



Tricky Topics for GCSE Edexcel PE

Topic 3: Physical Training

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Contents

Product Support from ZigZag Education	ii
Terms and Conditions of Use	iii
Teacher's Introduction.....	1
Teacher's Overview	2
Student Introduction	5
Topics	6
1. Health and Fitness and the Role of Exercise.....	6
2. Components of Fitness	10
3. How Fitness is Measured and Improved	17
4. Principles of Training and their Application to Personal Exercise Programmes.....	27
5. Training Programmes.....	35
6. Optimising Training and Preventing Injury	43
7. Warm-ups and Cool-downs	49
Answer Section	53
1. Health and Fitness and the Role of Exercise.....	53
2. Components of Fitness	54
3. How Fitness is Measured and Improved	56
4. Principles of Training and Their Application to Personal Exercise Programmes	58
5. Training Programmes.....	59
6. Optimising Training and Preventing Injury	62
7. Warm-ups and Cool-downs	63

Teacher's Introduction

This resource has been created to supplement your teaching and to support you and your students through the topic of **Edexcel GCSE PE (9–1): Physical Training**. It has been broken down into seven sections ensuring time to fully develop the required knowledge and understanding:

- 3.1.1 – The relationship between health and fitness and the role exercise plays in both
- 3.2.1 – Components of fitness and benefits for sport
- 3.2.2–3.2.5 – How fitness is measured and improved
- 3.3.1–3.3.2 – The principles of training and their application to personal exercise/training programmes
- 3.3.3 – Types of training
- 3.5.1–3.5.5 – How to optimise training and prevent injury
- 3.6.1–3.6.3 – Effective use of a warm-up and cool-down

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

***Please note:** 3.4 – The long-term effects of exercise – has not been covered in this pack as we felt it was better covered alongside the body systems the effects relate to.*

Why is Physical Training a tricky topic?

Learning the topic of Physical Training requires students to use analytical thinking in order to link together the various components of fitness, the tests used to measure them, the types of training used to develop them, and the principles of training required to optimise fitness programmes. Physical Training is a very applied topic, where students are often required to use sporting examples to support their answers and use high-level thinking to justify why components of fitness or types of training may or may not be relevant for performers in different sporting activities. Many questions related to Physical Training in past exams have been extended-answer questions requiring students to evaluate and discuss the importance or relevance of different components of fitness and types of training to different sporting contexts. Therefore, a good understanding of the subtopics within this area is crucial to picking up marks in the exam.

When teaching this topic, it is important to break down the different topics and scaffold learning through activities so that students understand basic terms and concepts before applying their knowledge to the context of sport. Additionally, PE students enjoy being practical, so integrating practical extensions throughout this topic is ideal for getting through to students and improving their confidence.

Worksheets provided throughout this pack have been designed to be visual and include a focus on 'doing' through a range of practical activities alongside more theoretical worksheets. There is a range of clear images and diagrams to support the students' understanding, which can also be used as a revision tool throughout the two-year course.

The pack contains seven lessons, guided by the **teacher's overview page**, which highlights *timings*, *equipment required* and *guidance notes* for the activities that students receive. Each lesson then is inclusive of worksheets that include:

1. **Summary notes** – provide background knowledge and information on each subtopic to support students in completing the activities and give them a base to work from.
2. **Theoretical and practical tasks** – progressively build students' understanding of the topic step by step, introducing key terms and concepts individually before combining them as a whole. Tasks provide a variety of different approaches, and include individual, paired and small-group work. Each task is carefully instructed, allowing the students to be independent, and minimal input from the teacher is needed, allowing you to float between the groups and support students who need it. Optional extensions are also provided throughout – these can be supplied as in-class extension activities for the quicker learners or provided as homework.
3. **Top tips** – offer students key advice that can support knowledge retention and exam preparation.
4. **Questions to think about** – provide opportunities for in-class discussion springboards and encourage deeper thinking on the topic to stretch and challenge students.
5. **Practice exam-style questions** – expose students to the exam format for each subtopic and help them put their knowledge and understanding into practice.

Each lesson also contains **thought-provoking visual images and diagrams** to stimulate learners' interest and support their understanding of the tricky topic. Each worksheet is write-on and can be photocopied and handed out to students. The activities included require minimal equipment so can be completed with basic resources.

When using normative data in this resource, we have created data sets that are reasonable estimations of referenced normative data sets. As such, they are realistic and work as intended in this resource. **Please note that for purposes outside this resource, students should compare to real normative data obtained from reliable sources.**

May 2023

Teacher's Overview



This table provides an overall summary of how to use each worksheet in the lesson, providing timing suggestions to consider when setting students each task. You may wish to hand out these for independent learning and students can adapt to complete on their own.

Topic no.	Spec reference and title	Time suggestion	Equipment needed	
1	3.1.1 – Health and fitness and the exercise	5 mins	None	<p>5–10 mins: Discuss the difference between the terms health and fitness.</p> <p>5–10 mins: <i>Activity 1</i>. Define the terms health and fitness.</p> <p>5–10 mins: Discuss the relationship between health and fitness.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 2</i>. Come up with examples of ways to improve despite ill health.</p> <p>5 mins: <i>Exam-style questions</i>.</p>
2	3.2.1 – Components of fitness	1 hr	None	<p>5–10 mins: Introduce the different components of fitness.</p> <p>5 mins: <i>Activity 1</i>. Guess the different components of fitness.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 2</i>. Provide definitions for the components of fitness.</p> <p>10 mins: Discuss what sports and activities each component is relevant to.</p> <p>15 mins: <i>Activity 3</i>. Justify different components of fitness for different sports and activities.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Exam-style questions</i>.</p>
3	3.2.2–3.2.5 – How fitness is measured and improved	1 hr	Fitness test equipment (see the extension)	<p>5 mins: Discuss the values of fitness testing.</p> <p>5 mins: <i>Activity 1</i>: Write an email to demonstrate how fitness is measured.</p> <p>10–15 mins: Read through the main procedure for fitness testing, and the types of data collected for different sports, and the types of data collected for different sports.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 2A</i>: Identify the fitness tests relevant to different sports.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 2B</i>: Complete the tables to show the fitness tests relevant to different sports.</p> <p>5 mins: Read through the information on interpreting fitness test results.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 3</i>: Interpret the fitness test results for a performer.</p> <p>5–10 mins: <i>Exam-style questions</i>.</p> <p>(Optional) Extension: Demonstrate how data is collected for different sports.</p>

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Topic no.	Spec reference and title	Time suggestion	Equipment needed	
4	3.3.1 – Principles of training 	1 hr	Calculator Heart rate monitor or fitness tracker (for optional extension)	<p>5 mins: Introduce the key principles of training.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 1:</i> Apply the principles of training.</p> <p>5 mins: Introduce the key principles of overloading.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 2:</i> Apply the principles of overloading.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 3:</i> Provide advice for how to set goals for different performers and their goals.</p> <p>10 mins: Read through the different ways that training can be monitored to assess the effectiveness of training.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 4:</i> Provide advice for how to set goals for different performers and their goals.</p> <p>5 mins: <i>Exam-style questions.</i></p> <p>(Optional) Extension: Students to calculate the running pace for training in each zone.</p>
5	3.3.2–3.3.3 – Training programmes	1 hr	None	<p>10–15 mins: Introduce the different types of training.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 1:</i> Design a training session for a specific purpose, considering its suitability.</p> <p>15 mins: Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different types of training, considering their appropriateness to different sporting activities.</p> <p>15 mins: <i>Activity 2:</i> Evaluate the effectiveness of different types of training, considering the advantages and disadvantages.</p> <p>15 mins: <i>Exam-style questions.</i></p> <p>(Optional) Extension: Students to design week-long training programmes of their choice, showing how to apply the principles of training.</p>
6	3.5 – Optimising training and preventing injury 	1 hr	None	<p>5 mins: Discuss the types of information included in a PAR-Q.</p> <p>5–10 mins: <i>Activity 1:</i> Complete the PAR-Q provided, using the information they have given.</p> <p>10–15 mins: Discuss the different factors that can lead to injury.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 2:</i> Students to come up with a list of injuries, describe how they occurred and how they can be prevented.</p> <p>10 mins: Discuss the different types of injuries.</p> <p>5–10 mins: <i>Activity 3:</i> Identify the different types of injuries.</p> <p>10 mins: Discuss the use of PEDs.</p> <p>10 mins: <i>Activity 4:</i> Game of true or false about PEDs.</p> <p>5 mins: <i>Exam-style questions.</i></p>

