

Max's Net and Wall Game Tactics

Learning objective: To understand the tactical principles of net and wall games, specifically how to create space and defend space.

Max the monkey is obsessed with the maths of movement! Look at the scenarios below. Decide if the action described helps an attacker 'create space' to score a point, or helps a defender 'protect space' to stop the ball. Write 'Create Space' or 'Protect Space' for each scenario and explain your reasoning using the tactical concepts of court coverage and precision.

Word bank: Attacking · Defending · Court coverage · Precision · Trajectory · Placement · Opponent · Rally

1. Max hits the shuttlecock deep into the back corner of the opponent's court, forcing them to run away from the net. Is this 'Create Space' or 'Protect Space'? Explain why. (2 marks)

2. Finn the dolphin stands in the exact centre of the court to ensure he can reach shots hit to either his left or his right side. Is this 'Create Space' or 'Protect Space'? Explain why. (2 marks)

3. Zara the zebra drops a gentle shot just over the net, making her opponent sprint forward from the back of the court. Is this 'Create Space' or 'Protect Space'? Explain why. (2 marks)

4. If you are playing a wall game, why is it important to aim for the corners of the wall rather than the middle? Use the word 'precision' in your answer. (2 marks)

5. Leo the lion notices his opponent is tired and standing still. Should he use a 'fast' shot or a 'short' shot to win the rally? Explain your tactical choice. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a bird's-eye view of a badminton or tennis court. Draw a small 'X' to show the best position for a player to stand to 'Protect Space', and draw an arrow showing a 'precision' shot directed into a corner.



Extension challenge: Design your own 'Net and Wall' game! Write down three rules, the equipment you would need, and how a player earns a point. Would your game be played on a court, against a wall, or both?