

Prova d'Acces a la Universitat per a Majors de 25 Anys - 2007

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Por favor, utilizad este examen como papel borrador y contestad en la hoja de respuestas.

Tennis star on TV

Sue Barker, the former tennis star, will soon be presenting the BBC TV Sports programme Grandstand this summer. It is a remarkable comeback to national fame for a woman originally known for being the girlfriend of a pop star and for being a British player who won the French open tennis tournament. A succession of injuries and a fall in her ranking from 16th to 63rd made her announce her retirement from tennis at the Australian Open tournament in 1984.

When she went back to her hotel, she had a message from a TV station in Sydney. She thought "Oh, god, not another interview", but they asked her to come and start on their sports programme the next day to give expert comment. Later, Barker was recruited by D. Hill, head of sport on Sky TV, to be one of the presenters on its Saturday sports programme. Finally, came the approach from the BCC.

In the BBC's tennis team, Sue Barker offered not only a number of technical insights but also commented on the players' mental state, and was not afraid to be critical of those in the court who are still friends, a rare quality among the large number of former sports stars that fill the BBC commentary boxes.

For Barker, being a critic was not always easy, especially because she mixed socially with the players. They did sometimes get upset about it. Martina Navratilova came up one day to her quite angry and said: "I heard you, I heard what you said about Steffi".

Having been angry at some of the criticism of her during her 13 years of playing international tennis, Barker says: "I tell them exactly why I thought they weren't playing well, compare their performance with a previous one and, if they can honestly say to me they did play well, then I will apologise." And she added: "I know what hurts and what doesn't hurt, and athletes tend to trust other athletes."

QUESTION 1: State in your own words what the speaker means when she says: "if they can honestly say to me they did play well, then I will apologise." (aprox. 3 lines maximum) (0,5 points)



QUESTION 2: What does the author mean when he affirms: "For Barker, being a critic was not always easy, especially because she mixed socially with the players. (aprox. 3 lines maximum) (0.5 points)
QUESTION 3: Choose A, B, C, D after each statement. Only one answer is correct. [3 points] Por favor escribe la respuesta A, B, C, D en la línea de la izquierda.
1. What does "it" refer to in line 2?
A. her tennis career
B. her comeback
C. her success on TV
D. her fame
2. She became a sports commentator because
A. She was advised to do so by tennis experts.
B. an Australian TV channel suggested it.
C. she decided she would prefer it to tennis
D. she was tired of being interviewed by other people



3. How is she different from other sports commentators?
A. She still has a lot of friends in the game
B. She has a very good technical background
C. She finds it difficult to praise the players
D. She speaks the truth about friends.
4. What does she feel she can offer as a sports commentator
A. She can give athletes advice on dealing with the camera.
B. She can make comments which the athletes accept.
C. She can hep athletes to get on with each other.
D. She can attract new viewers to sports programmes.
 5. The writer of the article seems to believe that
A. It is a bad choice for Barker to work on TV
B. That the BBC is better than Sky TV.
C. That becoming a sports commentator will make her famous.
D. That the Australian TV channel offer was striking.
6. This article was written about Sue Barker because.
A. she is going to be in the public view a lot.
B. there is a court case between Sky TV and the BBC.
C. she has recently given up tennis.



QUESTION 4. These words/ expressions are all found in the text: remarkable (line 2), won (line 4), injuries (line 4), recruit (line 10), insights (line 13), boxes (line 16), came up to (line 18), upset (line 17) hurt (line 20/21), tend (line 21). Choose the ones that mean the same as the following. There are 10 words but only 6 fit with any of the definitions. [3 points]
1) Any physical damage to the body caused by violence or accident or fracture.
2) The clear understanding of a complex situation.
3) Approached.
4) Persuade someone to become the member of an organization.
5) Attained success or reached a goal.
6) Unusual, striking, worthy of notice.



QUESTION 5: Say in each case whether the statement is true or false according to the text. Write T (True) or F (False). If the answer is not mentioned in the text, mark it as false. (3 points)
1. S. Barker is better known as a TV presenter than a tennis star.
2. S. Barker has tried a career in pop music.
3. She tried to give objective criticism of their colleagues performance.
4. During her career she sometimes felt upset by other people's opinion about her.
5. Susan Barker has been angry with critics for thirteen years now.
6. Sport players usually believe that other players make fair comments about games.