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Topic no.	Spec reference and title	Time suggestion	Equipment needed	
7	3.6.1–3.6.3 – Warm-ups and cool-downs	1 hr		<p>10 mins: Introduce the components of a warm-up.</p> <p>10–15 mins: Activity 1: Design a warm-up and cool-down.</p> <p>10 mins: Discuss the benefits of warming up and cooling down.</p> <p>15 mins: Activity 2: Explain the potential impacts of warming up and cooling down.</p> <p>5 mins: Extension questions.</p> <p>(Optional) Extension: Students to perform or demonstrate a warm-up and cool-down in Activity 1.</p>

Please note: 3.4 – The long-term effects of exercise – has not been covered in this pack as we felt it was



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Student Introduction

Physical training is needed in sport in order to improve performance. You may be for a sport or an activity and wondering which aspects of performance it is best to be optimised to reap the greatest rewards. By exploring the topic of Physical Training, you will develop the knowledge and understanding needed to excel in your studies and in sport.

This Tricky Topics pack will start off by focusing on health and fitness, including the measurement of fitness and how these are measured. It will then focus on the principles of training, different types of training, before ending with a variety of methods for optimising performance, including warm-ups and cool-downs.

Each worksheet in this pack covers a specific topic within **Topic 3 – Physical Training**, with specific exercises to do; however, if you are tackling a worksheet on your own:

- Read the information on the worksheet.
- Read the relevant chapter of your textbook which covers this topic. If you don't have a textbook, look for definitions and concepts online.
- Try the activities or questions. If you have the answer sheet, answer as much as you can.
- Check your answers against the answer sheet, or hand in your work to your teacher.

Good luck and happy learning!

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1. Health and Fitness and the Role of

Health, exercise, performance and fitness are terms used throughout sport that go into the relationship between them, it is important to start with their definitions.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines **health** as 'a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity'.

On the other hand, **fitness** can be defined as the ability of the body to meet or cope with the demands of the environment. The environment in this instance is the sport or activity performed.



Top tip: As fitness relates to the sport or activity someone is taking part in, the fitness requirements for different sports can vary.

Question to think about:

How might the fitness requirements for different sports differ from those for others?

Exercise refers to a structured form of physical activity other than sport, and is performed to maintain health and fitness.

The final term, **performance**, is simply a description of how well an activity is completed.

Activity 1 (paired)

Working with a partner, see whether you can recall the definitions for health, exercise, fitness and performance above, word for word, without looking (cover them with a piece of paper).

Your partner should check against the definition and record how many words were correct. Take it in turns with each definition, using the following order:

1. Person 1 defines health
2. Person 2 defines fitness
3. Person 1 defines exercise
4. Person 2 defines performance
5. Person 1 defines fitness
6. Person 2 defines health
7. Person 1 defines performance
8. Person 2 defines exercise

You should repeat this three times to see whether you can improve your definitions.

	Attempt 1	Attempt 2	Attempt 3
Health			
Fitness			
Exercise			
Performance			

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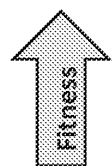
As seen from the definition on page 6, health is split into three aspects of well-being. Participation in physical activity, exercise and sport benefits each of these aspects and the benefits of participation have on these aspects in the table below.

Physical well-being	Mental well-being	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free from injury • Free from illness • Free from disease • All body systems working well 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased confidence • Increased self-esteem • Reduced depression • Positive outlook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • •

(You do not need to know specific examples of the different aspects of well-being useful for understanding health and its relationship to fitness.)

Ill health is brought on by an individual lacking in one of these aspects of positive well-being. This can determine whether someone is in the position to exercise or not, which can then affect our ability to meet the demands of the sport or activity we are involved in).

On one hand, ill health can **decrease fitness**. For example, consider someone who is suffering from poor physical well-being. An injury can hold someone out of exercising/training as they must rest and recover. Therefore, the period of detrimental health through will result in a decrease in fitness levels, as any previous gains in fitness are lost.



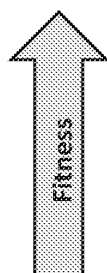
On the other hand, ill health can **increase fitness**. For example, an individual with depression (mental ill health) and, therefore, has poor mental well-being. However, as physical activity has proven to be an effective treatment for people with depression, a depressed individual may still be able to exercise and increase their fitness.

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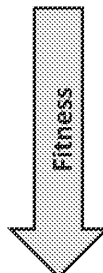


Activity 2 (individual)

Come up with your own examples of how ill health can affect an individual's ability to both increase **and** decrease fitness, by filling in the empty cells (overleaf). You can use physical, mental and social well-being above to help. You can then compare your examples with those of your classmates and add any other examples that they came up with.



e.g. an individual who is suffering from depression would be considered as having poor mental health. However, the individual may find that exercising helps with their depression and can, therefore, still increase their fitness levels.



e.g. someone who is currently injured is physically unable to exercise and as a result may experience a period of deterioration in their fitness levels, which may result in decreased fitness.

Increase in fitness despite ill health...

Example 1:

Example 2:

Example 3:

Example 4:

Decrease in fitness due to ill health...

Example 1:

Example 2:

Example 3:

Example 4:



Top tip: Draw from your own personal experiences to help answer questions on the relationship between these terms. Has your ill health ever affected your ability to exercise, and if so, how has this affected your fitness?

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Exam-style questions

Complete the following exam-style questions to practise what you have learnt.

1. a. Complete the statements that define the terms 'health' and 'fitness'.

Health – a state of complete physical, mental and social _____
absence of disease or infirmity.

Fitness – the ability of the body to meet or cope with the _____

- b. Which **one** of the following best describes the term 'performance' in sport?
Give **one** example of each in your answer.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) How well an activity is completed | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) How well a performer performs | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) The act of performing on a show | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Trying to trick an official | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- c. Give **one** example of how exercise can improve health.
-

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2. Components of Fitness

There are many components of fitness that are important to a range of different sports. Having a combination of different components is often required in order to be successful in the specific sport or activity.

Remember

Fitness in sport is the demands of the sport.

In order to understand the different components of fitness, you should first be aware of their definitions:

Component of fitness	Definition
Agility	The ability to change direction quickly without losing balance.
Balance	The ability to maintain centre of mass over the base of support.
Cardiovascular fitness (aerobic endurance)	The ability of the body to exercise for prolonged periods.
Power	The product of strength and speed.
Muscular endurance	The ability of a muscle to repeatedly contract without fatigue.
Flexibility	The range of movement available at a joint.
Body composition	The relative percentage of fat mass to fat-free (muscle and bone) mass.
Coordination	The ability to use two or more body parts, both sides of the body, in a smooth and efficient manner.
Reaction time	The time taken to initiate a response to a stimulus.
Speed	The ability to cover a pre-determined distance as quickly as possible.
Strength	The ability of the muscle to apply force to overcome resistance.

Question to think about

How might fitness requirements vary based on different roles or positions of people in a sport?

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Activity 1 (group)

Split yourselves into two groups for a game of charades. In your group, one person goes up in front of the others and act out a component of fitness. Once guessed, another person acts out a different component, until all components have been covered. Make sure everyone has a go at acting out a component of fitness. There should be 11 in total.

Activity 2 (individual)

You will often have 1-mark questions in your exam that will require you to define or recognise a correct definition (i.e. multiple choice). Without looking at the notes, write down the definitions for each component of fitness in the table below. Some key terms are provided to help you. Swap your responses with a peer and check accuracy of their answers with a coloured pen.

