Sport

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

UPPER-INTERMEDIATE | B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each tournament term with its meaning.

1 seeded player	____	a competitor expected to have little chance of winning
2 fixture	____	b fair and respectful behaviour in sport
3 knockout stage	____	c scheduled match
4 aggregate score	____	d best result an athlete has personally achieved
5 home advantage	____	e competitor selected to avoid other strong players early
6 underdog	____	f combined result across two or more matches
7 defending champion	____	g stage in which a defeat removes a competitor
8 personal best	____	h benefit of competing at one's usual venue
9 false start	____	i previous winner trying to retain the title
10 sportsmanship	____	j movement before the official starting signal

2 Complete the tournament collocations.

advantage | **best** | **champion** | **fixture** | **round** | **score** | **stage** | **start**

1 gain a home _____

2 postpone a league _____

3 enter the knockout _____

4 win on aggregate _____

5 cause a false _____

6 set a personal _____

7 face the defending _____

8 progress to the next _____

3 Choose the most precise term for the context.

1 A strong entrant kept apart from other favourites early: *seeded player / underdog*.

2 A match listed on the competition calendar: *fixture / round*.

3 The combined result over two matches: *aggregate score / goal difference*.

4 A competitor expected to lose: *underdog / defending champion*.

5 The previous title-holder: *defending champion / seeded player*.

6 An athlete's fastest or highest result: *personal best / world record*.

7 Starting before the signal: *false start / early finish*.

8 Respectful conduct despite intense competition: *sportsmanship / spectatorship*.

Sport

4 Complete the tournament report with terms from the box.

aggregate score | defending champion | false start | fixture | home advantage | knockout stage | personal best | seeded player | sportsmanship | underdog

The opening **1** _____ was moved because of heavy rain. In the next match, the **2** _____ benefited from **3** _____, but the **4** _____ produced a surprise victory. The tournament then entered the **5** _____. One **6** _____ advanced on **7** _____ after two matches. On the track, a runner was warned for a **8** _____ before setting a **9** _____. Both teams were praised for their **10** _____.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Fair selection and recovery
A competition schedule should test performance without creating avoidable harm. Seedings can prevent strong competitors from meeting too early, while transparent qualification criteria reduce disputes. Scheduling is equally important: short recovery periods may disadvantage teams that played later or travelled farther. Organisers should publish criteria, allow reasonable rest and apply postponement rules consistently. Competitive fairness depends not only on identical rules but also on whether conditions create unequal burdens.

1 What should a competition schedule avoid? _____

2 What do seedings prevent? _____

3 Why should qualification criteria be transparent? _____

4 Who may be disadvantaged by short recovery periods? _____

5 Name three duties of organisers. _____

6 Why are identical rules not always fully fair? _____

6 Rewrite using the expression in capitals.

1 The team won across the two matches combined. **AGGREGATE** _____

2 The least-favoured competitor won unexpectedly. **UNDERDOG** _____

3 She achieved her fastest time ever. **PERSONAL** _____

4 The players behaved fairly and respectfully. **SPORTSMANSHIP** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **120-150 word** report on a tournament. Cover seedings, fixtures, stages, venue, results, recovery and sportsmanship.

[ ] Use at least ten target expressions. [ ] Explain the competition structure. [ ] Evaluate fairness.

ANSWER KEY

1 Tournament terms

1 **e** 2 **c** 3 **g** 4 **f** 5 **h** 6 **a** 7 **i** 8 **d** 9 **j** 10 **b**

2 Tournament collocations

1 **advantage** 2 **fixture** 3 **stage** 4 **score** 5 **start** 6 **best** 7 **champion** 8 **round**

3 Precise terms

1 **seeded player** 2 **fixture** 3 **aggregate score** 4 **underdog** 5 **defending champion** 6 **personal best** 7 **false start** 8 **sportsmanship**

4 Tournament report

1 **fixture** 2 **defending champion** 3 **home advantage** 4 **underdog** 5 **knockout stage**
6 **seeded player** 7 **aggregate score** 8 **false start** 9 **personal best** 10 **sportsmanship**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Avoidable harm. 2 Strong competitors meeting too early. 3 To reduce disputes. 4 Teams that played later or travelled farther.
5 Publish criteria, allow rest and apply postponement rules consistently. 6 Conditions may create unequal burdens.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 The team won on **aggregate score**. 2 The **underdog** won unexpectedly. 3 She set a **personal best**. 4 The players showed good **sportsmanship**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check tournament logic, precise terminology and a justified view of fairness.