The Wimbledon Championships

Wimbledon is the world's oldest tennis tournament. Since 1877 it has been held at the All England Club in Wimbledon, London. It is one of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments (majors), the others being the French Open, the Australian Open and the US Open.

Events

Wimbledon is made up of five main events, four junior events and invitation events, where some former professionals return to compete. The five main events are the gentlemen's singles, ladies' singles, gentlemen's doubles, ladies' doubles and mixed doubles.

Schedule

In 2017, the championships began and ended in July, making the gap between the tournament and the French Open a little longer. Usually, there is no play on the 'Middle Sunday', however bad weather has sometimes meant that matches are played on this day.

The Courts

In 2009, a moving roof was added to Wimbledon's Centre Court. It can be automatically closed over the court.

The main courts, Centre Court and No. 1 Court, are normally only used for two weeks every year during the championships. The other 17 courts are used for other events hosted by the club. All of the courts are grass courts.

Trophies

The gentlemen's singles champion receives a silver gilt cup. The women's singles champion wins a sterling silver salver.

A Few Famous Champions

Serena Williams, and her sister Venus, have each won the singles title at Wimbledon several times. They have played against each other in the final.

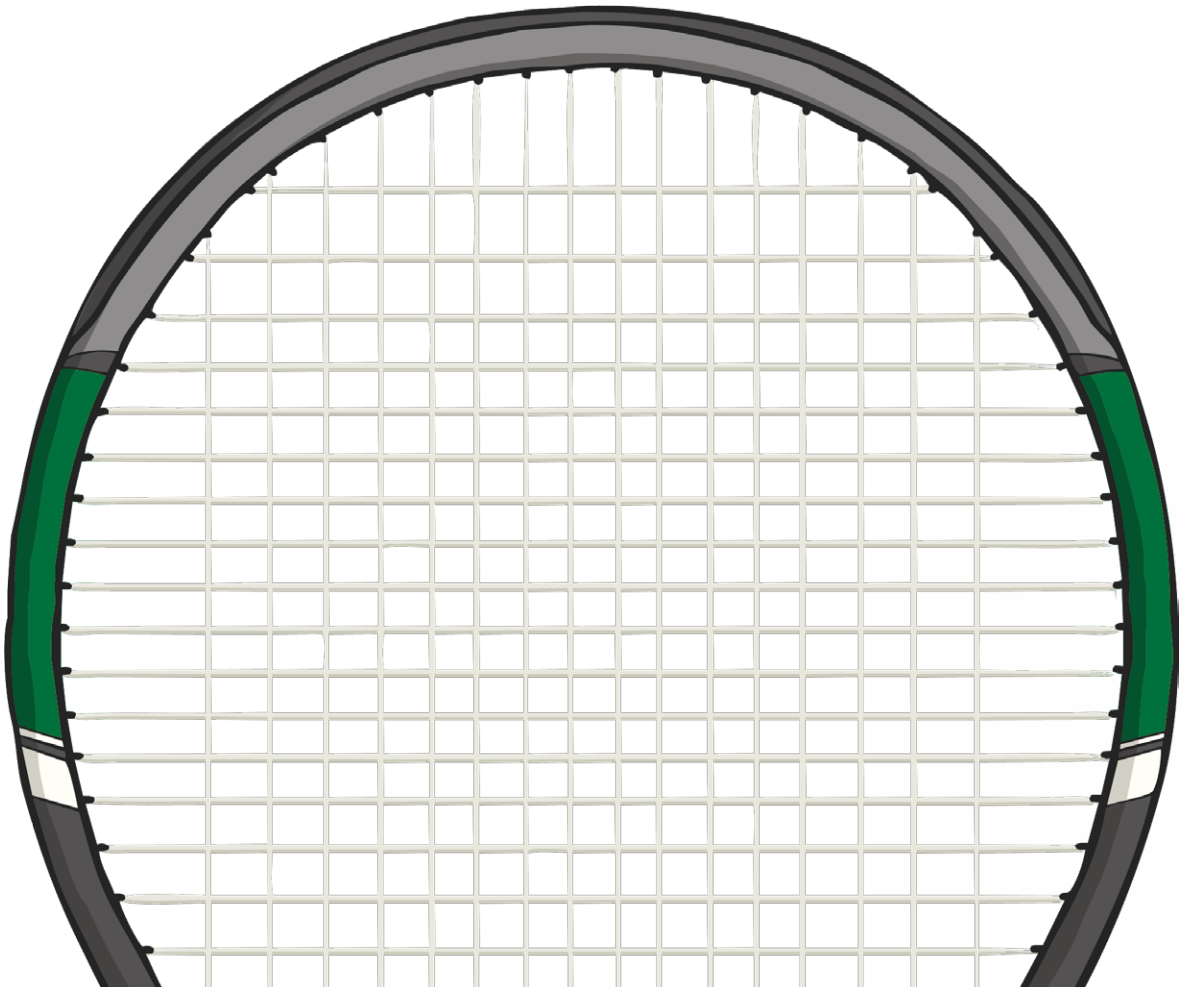
Roger Federer won the men's singles title five times in a row between 2003 and 2007.