Component of fitness	Definition
Agility	
Balance	
Cardiovascular fitness (aerobic endurance)	
Power	
Muscular endurance	
Flexibility	
Body composition	
Coordination	
Reaction time	
Speed	
Strength	

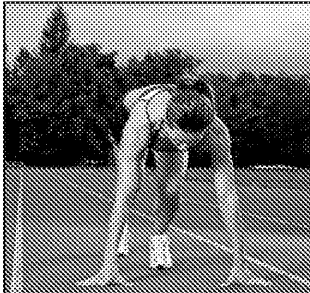
Key terms: ability, contract, fatigue, force, pre-determined, control, base of support, stimulus, efficiently, resistance, product

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Now that you know the definitions of the different components of fitness, let's take a look at the meaning and which sports and activities this means they are suited to.

Skill-related fitness components:

		
<p>Power Power is a combination of strength and speed so it is important in activities where these components are needed to overcome large resistances quickly, e.g. jumping to overcome bodyweight quickly, as seen in the high jump, and applying force to an object with speed, e.g. when shooting in sports such as football and hockey.</p>	<p>Coordination Coordination requires the efficient use of two or more body parts. This is usually hand-eye coordination, such as that required during the tennis serve, where the performer must throw the ball into the air while preparing for the shot, then hit the ball at its highest point.</p>	<p>Balance Balance is the ability to maintain equilibrium while standing or moving. It is important in sports where the performer has to maintain a steady position, such as in gymnastics or figure skating.</p>
		
<p>Agility A performer requires agility in order to change direction quickly, so it is important in activities where they must evade an opponent, such as in rugby, or when responding to the movements of the opposition, such as moving across the court to return a shot in tennis or badminton.</p>	<p>Reaction time Having a good reaction time is important in a range of sports. The most obvious is in timed sprint events where the response to the starting gun is a key determinant of getting a good head start in the race.</p>	<p>Speed Speed is the ability to move quickly. It is important in sports where the performer has to move quickly, such as in sprint events or in team sports like football.</p>

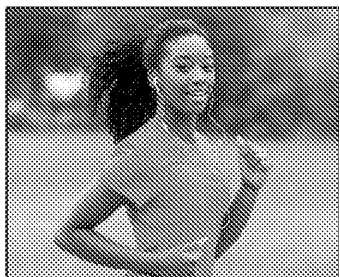
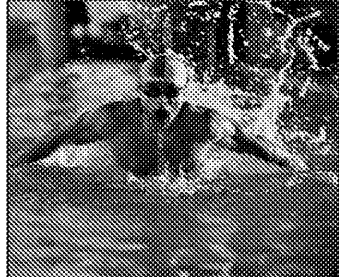
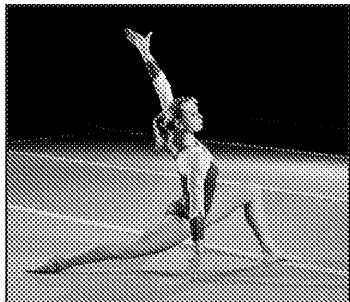



Top tip: The components of fitness are often related and skill-related components. A good way to remember the skill-related components is PC: power, coordination, balance, agility, reaction time and speed.

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Health-related fitness components:

		
<p>Cardiovascular fitness (aerobic endurance)</p> <p>As implied in the name, cardiovascular fitness is used in endurance events which rely on having a well-developed cardiovascular system to supply the working muscles with oxygen-rich blood during exercise. It is important in all long-distance events, such as marathon running and triathlons.</p>	<p>Muscular endurance</p> <p>As muscular endurance requires the muscle to contract for an extended period of time, it is important for events that need to overcome the sensations of fatigue, such as during the last 100–200 m of a 400 m race.</p>	<p>Strength</p> <p>The ability to exert force, which is difficult to achieve over extended periods of time, such as in a long-distance race.</p>
		
<p>Flexibility</p> <p>Having good flexibility is important in both sports performance and injury prevention, so is important in a range of sports. For performance purposes, flexibility is required in most gymnastics movements, e.g. split jumps and tumbling.</p>	<p>Body composition</p> <p>Different body compositions are required for different sporting activities. For example, a long-distance runner needs a lean body mass to maximise control of the event. On the other hand, a weightlifter benefits from having a high body mass to increase the weight they can lift in a tackle or throw.</p>	



Put it all together: Success in sporting activities usually depends on a combination of components of fitness; therefore, think about how the different components of fitness may interact.

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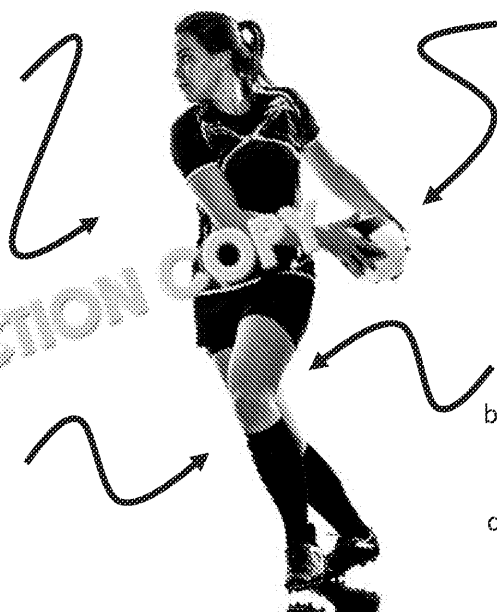
As well as showing an understanding of the components of fitness through defining them, you need to demonstrate your understanding by applying the different components to a specific sport and justifying which are relevant and which are not.

Agility

Rugby requires the performer to evade their opponents to get over the try line, so sidestepping (changing direction quickly) is an important skill for doing this.

Power

Rugby players need a range of explosive movements which combine strength and speed, such as jumping to challenge for an aerial ball, lifting a teammate in a line-out, and tackling.



Rugby players need to be able to break through if they are not quick.

Components not required by, or less important to, the performer for performance in rugby are:

- **Flexibility** – being able to move the joints through a large range of motion is an example, in rugby it could be useful in preventing musculoskeletal injuries. It is not one of the other components to successful performance. It is also not required in certain situations where the muscles are undergoing isometric contractions, i.e. are not moving.
- For performance of certain skills, some components of fitness may not be required. For example, **endurance** is important to continually make tackles throughout the game, but for a single tackle over in one movement, muscular endurance is not required.

Most fitness components can be somewhat important to performance in most sports. You can justify the use of flexibility for performance in rugby; however, it is best if you select components that can specifically provide examples for.



Top tip: Success in sporting activities usually depends on a combination of components of fitness; therefore, you need to think about how the different components of fitness can be used to improve performance.

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Activity 3 (paired/individual)

For each of the sporting examples below, give **two** components of fitness that are **important** within the activity, and **two** that are **less important**. You must give a justification with a partner to discuss your selections.

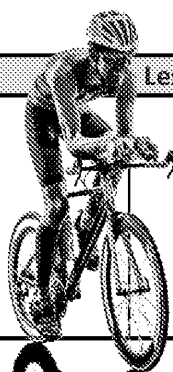
Serving in wheelchair tennis

Important	Less important
1.	1.
2.	2.



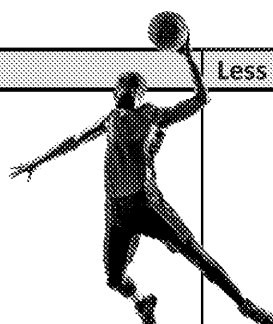
Cycling stage in a triathlon

Important	Less important
1.	1.
2.	2.



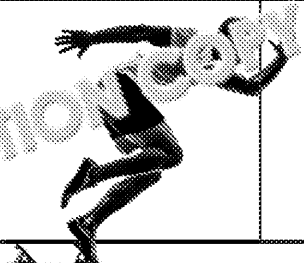
Slam dunk in basketball

Important	Less important
1.	1.
2.	2.



Sprint start of the 100 m sprint

Important	Less important
1.	1.
2.	2.



