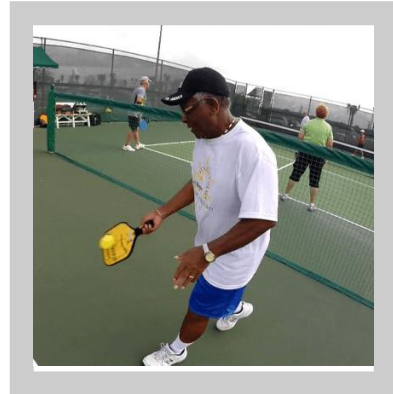


Name _____

Date _____

Pickleball

The game of pickleball was invented by two dads in Washington State in 1965. During a game of badminton, the birdie—the object players hit back and forth—got lost. So Bill Bell and Joel Pritchard suggested their children try using a wiffle ball instead. The badminton rackets were too light to hit the wiffle ball well, so the dads created wooden rackets that resembled ping pong paddles. The dads came up with simple rules based on the rules for tennis, ping pong, and badminton. They named the game after Pritchard's cocker spaniel, Pickles.



Pickleball can be played indoors on basketball or volleyball courts and outside on any hard surface. The playing area is approximately the size of a badminton court, which is about one-fourth the size of a tennis court. The net is the same height as in tennis. The ball is served underhand and only the server can earn points. The receiving team and the server must both allow the ball to bounce before it can be hit. Volleying (hitting directly from the air) is allowed after the double bounces, but not within the seven-foot no-volley zone on either side of the net.

Interest in pickleball has continued to grow. Because players aren't required to be great athletes to play, and because it is easy to learn, pickleball can be played by just about anyone. Grade school students play it in physical education classes. Senior citizens compete in pickleball tournaments. No matter their age, people can spend hours playing this fun sport with their friends and family.

1) According to the passage, the pickleball racket resembles a

- A. tennis racket
- B. badminton racket
- C. ping pong paddle
- D. wiffle ball bat

2) According to the passage, pickleball was named after

- A. the town where it was invented
- B. a dog
- C. the halftime snack
- D. a badminton birdie

- 3)** Based on information in the passage, an elderly person might prefer pickleball to tennis because it is
- A. more challenging
 - B. not as boring
 - C. not as tiring
 - D. more popular

4) Based on information in the passage, it can be understood that pickleball is a good game for physical education classes in school because

- I. it is fun and easy to learn
 - II. the ping pong balls won't damage the gym floor
 - III. schools are more likely to have wiffle balls than badminton equipment
- A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III

5) Explain in your own words how pickleball is different from tennis and badminton.

Answers and Explanations

1) C

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In paragraph 1, we learn that “the dads created wooden rackets that resembled ping pong paddles.” This means choice **(C)** is correct.

Although the pickleball racket is called a racket, the passage does not tell us that it resembles a tennis racket or a badminton racket, so **(A)** and **(B)** are incorrect.

The passage tells us that pickleball uses a wiffle ball, but it does not say anything about a wiffle ball bat. Therefore **(D)** is incorrect.

2) B

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

In paragraph 1, we learn that the game is named after the Pritchard’s cocker spaniel, Pickles, so **(B)** is correct.

The passage does not provide information to support answer choices **(A)**, **(C)**, and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

3) C

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

In the last paragraph, the author states, “Players aren’t required to be great athletes to play” pickleball. Also, in paragraph 2, we learn that the court is one-fourth the size of a tennis court, which means players do not have to run as much as they do in tennis. From these details we can understand that an elderly person might prefer pickleball to tennis because it could be physically easier, or not as tiring. Therefore **(C)** is correct.

The information in the passage indicates that pickleball is less challenging physically than tennis, since the court is smaller and you do not have to be a great athlete. Also, since the author tells us pickleball is “easy to learn,” it is not challenging to learn, either. This means **(A)** is incorrect.

The passage does not contain any information about whether pickleball is less boring or more popular than tennis, so **(B)** and **(D)** are incorrect.

4) A

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

In paragraph 3, we learn that pickleball is becoming more popular because it is a “fun sport” and “easy to learn.” This supports **option (I)**.

The passage does not provide information concerning damage to the gym floor. This eliminates **option (II)**.

The passage does not provide information to suggest that schools are more likely to have wiffle balls than badminton equipment. This eliminates **option (III)**.

Therefore **(A)** is correct.