

Max's Net and Wall Games Challenge

Learning objective: To understand the tactical principles, rules, and skills required for net and wall games, such as tennis, badminton, and squash.

Join Max the monkey as he applies his mathematical brain to the court! Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of sports tactics to solve these puzzles. Good luck!

Answer Key: 1. A (Court), 2. False, 3. Intercept, 4. C (To make it difficult for the opponent to return), 5. True, 6. Trajectory, 7. Accuracy, 8. True, 9. B (A volley), 10. Rally.

Word bank: trajectory · tactics · rally · volley · intercept · court · opponent · accuracy

1. 1. What is the designated area where a net or wall game is played? A) Pitch, B) Court*, C) Arena, D) Field (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: In a wall game, you want the ball to hit the wall in the easiest place for your opponent to reach. (1 mark)

3. 3. If you move quickly to catch a ball before it bounces, you are performing an _____. (1 mark)

4. 4. What is the primary purpose of using different speeds when hitting a shuttlecock or ball? A) To show off, B) To save energy, C) To make it difficult for the opponent to return*, D) To make the game longer. (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: A rally is a sequence of back-and-forth shots between players. (1 mark)

6. 6. Fill in the blank: Changing the _____ of your shot can help you hit the ball over the net at a steep angle. (1 mark)

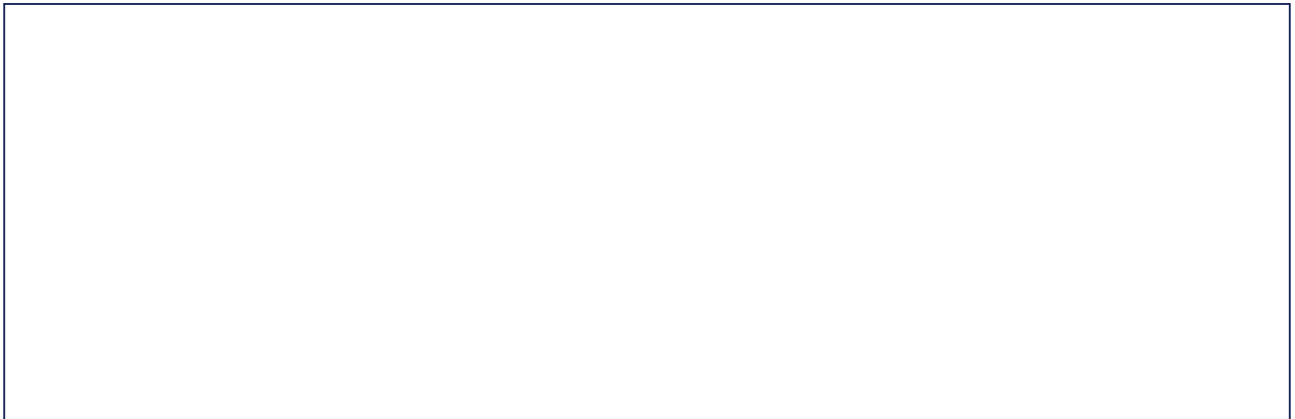
7. 7. Which skill is most important for placing a ball into an empty corner of the court: Power or Accuracy? (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Effective communication is essential when playing a doubles match with a partner. (1 mark)

9. 9. Which term describes hitting a ball before it touches the ground? A) Smash, B) Volley*, C) Serve, D) Lob (1 mark)

10. 10. What do we call the period of play that starts with a serve and ends when a point is won? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a bird's-eye view of a tennis or badminton court. Label the net, the service boxes, and draw an arrow showing where a player might aim to make the game difficult for their opponent.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why moving to the 'centre' of the court after every shot is a vital defensive tactic. 2. Compare and contrast the physical requirements of playing a game with a net versus a game against a wall. 3. Justify your answer: Is it better to play a fast, powerful game or a slow, tactical game? Why? 4. What might happen if you focus only on power and ignore accuracy? 5. How would you adjust your tactics if you were playing against a much taller opponent? 6. Design a new net game: what would the equipment cost if a racket is £15.50 and a ball is £2.25, and you need to buy 4 sets for a club?