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Exam-style questions

Complete the following exam-style questions to practise what you have learnt.


1. a. Define the term 'speed'.

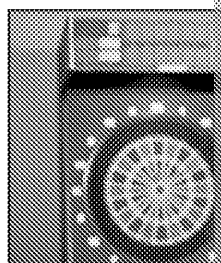
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- b. Which **one** of these activities is speed most important for?

- a) Football ☐
- b) Gymnastics ☐
- c) Archery ☐
- d) Badminton ☐

2. Justify  being powerful is more important to a rugby player than a darts



.....


.....

.....

.....

3. Complete the table by:

- a) Identifying the component of fitness most important to the given performer
- b) Stating an advantage of the given component for their performance

Performer	a) Component of fitness	b) Advantage
Weightlifter		
 Gynaest		

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3. How Fitness is Measured and Improved

The various components of fitness covered in the previous section can be measured with specific fitness tests designed to measure each component of fitness.

There is a wide range of values of fitness testing in sport, mainly applied to their training programmes.

- Compare against norms/others
- Identify strengths and weaknesses
- Indicate baseline fitness
- Inform training requirements
- Set goals and motivate
- Monitor improvements in fitness
- Determine the success of training programme

Activity Individual/paired)

Decide on a sport in your pairs. Each member in the pair should write a mock email to a fitness coach addressing the head coach in that sport, explaining the values of fitness testing for a season or for an athlete's training programme.

The other member in the pair should play the same role, but they should email the coach explaining why they should not be using fitness testing (by explaining its limitations). Alternatively, you could write the email just by yourself.

Try to write your mock email without looking at the notes and then swap sheets to read the other's email.

Now you are familiar with the values of fitness testing, it is time to uncover the various ways in which we can measure the different components of fitness!

Spend 10–15 minutes reading through the procedures of each of the tests over the next few pages, noting how the test is organised, with reference to:

- the main procedures/protocols that are followed in order to carry out the test
- the facilities and equipment required to set up the test and to collect data
- the measurements that are used as the test score

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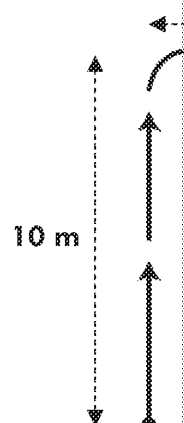
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Agility – Illinois Agility Run Test

Main procedures/protocols:

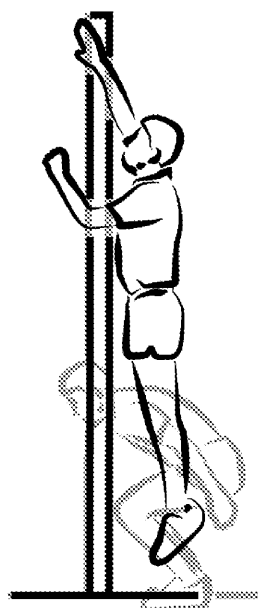
1. The participant warms up while the assistant marks out a 10 m x 5 m course, as shown in the diagram to the right.
2. On the command 'go', the participant should aim to complete the course in the direction shown, as quickly as possible.
3. The assistant uses a stopwatch to time how long they take in seconds and this is used as the test score.



Equipment and facilities needed:

- Cones
- Stopwatch
- Non-slip running surface
- Assistant

Power (Explosive Strength) – Vertical Jump



Main procedures/protocols:

1. The participant warms up then chalks their hands (to prevent chalk from coming off their hands).
2. The participant then stands side-on to the wall and marks the wall with the chalk as high as possible to mark the wall with the chalk.
3. The participant then jumps as high as they can, touching the wall with their arm stretched as high as possible.
4. The assistant records the distance between the first mark (while standing) and the second mark (while jumping). This is used as the test score.

Equipment and facilities needed:

- Chalk
- Ruler
- Vertical wall which can be marked with chalk
- Assistant

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Cardiovascular Fitness (Maximal Test) – Cooper 12

Main procedures/protocols:

1. The participant warms up in preparation for the 12-minute Cooper test they are about to perform (run or swim).
2. On the command 'go', the assistant starts the stopwatch and the participant begins the test.
3. The participant must run or swim (depending on the test) as far as possible within 12 minutes.
4. Once the 12-minute time period is up, the participant must stop where they are.
5. The distance they have travelled is recorded in metres and used as the test score.

Equipment and facilities needed:

- Running track / Swimming pool
- Stopwatch
- Assistant

Cardiovascular Fitness (Sub-maximal Test) – Harvard

Main procedures/protocols:

1. The participant begins the test by facing the stepping bench.
2. The test conductor should start a metronome via an audio player at 30 beats per minute.
3. On each beat, the participant should step up onto the bench and back down again, alternating the leading leg each time.
4. They should continue doing this for 5 minutes, at which point the assistant should notify them to stop.
5. The participant should measure their pulse rate on every minute mark after ending the test, for three consecutive minutes. This can be done by counting the last 15 seconds of every minute and multiplying it by four.
6. A test score can be calculated by the equation: $30,000 / (\text{pulse after 1 min} + \text{pulse after 2 mins} + \text{pulse after 3 mins})$

Equipment and facilities needed:

- Bench or step
- Audio player and recording track
- Stopwatch
- Assistant

Question to think

Why might there be alternative ways to measure cardiovascular fitness?

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Speed – 30 m Sprint Test



Main procedures/protocols:

1. The participant should mark out a 30 metre track.
2. The participant starts from a starting block between the start cones.
3. On the command 'go', the participant starts the stopwatch and the participant runs the distance right through to the end cone.
4. As the participant passes the end cone, the stopwatch and the participant stop. The stopwatch is used as the test score.

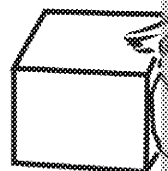
Equipment and facilities needed:

- Cones
- Measuring tape/wheel
- Stopwatch
- Running track
- Assistant

Flexibility – Sit and Reach Test

Main procedures/protocols:

1. The participant performs a warm-up to increase flexibility and reduce the risk of injury.
2. They then sit with their feet pressed up against the sit and reach box with legs straight and flat on the floor (as shown in the image on the right).
3. The participant should then reach out in front of them as far as possible on the sit and reach box. They should make sure that the stretch is smooth and progressive.
4. The assistant records the distance in **centimetres** they are able to reach by reading the built-in ruler on top of the sit and reach box. This is used as the test score.



Equipment and facilities needed:

- Sit and reach box (with built-in ruler)
- Exercise mat (optional)
- Assistant

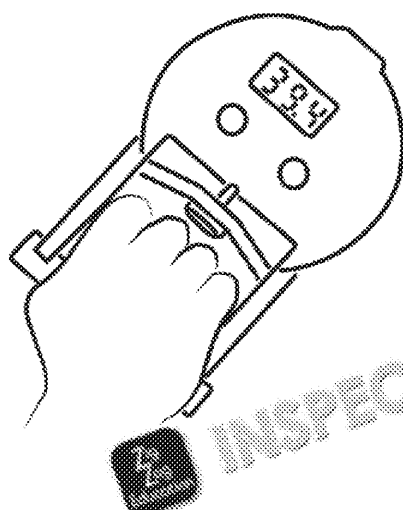


Top tip: Fitness tests that do not require large amounts of energy, motivation and time to complete should be repeated three times, in order to use the highest score. This is because participants tend to improve with practice, warm up or become more familiar with the test.

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Strength – Grip Dynamometer Test



Main procedures/protocols:

1. The participant adjusts the device so it is held comfortably between the fingers and the palm of the hand.
2. They should then stand holding the device with their arms at their sides but with the arms straight so that it is not touching anything.
3. When ready, they should squeeze the device for up to five seconds.
4. The test score is displayed on the digital screen.

