

# 11B | The sporting year

## READING

1 Read the guidebook extracts 1–3 and match them to photos A–C.



1 This week-long event is one of the highlights of the racing calendar. People bet serious amounts of money, but the action on the track is often secondary to the fashions on show. Remember that you cannot wear casual clothes in some parts of the course. \*

2 The annual race between Oxford and Cambridge Universities began in 1829. It is now one of the highlights of London's year. Huge crowds wait outside pubs and on bridges along the river for the two teams to appear. \*

3 It is nearly 30 years since there was a British finalist in the Women's Singles and even longer for the men, but this is one of Britain's most popular sporting events. Don't forget to eat the traditional strawberries and cream while you are waiting to get in. \*

2 Read the emails a–c and match them to the events 1–3 in exercise 1.

**a** the tickets  
We got them at last – the tickets I mean! And you'll never believe it, but we've got tickets for the Centre Court, so we should see the men's semi-finals. They cost a small fortune, but it's worth it! We thought we were going to have to wait outside all night to get them, but in the end Jen found this Internet agency that specialises in getting tickets for sporting events. And they had the tickets delivered to us by special courier this morning!

**c** meet up  
Hi there! Thanks for the message. I tried getting back to you but your mobile was out of order. Why don't you have it checked out? That's the second time it's happened in the last week. But to answer your question, yes, we had a great time. I can't believe I've lived here so long and never been to see it before! You were right, it was totally impossible to get to the finish line. But we did get a place in that pub you recommended. What a great spot! But there were so many people! Massive crowds. I had no idea it was so popular. It's a shame you couldn't come. Maybe we can go together next year?

**b** birthday  
I'm so excited! Have you heard about Beth's birthday plans? She wants to go to a day at the races! I've never been before, but I think it's a great idea. I love the whole idea of dressing up and drinking champagne in the Royal Enclosure and all that! So we've all got to get our outfits ready for the big day. We're all having hats made especially for us. Beth's got a friend from Art College who makes hats and she's going to do them for us. Liz has said she's going to have her hair dyed black for the occasion! I don't know why – she's only got about three grey hairs. Do you fancy joining in? It'll be a laugh. Let me know if you're interested and I'll get hold of a ticket for you too.

3 Read the sentences a–g and decide which event 1–3 they are describing.

- a For some people, it is more of a social occasion than a sporting event.
- b It is very difficult to get tickets.
- c It is very rare for the British to win.
- d It only happens on one day every year.
- e It's not a good idea to wear jeans and trainers.
- f It's very difficult to see the end of the event.
- g You don't have to pay to watch.

4 Which event in exercise 1 would you most like to attend? What are the most important sports events in your country? Have you ever been to any of them?

## GRAMMAR: causative

Use *have* something *done* to talk about an action that you ask someone else to do for you.

*We're having hats made.*

(= We asked or paid someone to make hats for us.)

Note that it is not necessary to say who does the action, as it is usually understood. If you want to say who does the action, use *by* + the person.

*They had the tickets delivered by special courier.*

form	object	past participle
has/have is/are having had is/are going to have	hats, them, etc.	made, delivered, etc.

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**1** Find and correct the mistake in five of these sentences.

- We had pizzas send to our room.
- He's having repaired his bike.
- He has his shorts ironing for him.
- She's going to have her hair cut very short.
- They were their house painted last week.
- She's having her hair dyed.
- You should have your eyes testing.
- Why don't you have your shopping delivered?

**2** Rewrite the sentences using the words given and the causative.

- The newsagent delivers the sports press to his house every morning.  
He has the \_\_\_\_\_ every morning.
- An assistant shaves his head before every match.  
He has his \_\_\_\_\_ before every match.
- His sponsors make special boots for him.  
He has his \_\_\_\_\_ by his sponsors.
- A top fashion designer designs his clothes.  
He has his \_\_\_\_\_.
- His accountant looks after his money.  
He has \_\_\_\_\_.

**3** Work in pairs. All the sentences in exercise 2 are about one of the people in the box. Who?

a singer      an actor      a football player  
a tennis coach      a teacher      a foreign student

**4** Choose another person from the box in exercise 3. Write three sentences about him/her using *the causative*. Ask the class to guess who you are talking about.

*She has the board cleaned by a student.*


## SPEAKING &amp; VOCABULARY: services

**1** Complete these questions using the past participles of the verbs in the box.

bring   test   cook   cut   deliver  
develop   service   serve   iron

- Where do you usually ...  
have your photos \_\_\_\_\_?  
have your hair \_\_\_\_\_?  
have your car \_\_\_\_\_?
  - How often do you ...  
have your eyes \_\_\_\_\_?  
have your meals \_\_\_\_\_ for you?  
have your clothes \_\_\_\_\_ for you?
  - Would you like to ...  
have champagne \_\_\_\_\_ to your bedroom?  
have breakfast \_\_\_\_\_ in bed?  
have flowers \_\_\_\_\_ to your home every day?
- 2** Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions in exercise 1.


## PRONUNCIATION: /ɪə/ &amp; /eə/

**1**  **2.28** Listen to the pronunciation of these words. Can you think of any other words that contain these sounds?

ear /ɪə/      air /eə/

**2** Underline all the words in this text that contain /ɪə/. Circle all the words that contain /eə/.

If you have a moment to spare on Christmas morning, go down to the beach near Brighton town centre where you can see another British sporting tradition. Every year, a group of about 50 people go for a swim in the sea. With a water temperature that is rarely more than seven degrees and an air temperature that is close to zero, most people keep their swim very short. More experienced swimmers stay in the water for nearly twenty minutes. The idea began in 1860 and there are similar events in other parts of the country.

**3**  **2.29** Listen to check your answers in exercise 2.