

# Sport

1 Look at the definitions, and arrange the letters in bold to make the words they are defining. Write your answers in the grid (the first letter of each word is already in place). If you do this correctly, you will reveal another word in the shaded vertical strip.

- Someone who watches a public activity or event, especially a sports event. **pateorsct**
- Money given to an organisation to help pay for something, often an event. **soriponpshs**
- A man who plays sport. **mastsnopr**
- To be involved in an activity with other people. **atek rpt a ni**
- To start doing something regularly as a habit, job or interest. **etka pu**
- A person, team, business or group that someone is competing against. **popitioons**
- A large building, usually without a roof, where people play and watch sports events. **utismad**
- To win against someone in a game, fight or election. **efetda**
- Someone who likes to watch a particular sports team, and wants that team to win. **potesprru**
- A large building, usually with a roof, where sports events take place in a central area. **raane**
- Someone who plays a sport or does an activity as a job rather than for enjoyment. **nesprsialof**

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2 Imagine that you are a professional sports player and keen spectator. How would you feel in the following situations, happy (😊) or unhappy (😞)?

- Your team has been **promoted**. 😊 😞
- You are **sent off** during a game. 😊 😞
- Someone believes you have been taking **performance-enhancing drugs**. 😊 😞
- People say you are **grossly overpaid**. 😊 😞
- Your team has **reached the final**. 😊 😞
- In a 100 metre race, you **beat your personal best**. 😊 😞

7. You have been **disqualified** from taking part in a competition. 😊 😞
8. You have failed a **dope test**. 😊 😞
9. Your team has been **relegated**. 😊 😞
10. Your country's national football team **qualifies** for the World Cup. 😊 😞
11. You feel that your team has no **team spirit**. 😊 😞
12. There are a lot of **hooligans** at a match you attend. 😊 😞
13. In a cycling race, you **outdistance** the other competitors. 😊 😞
14. People say you are always **committing professional fouls**. 😊 😞
15. When you walk on to the pitch to play a game, the spectators start **jeering, booing and shouting abuse**. 😊 😞
16. The spectators **cheer** when you walk on to the pitch. 😊 😞
17. You **outplay** your opponent in a game of squash. 😊 😞
18. A newspaper article accuses you of **match fixing**. 😊 😞

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**3 Complete this passage with words and phrases from Exercises 1 and 2. In some cases, more than one answer is possible, and you will need to change some of the word forms.**

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For many people, football is more than just a game. Whether they're (1) ..... on the terraces, (2) ..... on their favourite team, or whether they're (3) ..... players (4) ..... a major match, football is a way of life. They could not conceive of a world in which the 'beautiful game' does not exist. For them, nothing can match that magical moment when their team (5) ..... for a major competition like the World Cup, (6) ..... then (7) ..... the opposition in a resounding victory. And, apart from seeing their team lose, nothing can be worse for them than seeing their favourite team (8) ..... at the end of the season: to see your team moved down from the first division can be a heartbreaking experience. Anyone who has ever been inside a (9) ..... during a major match can testify to the passion people have for the game.

However, there is an ugly side to football. It only takes a few (10) ..... throwing bottles, invading the pitch and (11) ..... at the players to ruin a match. This has been a problem for a long time, but evidence suggests that it is getting worse. There is criticism, too, that many top players are (12) ..... People cannot understand how they can justify their huge salaries simply for kicking a ball around a pitch. They get even angrier when these extremely wealthy young men are caught using (13) ....., or are (14) ..... in disgrace during a match for (15) ..... against other players. There is also the more recent problem of (16) ..... committed by players, coaches, officials and corrupt referees. Acting dishonestly to get the result you want not only goes against the spirit of the game, people say, but also gives the game a bad reputation.