In 2013, Sir Andy Murray won the men's singles title. He was the first British singles winner since 1977 and the first male winner since 1936.

The Wimbledon Championships

Did You Know?

- Tennis players' clothing must be all-white, or at least almost all-white.
- Players must bow or curtsy if HRH The Prince of Wales or Her Majesty the Queen is present in the Royal Box at Centre Court.



Wimbledon

1. Where is Wimbledon held?

- [ ] London
- [ ] Edinburgh
- [ ] Dublin
- [ ] Cardiff

2. It has been held there since what year?

- [ ] 1788
- [ ] 1877
- [ ] 1878
- [ ] 1888

3. Why did Wimbledon start later in 2017?

_____

_____

4. What is special about 'Middle Sunday'?

_____

_____

_____

5. Which court has a roof?

- [ ] Court No.1
- [ ] Court No.18
- [ ] Court No.13
- [ ] Centre Court

6. The courts are covered in:

- [ ] Clay
- [ ] Tarmac
- [ ] Grass
- [ ] Sand

7. Link up the beginning of each sentence with the end of each sentence:

The gentlemen's singles champion receives	2003.
The women's singles champion wins a	a silver gilt cup.
Roger Federer won in	2013.
Sir Andy Murray first won in	sterling silver salver.

8. Players' clothes must be _____ or at least almost all _____

Wimbledon **Answers**

1. Where is Wimbledon held?

- [x] London
- [ ] Edinburgh
- [ ] Dublin
- [ ] Cardiff

2. It has been held there since what year?

- [ ] 1788
- [x] 1877
- [ ] 1878
- [ ] 1888

3. Why did Wimbledon start later in 2017?
To make the gap between the tournament and the French Open a little longer.

4. What is special about 'Middle Sunday'?
Usually, there is no play on the 'Middle Sunday', however bad weather has sometimes meant that matches are played on this day.

5. Which court has a roof?

- [ ] Court No.1
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- [x] Centre Court

6. The courts are covered in:

- [ ] Clay
- [ ] Tarmac
- [x] Grass
- [ ] Sand

7. Link up the beginning of each sentence with the end of each sentence:

The gentlemen's singles champion receives	a silver gilt cup.
The women's singles champion wins a	sterling silver salver.
Roger Federer won in	2003.
Sir Andy Murray first won in	2013.

8. Players' clothes must be **white** or at least almost all **white**

The Wimbledon Championships

Wimbledon is the world's oldest tennis tournament and is also thought to be the most prestigious. Since 1877 it has been held at the All England Club in Wimbledon, London. It is one of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments (majors), the others being the French Open, the Australian Open and the US Open. Wimbledon is the only major still played on traditional grass, the game's original surface, which gave the game its original name of 'lawn tennis'.

Events

The five main events are the gentlemen's singles, ladies' singles, gentlemen's doubles, ladies' doubles and mixed doubles.

There are also four junior events and invitation events where some former professionals return to compete. In addition to this, there are wheelchair singles and doubles matches.

Tickets

The majority of centre court tickets are made available by a public ballot where applicants are selected at random by a computer. Fans without tickets can queue up overnight to get seats on match day.

Schedule

In 2017, the championships began and ended in July, making the gap between the tournament and the French Open a little longer. Usually, there is no play on the 'Middle Sunday', however bad weather has sometimes meant that matches are played on this day.

The Courts

The main court, Centre Court, was opened in 1922. In 2009, a moving roof was added to this court which can be automatically closed.

The main courts, Centre Court and No. 1 Court, are normally only used for two weeks every year during the championships. The other 17 courts are used for other events hosted by the club.

