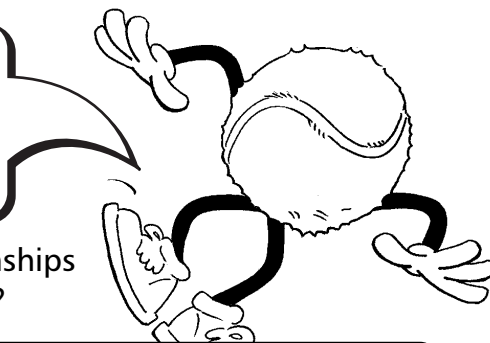


Give your opinions on the following questions, which are based on events from tennis history. There are clues in the completed charts on the previous pages.



1. Why do you think the first Wimbledon women's championships were held seven years after the first men's championships?

2. a) What was so significant about Althea Gibson winning the Wimbledon women's singles title in 1957?

- b) What significant events were taking place in her country at the same time?

3. a) Why was Arthur Ashe not given a visa to allow him to play tennis in South Africa in 1968?

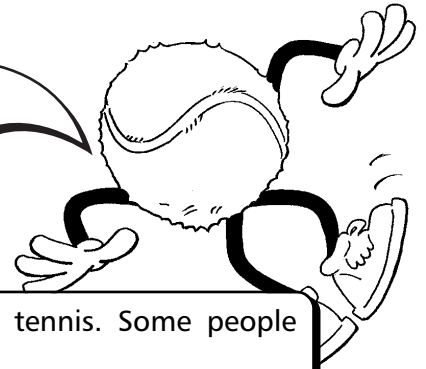
- b) Why was the year 1990 significant in relation to the events involving Arthur Ashe in 1968?

4. a) When Martina Navratilova began playing professional tennis she was Czechoslovakian. In 1975 she left her home country to live in another country and in 1981 she became a citizen of that country. What was that country?

- b) Why do you think she went to live in another country and changed her nationality?

Fill in the blanks in this story using words and dates from the black box below.

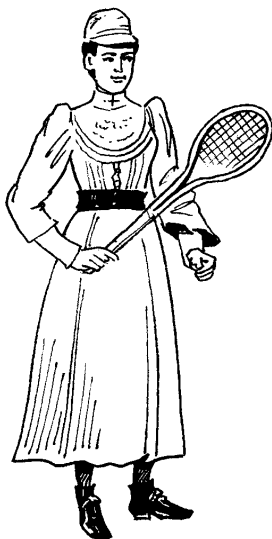
The story is continued on the next page.



There is some dispute about the early _____ of tennis. Some people believe that similar games were played by the ancient _____, Greeks and _____. No drawings of any such games have ever been _____.

There is a _____ that the name tennis is derived from the town of _____, which is alongside the River _____ in Egypt and that the word _____ has evolved from the Arabic word *rahat*, which means, palm of the _____.

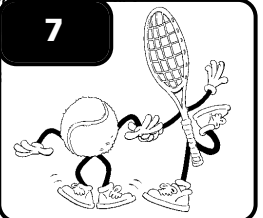
Most _____ believe that tennis is based on a game which was played by _____ monks in the 11th or 12th century. They used a _____ strung across a courtyard and the ball was hit against the walls. This game was called _____ *de paume*, which means, _____ of the hand. It is also possible that the name *tennis* is derived from the French word _____, which might have been said, to mean *take this*, as the ball was _____.



theory	tenez	historians
origins	rope	Nile
racquet	Tinnis	French
discovered	served	hand
game	Egyptians	jeu
	Romans	



7

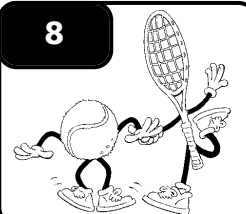


As the game became more popular, indoor _____ were used but the ball was still played off the _____. Because it was painful to use bare hands, players started wearing a _____ with webbing between the fingers. This changed into an early form of _____ consisting of webbing attached to a _____. The early tennis balls were made of _____, wool or cork, wrapped in _____ and cloth or _____. Later, these balls were covered in _____ felt and were similar to a modern-day _____.

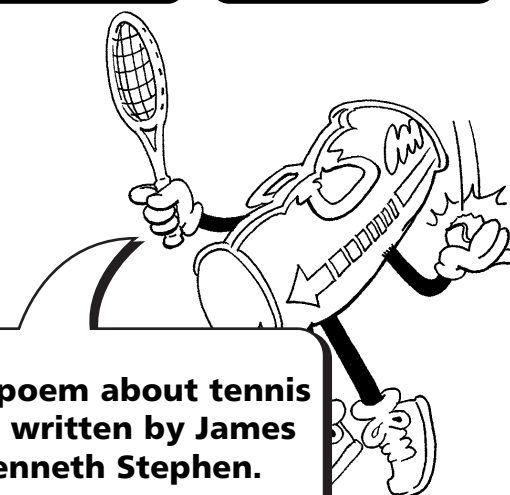
_____ began playing the game and by the _____ there were around 1,800 courts in _____. Because it was so _____ and people spent so much time playing, the _____ and King Louis IV tried to _____ it but they did not succeed. The game spread to _____ and Henry VII and _____ were keen players and encouraged the _____ of more courts.

The _____ used to play the game continued to _____ and by the year 1500 people were using a racquet with a _____ frame and strings made from _____ gut. The ball had a centre made of _____ and weighed around 85 grams. One of the most famous courts, _____ in London, was built in _____ and is still used today, although it is one of the few still in _____. The net is 5 feet (1.52 metres) high at the ends and 3 feet (0.91 metres) in the _____. In the 1700s the game became much less _____. However, in _____ bouncier balls were made using _____ and this allowed the game to be played _____ on grass. This new version of tennis needed different _____.

walls
building
existence
cork
1850
hair
handle
glove
courts
popular
racquet
Hampton
Court
sheep
rubber
France
string
13th century
Pope
rules
equipment
ban
change
popular
baseball
middle
1625
outdoors
stitched
Nobles
croquet
leather
England
Henry VIII



To see good tennis! What diviner joy
Can fill our leisure, or our minds employ?
Let cricketers await the tardy sun,
Break one another's shins and call it fun;
Let Scotia's golfers through the affrighted land
With crooked knee and glaring eyeball stand;
Let football rowdies show their straining thews,
And tell their triumphs to a mud-stained Muse;
Let india-rubber pellets dance on grass
Where female arts the ruder sex surpass;
Let other people play at other things;
The king of games is still the game of kings.



This poem about tennis was written by James Kenneth Stephen. He wrote it while he was a student at Kings College Cambridge.

1. Say when you think the poem was written and give reasons for your opinion.

2. What do you think each of the following words and phrases mean?

Scotia

Affrighted

Thews

India-rubber pellets

The ruder sex

3. Which phrase describing another sport might still be used today?

In what ways would the phrase be used differently today?