Equipment and facilities needed:

- Handgrip dynamometer

Muscular Endurance – One-minute Press-up or Sit-up

Main procedures/protocols:

1. The participant lies on an exercise mat, with their legs bent (sit-up), or props themselves up using their hands and feet (see images).
2. On the command 'go', the assistant starts the stopwatch and the participant performs a sit-up (by bringing their elbows to their knees) or a press-up (by lowering their chest to the floor).
3. They then return to their initial position, which counts as one full repetition (rep).
4. Their aim is to perform as many reps as possible within one minute.
5. The test score is the **number of reps** they are able to perform.



Equipment and facilities needed:

- Exercise mat
- Stopwatch
- Assistant



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Activity 2A (individual)

Test your knowledge of the different fitness tests by identifying the test that the without referring back to the information on the previous pages. Some information fitness test.

Information	
Participant steps to the sound of a beat for 5 minutes	
Test score is calculated from jump height – standing reach height	
Participant runs as fast as they can in a straight line	
Participant squeezes a handheld device as hard as possible	
Participant must complete a 10 m × 5 m course as quickly as possible	
Participant performs as many reps as they can in 60 seconds	
Participant must flex at the hips to stretch the hamstrings	
Participant must run or swim as far as possible in 12 minutes	

Not all tests are completely suitable for all sports or activities. For example, the 30 considered unsuitable for a sprint cyclist as they perform the exercise on a bike. sprint cycling requires the performer to move their limbs as fast as possible, just


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Activity 2B (group)

Complete the tables below and overleaf to identify the fitness component tested and then discuss the suitability of each fitness test for the given sports performed. It is suitable / not suitable and tick the box, then justify your answer in the box on the right.

Sport:		Keirin
Fitness test:		Vertical jump
Fitness component:		
Suitable? (✓)	Not suitable? (✓)	
		

Sport:		Long jump
Fitness test:		Grip dynamometer
Fitness component:		
Suitable? (✓)	Not suitable? (✓)	

Sport:		Volleyball
Fitness test:		Sit and reach
Fitness component:		
Suitable? (✓)	Not suitable? (✓)	
		

It is important when discussing the suitability of fitness tests that you also consider the other side of the argument. For the answer you didn't select above, now discuss how it could be suitable / not suitable.



Top tip. When evaluating a test is suitable for a given sport, you should also consider reasons for why it is not suitable.

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Interpretations can be drawn from the test scores of each fitness test by comparison with normative data. This is data categorised by age and gender which is said to be representative of the population. Each performer is assigned a rating which describes how well that performer has tested relative to the normative data. A normative data table is shown below for the example of the 30 m sprint test for males.

Rating	Males
Excellent	< 4.0 s
Good	4.0–4.4 s
Average	4.5–4.6 s
Fair	4.7–5.1 s
Poor	5.2–5.5 s

Estimated and derived from normative data

The table below shows the ratings that would be assigned to different subjects:

Subject number	Gender	Age	Score
1	Male	15	4.8 s
2	Female	16	4.1 s
3	Female	16	4.9 s
4	Male	15	5.3 s
5	Female	14	4.6 s

The type of data collected from fitness tests is known as **quantitative data** (i.e. that which is described with numbers). For the 30 m fitness test above, the quantitative data is **seconds**; however, quantitative data can also be collected in other ways:

- **Levels** (e.g. in the multistage fitness test¹*)
- **Centimetres** (e.g. in the sit and reach test)
- **Kilograms** (e.g. in the grip dynamometer test)
- **A number** (e.g. in the one-minute press-up test)

When test scores are compared with normative data scores, they are then assigned a rating. This is known as **qualitative data** (i.e. that which is described with words). For this test, the qualitative data is the rating from **excellent to poor**. However, another qualitative data obtained from fitness tests is the rating of how they felt during the activity; for example, whether they felt as if they gave their best effort, fully motivated, or whether they could have done better.

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¹ fitness test is not required knowledge for the Edexcel specification

Activity 3 (paired)

Work in pairs to draw interpretations on what the fitness test results show for the sports and activities below. You should also evaluate whether or not the test is relevant to the sporting activity.

Football players

Interpretation of results:

Relevance of tests to the activity:



Illinois a

Name

Rafael

Eric

Normative
year-olds

Rating

Excellent

Above average

Average

Below average

Poor

Normative data estimated and adapted from Davis et al. (2000)

Multistage fitness test results:

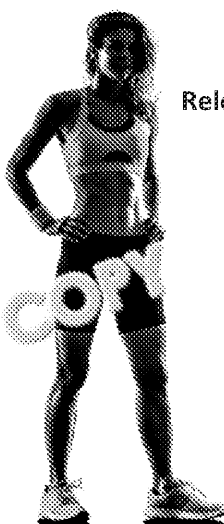
Name	Sex	Age	Score
Kate	F	24	L7 S8
Aleesha	F	22	L11 S1

Normative data for female 21–25-year-olds:

Rating	Score
Excellent	> L10 S9
Above average	L10 S9 – L11 S1
Average	L11 S1 – L12 S7
Below average	L12 S7 – L13 S1
Poor	< L4 S9

Interpretation of results:

Relevance of tests to the activity:



Normative data estimated and adapted from Davis et al. (2000)

Extension (optional)

Conduct one of the tests covered in the lesson and collect data from a participant. Ensure that all the equipment required is available for you to use, and that you have familiarised yourself with the main procedures to ensure the safety of the participant and increase the validity of the data.

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Exam-style questions

Complete the following exam-style questions to practise what you have learnt.

1. Which component of fitness is assessed by the vertical jump test? Tick the box.
- a) Speed ☐
 - b) Muscular endurance ☐
 - c) Agility ☐
 - d) Power ☐

2. Define the term 'body composition'.

.....

.....

3. One value of fitness testing is that it helps to identify strengths and weaknesses. State two other values of fitness testing.

- i.
- ii.

4. a. Describe the protocol for the 12-minute Cooper run test for cardiovascular fitness.

.....

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- b. The table below shows the changes in fitness test data over a six-week period.

	Week 1	Week 3
12-minute Cooper run (m)	1,800	2,100
Illinois agility run test (s)	15.6	17.2
30 m sprint test (s)	4.35	4.14

Analyse the data in the table to identify the trends for each fitness test.

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4. Principles of Training and their Application in Personal Exercise Programmes

Once the components of fitness that need improving have been identified through assessment, and the coach/trainer select appropriate training methods to target these components, different types of training, it is important to understand the key principles that govern how to optimise fitness improvements, and ultimately performance in sport and physical activity.

SPORT is an acronym used to remember some of the key principles of training.

S pecificity	Training methods that are specific to improving the fitness components identified, and are specific to the actions used in the sport or activity.
P rogressive Overload	A steady increase in the magnitude of the training stimulus.
O vertraining	The decrease in training performance and quality due to excessive training without sufficient rest.
R eversibility	The loss of fitness as a result of detraining.
T hresholds of training	The % of heart rate maximum (HRM) which ties in with the intensity of training for aerobic and anaerobic fitness.

Another important principle is **individual needs**, which concerns the needs and wants of the performer, and which are specific to the performer.

When designing a training programme, it is important that the programme considers the principles of training applied in each session. For example:

- **Specificity** can be applied by ensuring that the type of training is designed to improve the fitness identified, and that the drills and activities within each training session are specific to the role in their sport or activity.
- **Progressive overload** can be applied by focusing on the different FITT principles, and ensuring they are applied progressively (i.e. minor additions with each training session or session).
- **Overtraining** can be prevented by appropriately applying the other principles, and ensuring sufficient rest between sessions.
- **Reversibility** should be avoided by ensuring that training is not regressing and that the training programme where no training is performed.
- **Thresholds of training** should be selected based on the fitness needs of the performer.

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Activity 1 (individual)

Read what each of the participants/athletes below is saying about their training, principle of training they should address (options shown below). Provide each participant with a list of principles and how they could apply each principle in their training.

SPORT principles of training: Specificity, Progressive overload, Overtraining, Recovery

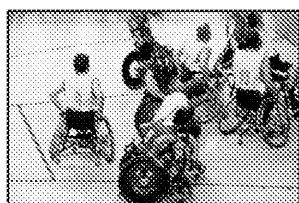


When training for the 5k I always run at the same pace for the same distance. I don't seem to be improving?

