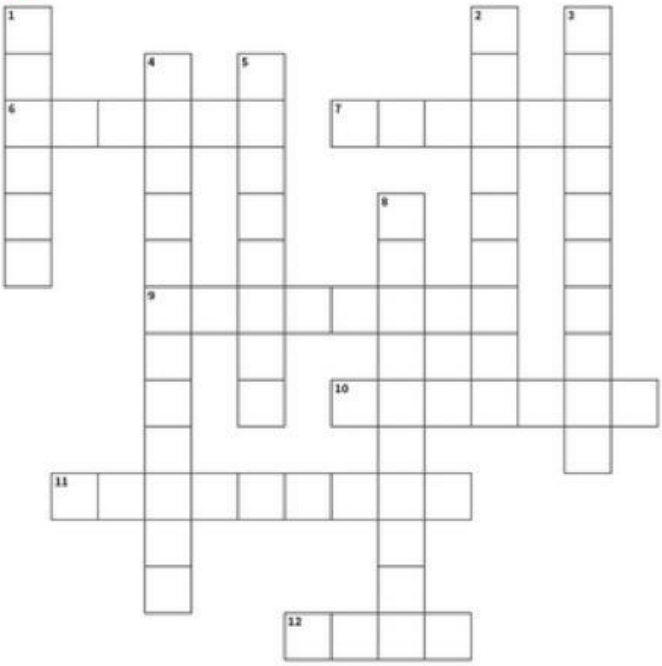
13 SPORTS STARS

VOCABULARY Reporting nouns

1 Use the clues to complete the crossword with reporting nouns.



Across

6 information that people are talking about even though they don't know if it is true
7 new information
9 an answer to something that has been said
10 a brief remark
11 when you say something or someone is bad
12 when you say something that suggests what you think or want, but not in a direct way

Down

1 when someone says that they will hurt you, or cause problems for you if you don't do what they say
2 something that someone says or writes officially
3 when you say what will happen in the future
4 a statement or proof that something is true
5 a suggestion for a plan
8 when you admit that you've done something wrong or illegal

2 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 I wasn't happy with my coach's *response* / *threat* to my letter of complaint.
2 We have received *confirmation* / *confession* by email that the match starts at 3.30.
3 I don't know what to buy Maria for her birthday and she hasn't given me any *hint* / *rumour* about what she wants.
4 There was no *mention* / *prediction* of the tournament in any newspapers.
5 We're looking forward to the *proposal* / *update* on the progress the team has made so far.
6 My *hint* / *prediction* for tomorrow's match is a 4–0 win for us.
7 I thought that your *response* / *criticism* of the team's performance was very unfair.
8 The football club released an official *statement* / *confirmation* about the behaviour of their new manager.

3 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

confession	criticism	threat
proposal	rumour	response

1 My coach's _____ to drop me from the team if I didn't train harder upset me – but it worked.
2 I have a _____ to make – I haven't trained for over a month.
3 Steven doesn't take _____ very well, so it's best not to say anything bad about his performance.
4 What is your _____ to people who question your commitment to the club?
5 Have you read the _____ for a new sports hall at school?
6 There's a _____ going around that you're leaving the club. Is it true?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Four Young Fans

A Elena Vlachou

The word 'fan' comes from the Latin word 'fanatic', which means 'a person whose enthusiasm for something is extreme'. In this sense, 15-year-old Elena Vlachou, from Athens, is most certainly a fan of her local basketball team AEK B.C. 'I live for them,' she tells us. All fans experience highs and lows depending on how their team is doing, and, fortunately for Elena, AEK B.C. don't often lose – so she's generally on a high. 'But the lows are pretty bad,' she says. Like many fans, Elena is quite superstitious, and follows a strict routine on match days, involving what she has for breakfast and the colour of her socks. 'It doesn't always work,' she confesses. But Elena is also loyal to the highly-successful AEK football club. So if the basketball team does badly, there's a good chance the football result will cheer her up!

B Riko Hanja

Although he lives in Korea, Riko Hanja has chosen to follow a team from the other side of the world: Manchester United Football Club. 'I've always loved football – both playing it and watching it – and Man U are really popular in my country. I can't remember when I didn't support them,' he says. He never misses a game on TV. His parents are also sports fans, so they subscribe to all the necessary channels. He's hoping that for his 18th birthday they'll take him to Manchester to watch the team play at their home stadium, Old Trafford. 'That would be amazing. There's a Man U fans' forum that I'm a part of where we chat about the matches and a couple of my friends on there have been to Manchester. They often mention it and I'm so jealous.' Good luck, Riko. We hope your dream comes true!

C Mark Lansman

Canadian teen Mark Lansman has always been crazy about ice hockey. It all started after a friend of the family took him to see the Montreal Canadiens vs. the Toronto Maple Leafs – and he was hooked from that moment on. 'The Maple Leafs won that day, and so I became a fan – even though we live in Montreal!' His decision caused a bit of friction at the time – literally everyone he knew was a Canadiens supporter – but Mark had made up his mind. 'I think they've come to terms with it now,' he tells us. Since then, he has become an accomplished player himself, representing his school and county as a goalkeeper. His ambition is to turn professional one day. 'I love it,' he says. 'When I'm at a Leaf's game, I get as excited as everyone else, but there's always a part of me that would rather be out there on the ice.'

D Clara Hanson

Going to an international sports event usually costs quite a lot of money, but lucky Clara Hanson came home from an England vs. India cricket match £1,000 richer. 'I caught the ball!' Clara explains. One of the match sponsors offers a large cash prize to anyone in the crowd who catches the ball before it hits the ground. It doesn't happen very often. 'I don't even play cricket,' says Clara. 'I'm just good at catching.' Although not a player, Clara has been a huge fan ever since her uncle took her to see his local team when she was seven. Now she goes to every game she can. She intends to use the prize money to travel to see the England team play in Australia next year. 'I want to get a really good job when I'm older, so that I can afford to follow them around the world when they're on tour.'



READING

1 Quickly read the article. Which sport is each young person a fanatic about?

_____

2 Read the article again and write A, B, C or D for each question.

Which teenager …

1 is interested in more than one sports team? ____
2 doesn't play the sport they like? ____
3 does the same thing before every game? ____
4 likes to discuss their team's performance online? ____
5 was introduced to the sport by a family member? ____
6 prefers playing the sport to watching it? ____
7 is hoping to have a career in sport? ____
8 has never seen their favourite team in real life? ____
9 gets in a bad mood when their team loses? ____
10 likes a different team from the rest of their family? ____

3 Match the highlighted words and phrases in the text to the definitions.

1 skilled or successful ____
2 always liking and supporting someone or something ____
3 a person or organisation that gives money to support an activity, event, etc. ____
4 pay money to an organisation in order to receive a product or use a service regularly ____
5 started liking something and wanted to do it all the time ____

LIVEWORKSHEETS