The Wimbledon Championships

Trophies and Prize Money

The gentlemen's singles champion receives a silver gilt cup and the women's singles champion wins a sterling silver salver which is decorated with figures from mythology. The prize money for the winners of the singles titles runs into the millions!

A Few Famous Champions

Serena Williams, and her sister Venus, have won Wimbledon several times. They have even competed against each other in the singles final.

Roger Federer won Wimbledon five times in a row between 2003 and 2007, a period where he totally dominated grass court tennis.

In 2013, Sir Andy Murray won the men's singles title. He was the first British singles winner since 1977 and the first male winner since 1936!

Did You Know?

- Tennis players' clothing must be all-white, or at least almost all-white.
- Players must bow or curtsy if HRH The Prince of Wales or Her Majesty the Queen is present in the Royal Box at Centre Court.
- An average of 86,000 ice creams are sold during the championships and 28,000kg of strawberries are consumed.

Wimbledon

1. Which club is the tournament held at? _____

2. Grand Slams are also called _____

3. Why did Wimbledon start later in 2017?

_____

_____

4. What can tennis fans do if they don't win a ticket in the public ballot but want to go and see a tennis match during the tournament?

_____

_____

_____

5. Centre Court was first opened in:

- ☐ 1920
- ☐ 1922
- ☐ 1926
- ☐ 1927

6. What is unique about Centre Court compared to the other courts?

_____

_____

_____

7. Who wins the sterling silver salver?

- ☐ Men's singles winner
- ☐ Ladies singles winner
- ☐ Boy's singles winner
- ☐ Mixed doubles winners

8. Link up the beginning of each sentence with the end of each sentence:

Former professionals	was the first British male singles champion winner at Wimbledon since 1936.
The Williams sisters	dominated grass tennis between 2003 and 2007.
Roger Federer	have competed against each other in the singles final.
Sir Andy Murray	can be invited to return to compete.

9. 'An average of 89,000 ice creams are sold during the championships and 28,000kg of strawberries are consumed.'
What is wrong with this statement? Correct it below:

10. What qualities do you think a person needs to become a Wimbledon champion?

Wimbledon **Answers**

1. Which club is the tournament held at?
   The tournament is held at the All England Club.

2. Grand Slams are also called
   majors.

3. Why did Wimbledon start later in 2017?
   To make the gap between the tournament and the French Open a little longer.

4. What can tennis fans do if they don't win a ticket in the public ballot but want to go and see a tennis match during the tournament?
   Fans without tickets can queue up overnight to get seats on match day.

5. Centre Court was first opened in:

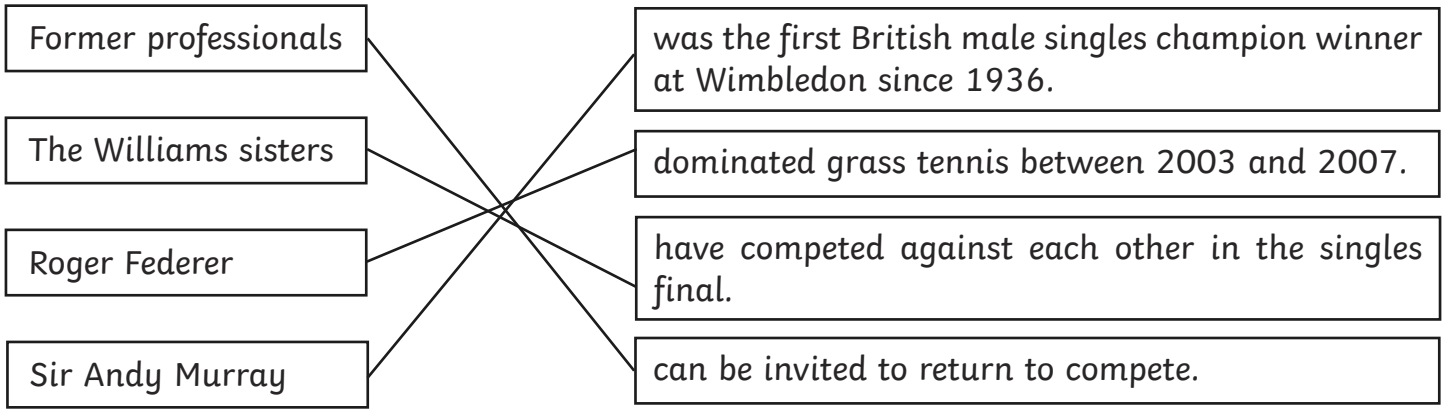
   - [ ] 1920
   - [x] 1922
   - [ ] 1926
   - [ ] 1927