Principle: ...

How it can be applied:

.....
.....
.....
.....



I play basketball but most of my training is performed without a ball and I feel like I'm losing my technical ability.

Principle: ...

How it can be applied:

.....
.....
.....
.....



I took a month off football training and playing during the season and now it is so hard to complete 90 minutes.

Principle: ...

How it can be applied:

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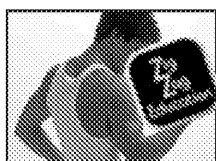


I take part in training for heptathlon with the rest of the athletics club, but most of the training focuses on my strengths and not my weaknesses.

Principle: ...

How it can be applied:

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.....



This is my fifth consecutive day training in the gym and now I'm struggling to motivate myself for the session.

Principle: ...

How it can be applied:

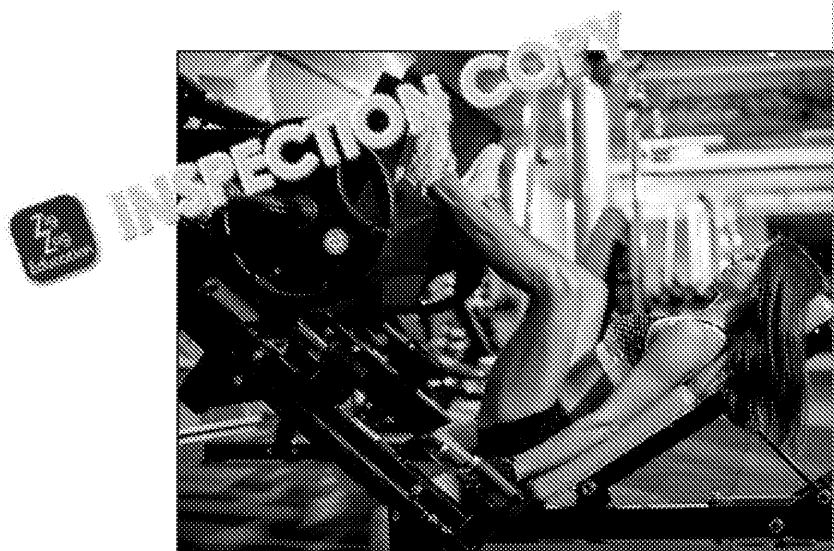
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As mentioned, the principle of progressive overload can be applied using the **FITT** principle.

F Frequency	How often training is performed
I Intensity	How hard training is performed
T Time	How long training is performed
T Type	Which training method is used

Each FITT principle can be applied in different ways:

- **Frequency** can be the number of training sessions per week.
- **Intensity** can be the percentage of heart rate reserve or the percentage of maximum power output.
- **Time** can be applied to the duration of a training session.
- **Type** can be the type of training method used.



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Activity 2 (individual)

Use your understanding of the FITT principles to develop a training goal that you have chosen sport. Underneath your goal, explain how your training programme will meet this principle:

My goal:

The principles of training (FITT):

Frequency – How my goal will meet this principle:

Intensity – How my goal will meet this principle:

Time – How my goal will meet this principle:

Type – How my goal will meet this principle:

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Activity 3 (individual)

Use the performer profiles below to provide advice on how each performer could improve their effectiveness by applying the different FITT principles. One has been done for you.

Profile	FITT principle
Name: Youssef Age: 23 Goal: To improve my muscular endurance to maintain batting performance in cricket.	<i>e.g. Types of training: make sure you use a variety of endurance training methods (e.g. long runs, interval training) and exercises that target different muscle groups to improve the muscular endurance of key muscles.</i>
Name: Louise Age: 31 Goal: To improve my coordination in skills in swimming.	Frequency of training:
Name: Anushka Age: 20 Goal: To improve high-intensity performance in a game of tennis.	Intensity of training:
Name: Timothy Age: 27 Goal: To build up my running in order to complete the Great North Run.	Time of training:
Name: Benjamin Age: 16 Goal: To improve my flexibility so I am more efficient with gymnastics movements.	Type of training:

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Calculating intensities

Heart rate can be used as a measure of intensity during training, and is used to calculate training thresholds.



Heart rate is a measure that reflects how hard the cardiovascular system is working in order to supply the body's tissues with oxygen and other essential nutrients. During exercise, heart rate increases due to the working muscles. This exercising heart rate is different for different people (how hard) that person is working at relative to their level of fitness (fitter individuals have a lower heart rate due to the increased efficiency of the heart), but also due to age as heart rate decreases.

Key term

Training threshold
The point at which a performer can no longer sustain a specific intensity of exercise.

Worked example

The relationship between age and maximum heart rate can be calculated using the simplified Karvonen formula:

$$\text{Maximum heart rate} = 220 - \text{age}$$

Therefore, an individual who is 20 years of age will have a maximum heart rate of $220 - 20 = 200 \text{ bpm}$

Whereas an individual who is older (e.g. 50 years of age) will have a maximum heart rate of $220 - 50 = 170 \text{ bpm}$

There are two main training zones that can be calculated using heart rate. These are:

- the aerobic training zone (60–80% HR max)
- the anaerobic training zone (80–90% HR max)

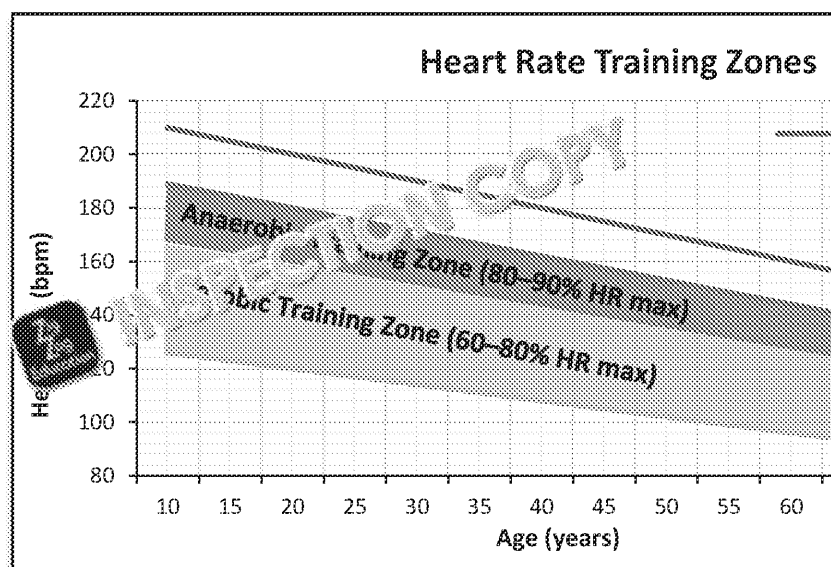
Training in the aerobic zone will bring about adaptations that benefit long duration activities such as a marathon, whereas anaerobic training will elicit adaptations that benefit higher intensity activities such as a 100m sprint.

Question to think about

Use the graph below to compare the training zones of the two differently aged individuals used in the worked example above.



Top tip: Different types of training often use specific training zones. For example, continuous training is likely to be in the aerobic zone, whereas interval training is likely to involve anaerobic training.

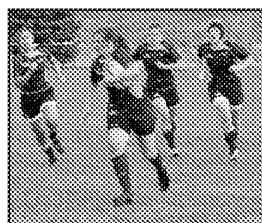


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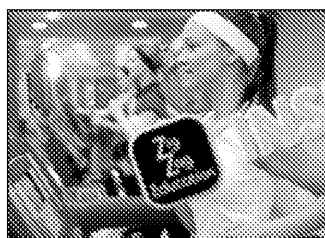
Activity 4 (individual)

Provide advice on how to optimise training effectiveness for the different performers. You should use what you have learnt about calculating intensities to optimise training for each individual. Show your working. One has been done for you.



Name: Steph
Age: 15
Goal: To be better able to meet the repeated high-intensity demands in rugby.

