3..... of retirement, with people making 4.....

that he would stop at the end of last year. However, his emotional 5..... that the pain was too much was sad to watch. Now, however, the tennis player has had a successful operation and in a recent news 6..... he has made 7..... that his competing days might not be over.

**3 Put the words in the correct order to make sentences. Write the reporting verb in the correct tense.**

- 1 confirm / the first match / on Saturday / The / is / coach / that ..... *The coach confirmed that the first match is on Saturday.* .....
- 2 didn't remember / medicine / she / that / any / claim / taking / She .....
- 3 on the team / beg / let them / me / to / They / play .....
- 4 football / after school / to go / Mum / me / remind / to / training .....
- 5 top / afternoon / players / this / They reveal / ten / the .....
- 6 sports / My parents / enjoyed / me / always / encourage / to try / the / I .....

**4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the box.**

admit argue declare  
emphasise propose tell

- 1 We ..... *argued*..... about the throwing technique and I still don't agree with him.
- 2 The teacher ..... me to come to the classroom at four o'clock.
- 3 The coach ..... the truth – that she hadn't watched the whole of my final match.
- 4 After 12 rounds of boxing, there was no clear winner so the referee ..... a draw.
- 5 The trainer ..... that Kate try skating with a different partner.
- 6 The teacher ..... the importance of stretching before and after exercise.

**5 Choose the correct options.**

A: So, how did training go today?  
B: It was good. My coach finally (1) *declared* / *proposed* / *revealed* that my backhand has improved and I hit (2) a *record* / *an unlimited* / *a minimum* number of winning shots in the final game and beat him. He actually (3) *argued* / *encouraged* / *reminded* me to apply for the national competition.  
A: Wonderful! My (4) *criticism* / *prediction* / *mention* was right, you just needed to practise more.  
B: I know, I know.  
A: Did you just (5) *beg* / *reveal* / *admit* that I was right?  
B: Maybe! Anyway, my coach (6) *emphasised* / *begged* / *proposed* that I need to train six days a week.  
A: Well, that will increase your (7) *treatment* / *fitness* / *weakness*!  
B: I hope so. I'm feeling quite (8) *insensitive* / *mean* / *optimistic* anyway.