6. What is unique about Centre Court compared to the other courts?
   It has a Royal Box and an automatic roof.

7. Who wins the sterling silver salver?

   - [ ] Men's singles winner
   - [x] Ladies singles winner
   - [ ] Boy's singles winner
   - [ ] Mixed doubles winners

8. Link up the beginning of each sentence with the end of each sentence:



9. 'An average of 89,000 ice creams are sold during the championships and 28,000kg of strawberries are consumed.'
   What is wrong with this statement? Correct it below:
   An average of 86,000 ice creams are sold during the championships and 28,000kg of strawberries are consumed.

10. What qualities do you think a person needs to become a Wimbledon champion?
    Own answers

The Wimbledon Championships

Wimbledon is the world's oldest tennis tournament and is thought by many to be the most prestigious. Since 1877 it has been held at the All England Club in Wimbledon, London. It is one of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments (majors), the others being the French Open, the Australian Open and the US Open. Wimbledon is the only major still played on traditional grass, the game's original surface, which gave the game its original name of 'lawn tennis'.

Events

The five main events are the gentlemen's singles, ladies' singles, gentlemen's doubles, ladies' doubles and mixed doubles.

There are also four junior events including the boys' and girls' singles and doubles matches.

In addition to this, there are invitation events where some former professionals return to compete. Wheelchair singles and doubles matches also take place.

Tickets

The majority of centre court tickets are made available by a public ballot where applicants are selected at random by a computer. Due to the popularity of the event, the public ballot has always been oversubscribed. Fans without tickets can queue up overnight to get seats on match day.

Schedule

In 2017, the championships began and ended in July, making the gap between the tournament and the French Open a little longer. Usually, there is no play on the 'Middle Sunday', however bad weather has sometimes forced play on this day. The middle Sunday is classed as a rest day for the players.

The Courts

The principal court, Centre Court, was opened in 1922. In 2009, a moving roof was added to this court which can be automatically closed.

The main courts, Centre Court and No. 1 Court, are generally only used for two weeks every year during the championships. The other 17 courts are used for other events hosted by the club.

The Wimbledon Championships

Trophies and Prize Money

The gentlemen's singles champion receives a silver gilt cup which bears the inscription: 'All England Lawn Tennis Club Single Handed Championship of the World.' The women's singles champion receives a sterling silver salver which is decorated with figures from mythology. The winners keep a smaller replica of their trophy.

The prize money for the winners runs into the millions!

A Few Famous Champions

Martina Navratilova won a record nine Wimbledon singles titles. She often commentates on the women's matches.

Serena Williams, and her sister Venus, have won Wimbledon several times. They have even competed against each other in the singles final. The sisters have also paired up and won the Wimbledon women's doubles title on a number of occasions.

Pete Sampras won seven singles titles at Wimbledon, all between 1993 and 2000.