Advice: Interval training performed in the (80–90% HRM). $220 - \text{age} = 205$ need to work at

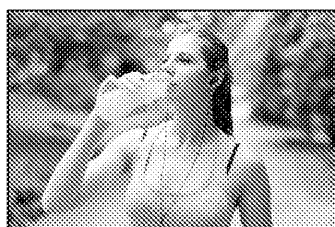


Name: Sam
Age: 30
Goal: To improve cardiovascular endurance by working in the aerobic training zone.

Advice:

Advice:

Name: Jess
Age: 44
Goal: To improve rowing performance by training in the anaerobic heart rate zone.



Name: Yulia
Age: 18
Goal: To complete the upcoming Manchester Marathon.

Advice:

Advice:

Name: Ahmed
Age: 33
Goal: To qualify for Team GB sprint cycling team.

Extension

Calculate your own intensity zones for heart rate, and trial what pace you need to stay within each training zone. See how long you can exercise for in each training zone.

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Exam-style questions

Complete the following exam-style questions to practise what you have learnt.

1. Which **one** of the following training zones would be recommended to an individual with low aerobic endurance? Tick the box to indicate your answer.

- a) 50–60% HR max ☐
- b) 80–90% HR max ☐
- c) > 90% HR max ☐
- d) 60–80% HR max ☐

2. State the meaning of the term reversibility.

.....

.....

3. a. Polly is a 20-year-old 400 m sprinter and has been told that she must add an overload to her training programme in order to improve her performance.

Give an example that shows how Polly could apply the principle of progression to her training sessions.

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- b. Describe, using the Karvonen formula, how to calculate Polly's anaerobic power.

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5. Training Programmes


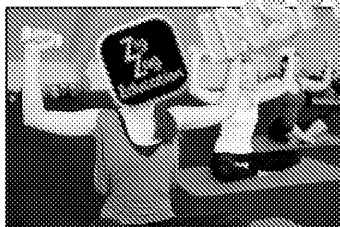
There are many different types of training a performer can participate in to improve fitness related to their sport or activity. There are clear distinctions between each and how it is carried out. Let's take a look at each below.

Training method	Purpose
Circuit training 	<p>Circuit training involves a range of different exercises at different 'stations'. These exercises are completed for a given number of reps, which are then followed by a performer moving on to the next station. Each station is known as a 'circuit', and this is often repeated.</p> <p>The activities included in a circuit can be adapted to different sports and to target different components of fitness. For example, in rugby could include tackle bag activities, up-and-downs, scrums.</p>
Continuous training 	<p>Continuous training involves sustained exercise for a period longer than 20 minutes. This is performed at a steady state, when the heart rate is stable and the body is comfortable meeting the demands of the exercise.</p> <p>Examples: running, swimming, cycling, rowing.</p>
Fartlek training 	<p>Fartlek training uses varying speeds or terrain to intermittently change the intensity of exercise. When the intensity is higher, and periods of lower intensity are used for recovery. Work : recovery ratios can be calculated and given to periods of different intensity.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">  <p>Top tip: The term 'fartlek' is derived from the Swedish word 'fartlek' which means 'speed play', which reflects the nature of this type of training.</p> </div>
Interval training 	<p>Interval training involves periods of work interspersed with periods of rest. The time of work and recovery periods is expressed as a ratio (e.g. 1 minute work, 30 seconds rest would be 1:30).</p> <p>There is also a form of interval training known as high intensity interval training (HIIT), which involves high intensity work periods followed by rest periods.</p>
Weight/resistance training 	<p>Weight/Resistance training involves loading exercises that are performed for a given number of reps. A wide range of methods and equipment, such as bodyweight exercises, resistance bands and resistance machines.</p> <p>It is important that spotters (assistants) are used when lifting weights, so that they are not dropped, causing injury. Performers should also practise good lifting techniques to reduce the risk of injury, such as muscle strains.</p>

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Training method	Purpose			
<p>Plyometric</p> 	<p>Plyometric exercises involve an eccentric contraction followed by a concentric contraction.</p> <p>Examples include box jumps and bounding for the lower body, whereas medicine ball slams develop power in the upper body.</p>			
<p>Fitness classes</p> 	<p>There is a range of fitness classes available for different purposes:</p> <table><tr><td><p>Body pump for strength and cardiovascular endurance – a whole-body workout using weights</p></td><td><p>Aerobics for cardiovascular fitness – a whole-body workout without the use of weights which is often performed in time to music</p></td><td><p>Spinning for cardiovascular fitness – a whole-body workout using a cycle on a bike, often in time to music</p></td></tr></table>	<p>Body pump for strength and cardiovascular endurance – a whole-body workout using weights</p>	<p>Aerobics for cardiovascular fitness – a whole-body workout without the use of weights which is often performed in time to music</p>	<p>Spinning for cardiovascular fitness – a whole-body workout using a cycle on a bike, often in time to music</p>
<p>Body pump for strength and cardiovascular endurance – a whole-body workout using weights</p>	<p>Aerobics for cardiovascular fitness – a whole-body workout without the use of weights which is often performed in time to music</p>	<p>Spinning for cardiovascular fitness – a whole-body workout using a cycle on a bike, often in time to music</p>		

When designing a training/exercise programme and selecting the most appropriate training methods and intensities to work at, it is important to consider the following:

- ✓ Current levels of fitness – lower levels of starting fitness will require more time to build a good aerobic base before progressing with training.
- ✓ Facilities and space available – appropriate facilities may be needed for certain sports such as an athletics track for continuous training to make sure it is performed safely.
- ✓ Equipment available – many training methods require the use of equipment (e.g. whether a participant has a gym membership) will need to be considered.
- ✓ Fitness/sport requirements – training methods and activities will have to be selected to match the requirements of the participant's sport or activity. This includes components such as speed, strength, endurance and skills required.

QUESTION
Are you likely to be injured?

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Activity 1 (paired)

Design and describe the contents of a training session for a performer of your choice using the training types discussed in the notes on the previous pages. You should then justify the method for that performer.

Sport/Activity: _____

Type of training: _____

Description:



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Justification of the suitability of this training method for a performer in the name of _____



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Evaluating training methods

Each training method varies in its appropriateness to specific sporting activities and the general advantages and disadvantages of each method.

Circuit training	
Advantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensity and duration of each station can be tailored to different fitness needs Types of exercises can be altered to improve different components of fitness Range of exercises provides variety, which helps prevent tedium Exercises can target the whole body or isolate different areas used in the sporting activity Exercises can be made sport-specific (e.g. use of treadmills for running, exercise bikes for cycling) Can be performed in large groups 	Disadvantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May require special equipment, weights and exercises May take a long time to set up Requires a large space Not wholly sport-specific Exercises can be performed separately Inappropriate workloads and may lead to fatigue
Continuous training	
Advantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal equipment required Can be done in simple environments Can be performed for a variety of modes (e.g. running, swimming, cycling, rowing, skiing) Easy to gauge intensity Easy to overload Improves cardiovascular endurance Can be performed in a group or on one's own 	Disadvantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tedious May result in overtraining Requires motivation Not sport-specific Little room for adaptation Doesn't develop anaerobic fitness
Fartlek training	
Advantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performer can adjust intensity throughout Improves aerobic and anaerobic fitness Develops a range of fitness components No equipment required Uses many environments so not as tedious Specific to physical demands of intermittent sports such as football and tennis Can be performed in a group or on one's own 	Disadvantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is not wholly specific Focuses solely around fitness Athletes may fatigue Sprint intervals Some terrains may be unsuitable Changes in intensity Most sports are performed in a group Difficult to overload
Interval training	
Advantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires minimal equipment Can be done in many environments Work-to-rest ratios can be manipulated to mimic fitness needs Improves aerobic and anaerobic fitness Develops a range of fitness components Easy to implement progressive overload 	Disadvantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires experience Work-to-rest ratio Increased risk of injury Requires high levels of motivation Requires time to rest

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Weight / Resistance training	
Advantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A variety of exercises can be performed • A variety of equipment can be used • A number of different methods can be used • Can target isolated muscle groups and perform whole-body movements • Easy to apply progressive overload • Can manipulate load, sets and reps to target a range of fitness components 	Disadvantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A spotter or guide must be close to 1RM • Correct technique must be used • Increased risk of muscle strain • May require access to a gym • Not sport-specific • Requires motivation
Plyometrics training	
Advantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can use sport-specific movements • Uses a range of equipment • Effective for developing power • Training sessions are relatively quick 	Disadvantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High risk of injury • Correct technique must be used • Performer must be fit • May require access to a gym • Only develops power



Top tip: A common requirement of the exam is to evaluate the training methods on or in a given sporting activity. You should have knowledge of advantages and disadvantages to the specific sport.

