



## 4 READING & SPEAKING

a When you play a sport or a game with family or friends, how do you react if you lose? Are you a good or bad loser? Are any of your family members or friends bad losers?

b Read the text and answer with a name. Which of the bad losers...?

- 1 insulted the match official
- 2 did not want to do his job after the match
- 3 became very emotional when he couldn't take part
- 4 tried to hit somebody
- 5 said sorry after the event

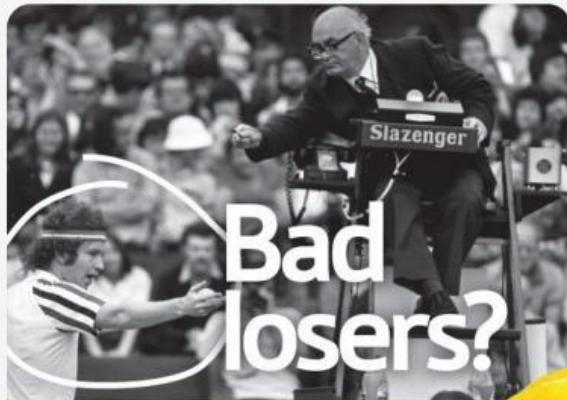
c Read the text again and fill in the blanks with the prepositions in the list.

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d Look at the highlighted words in the text that are all related to sports. With a partner guess their meaning.

e In pairs answer the questions.

- 1 Who do you think was the worst loser?
- 2 Whose behavior do you think was understandable?
- 3 Do you know any famous sportspeople who are bad losers?



**T**he hardest lesson to learn in sports is how to lose with dignity, without blaming your defeat on the **referees** or refusing to shake hands with your opponent. Here are some famous moments when losing was just too hard...

In 1981 at **Wimbledon** a young John McEnroe was serving. The **umpire** said that his serve was <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_, but McEnroe thought it was <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. He became furious and shouted "You CANNOT be serious!" at the umpire. He also called the umpire "an incompetent fool!"

In the 2003 **Track and Field World Championships** the 100-meter runner, Jon Drummond, was **disqualified** for a false start. Drummond lay <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ on the track and began to cry. Two hours later his **coach** told journalists: "He's still crying. We're making him drink water because he's becoming dehydrated."

In the 1982 **German Grand Prix** Nelson Piquet was winning the **race**. He was trying to pass Eliseo Salazar (who was last in the race), but Salazar didn't let him go <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_. Piquet **crashed** into Salazar. Piquet jumped <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ his car and started trying to hit and kick Salazar (without much success!).

South Korean soccer player Ahn Jung-Hwan **scored** the goal that sent Italy <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ the 2002 World Cup when they beat them 2-1. But Jung-Hwan also played for the Italian **soccer club** Perugia. After the **match** the president of the club, Luciano Gaucci, announced that the player's contract would not be renewed. "That gentleman will never set foot in Perugia again," Gaucci said. "I have no intention of paying a salary to somebody who has ruined Italian soccer." Gaucci later apologized, but Ahn Jung-Hwan left the club and never went back to an Italian club.

When England won the **Rugby World Cup** in 2003 by **beating** Australia in the last minute of the match, the Australian Prime minister, John Howard, was so angry that in the medals ceremony he almost threw the **medals** at the English players. His behavior was described by a journalist as being "Like an unhappy five-year-old at a birthday party who starts throwing toys around."