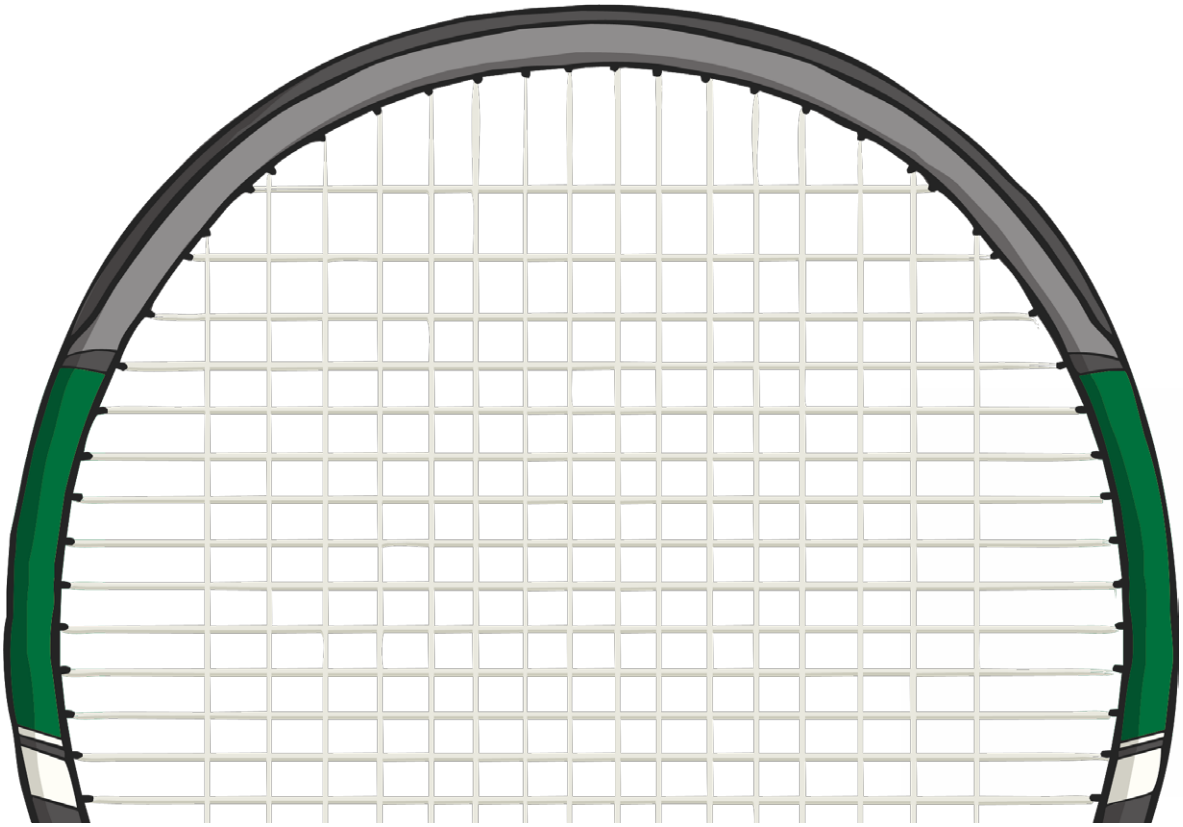
Roger Federer won Wimbledon five times in a row between 2003 and 2007, a period where he totally dominated grass court tennis.

In 2013, Sir Andy Murray won the men's singles title. He was the first British singles winner since 1977 and the first male winner since 1936!

The Wimbledon Championships

Did You Know?

- Wimbledon's Centre Court seats 14,979 people.
- An average of 86,000 ice creams are sold during the championships and 28,000kg of strawberries are consumed.
- A hawk called Rufus flies around the grounds to deter local pigeons.
- The longest ever match played at Wimbledon lasted for over 11 hours!
- During the tournament, 40 miles of string is needed to restring rackets!
- Tennis players' clothing must be all-white, or at least almost all-white.
- Players must bow or curtsy if HRH The Prince of Wales or Her Majesty the Queen is present in the Royal Box at Centre Court.



Wimbledon

1. List all four Grand Slam tennis tournaments.

2. Outline the main events at Wimbledon.

3. Why did Wimbledon start later in 2017?

4. What is special about 'Middle Sunday'?

5. How are the main show courts used differently to the other courts throughout the year?

6. The Williams sisters have played against each other in the Wimbledon women's singles final. How would you have felt if you had been playing against your brother or sister in the Wimbledon finals? If you don't have any brothers or sisters, imagine playing against your best friend.

7. Which year was the roof added onto Centre Court?

- [ ] 2006
- [ ] 2007
- [ ] 2008
- [ ] 2009

8. Why do you think the winners keep replicas and not the original trophies?

9. The hawk which flies around the grounds to scare away pigeons is called_____

10. What qualities do you think a person needs to become a Wimbledon champion? Explain your choices.

Extension activity

Find out who won the men's and ladies singles titles in 2010 and 2015. Which countries did they represent?

Wimbledon

1. List all four Grand Slam tennis tournaments.
   The four Grand Slam tennis tournaments are: Wimbledon, the French Open, the US Open and the Australian Open.

2. Outline the main events at Wimbledon.
   The five main events are the gentlemen's singles, ladies' singles,gentlemen's doubles, ladies' doubles and mixed doubles.

3. Why did Wimbledon start later in 2017?
   To make the gap between the tournament and the French Open a little longer.

4. What is special about 'Middle Sunday'?
   Usually, there is no play on the 'Middle Sunday', however bad weather has sometimes forced play on this day. The middle Sunday is classed as a rest day for the players.

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   Own answers

7. Which year was the roof added onto Centre Court?

   - [ ] 2006
   - [ ] 2007
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8. Why do you think the winners keep replicas and not the original trophies?
   Own answers

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Rufus

10. What qualities do you think a person needs to become a Wimbledon champion? Explain your choices.
Own answers