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Activity 2 (individual)

Use your knowledge of the advantages and disadvantages of the different training methods to use of the following training methods for the named sporting activity.

Continuous training for an endurance athlete	
For	
	

Circuit training for a tennis player	
For	

(Optional) Extension:

Design weeks 1, 3 and 6 of a six-week training programme for a performer in a sport of your choice. You should draw knowledge from previous topics to show how the FITT principle is applied across the training weeks.



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Exam-style questions

Complete the following exam-style questions to practise what you have learnt.

1. State **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of fartlek training.

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2. Mel is a 1,500 m runner who wants to improve her fitness levels for the upcoming season. Identify **two** training methods that Mel could use to improve her fitness levels. Justify your choices.

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3. Alesha is a 16-year-old rugby player who has been advised to increase her performance. She has decided that for the next six weeks she will replace all weight training.

Evaluate the suitability of weight training for Alesha.

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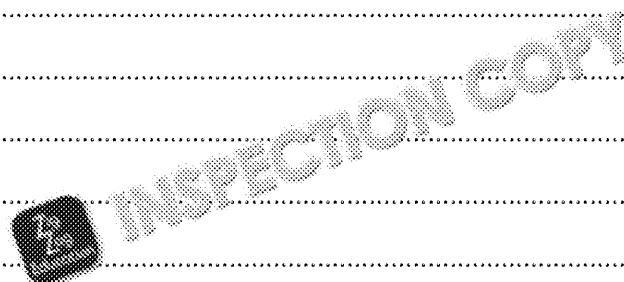
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6. Optimising Training and Prevention

If a performer wants to achieve their fitness or sporting goals, it is paramount that they take the necessary measures, train in a safe enough manner and apply the necessary training principles to prevent sporting injuries in sport from occurring.

Before commencing a training programme, a physical activity readiness questionnaire (PAR-Q) is given to the participant for the coach or trainer to determine what amendments (if any) need to be made to the participant to train. A typical PAR-Q form consists of questions asking about an individual's current health and fitness information. Example questions may include:

1.	Have you ever been diagnosed with heart problems?
2.	Has anyone in your family been diagnosed with heart problems? If yes, please state your relationship to the family member and the heart condition they have been diagnosed with.
3.	Do you suffer from any pain or discomfort in the chest when taking part in physical activity?
4.	Have you ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure?
5.	Are you diabetic? If yes, please state which type and any medication you are using.
6.	Are you currently taking any forms of medication? If yes, please list which forms of medication you are taking.
7.	Do you currently have any muscle or joint injuries/issues which are affecting your participation in physical activity? If yes, please state your injuries/issues.
8.	Do you get easily breathless when participating in physical activity?

Activity 1 (paired)

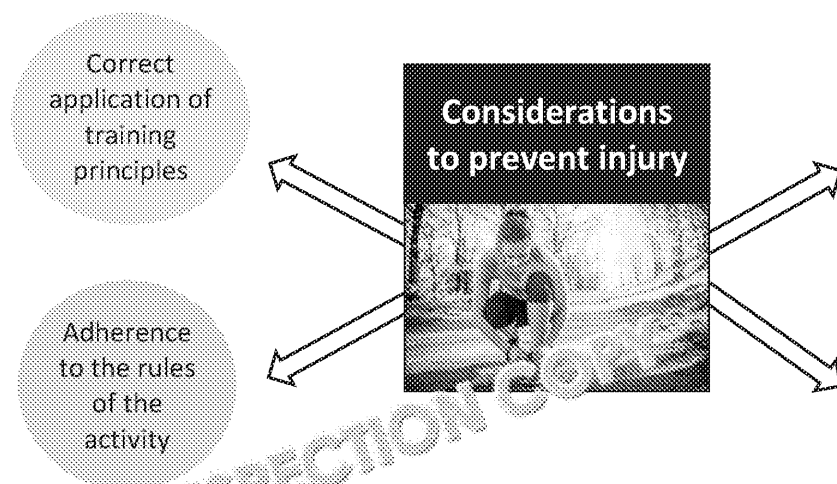
Working in pairs, one student will complete the PAR-Q in the notes section (above) and swap sheets with their partner. The other student will then use the information to have a go at recommending amendments to training based on the information given.

If your answers to all the questions are 'no', change one answer to 'yes' and update your partner's sheet so that your partner has something they can at least recommend.

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Once the information from the PAR-Q has been digested, there are a number of considerations for injury prevention that the person in charge of the session should consider.



Activity 2 (individual)

Your exam may require you not only to identify the different factors that should be considered to prevent injury, but to give examples and explain them too. Come up with examples for each factor and write a short explanation for how each helps to prevent injury.

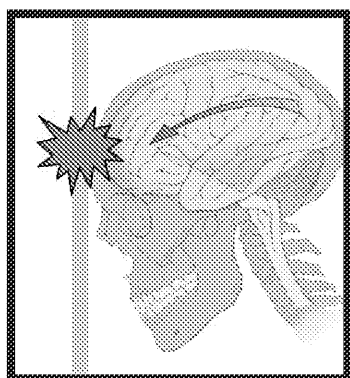
Factor		Example	
Correct application of training principles	➡		➡
Wearing protective clothing and equipment	➡		➡
Adherence to the rules of the activity	➡		➡
Checking equipment and facilities before use	➡		➡

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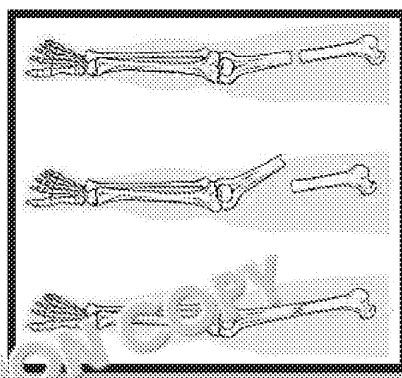


Despite the best attempts at preventing injury, there are circumstances beyond our control in which injury can occur. There is a range of types of injury and ways in which each can occur across different sports. Below are some of the most common types of injury that you might see.



Concussion

A brain injury caused by sudden impact to the head, such as in a rugby tackle. It can cause a range of short-term and long-lasting symptoms, such as memory loss, blurred vision and headaches.

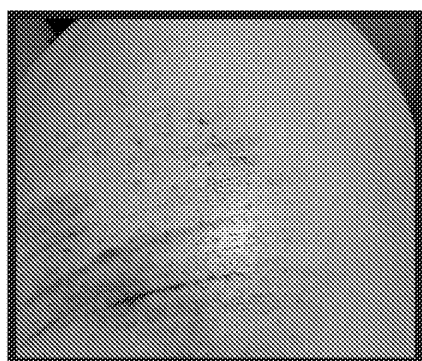


Fracture

A break in the bone as a result of direct, forceful impact. There is a range of different types of fracture, including open, closed and stress fractures.

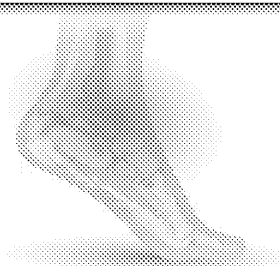
Question to think about

What is the difference between open, closed and stress fractures? Can you identify them in the image?



Abrasion

This can be either in the form of a **graze**, where the skin is scraped but does not bleed excessively, or a **cut**, where damage to the skin results in loss of blood through a small opening.



Sprain

Twisting of the **ligaments**, often caused by a sharp or sudden change in direction. The joint does not dislocate but the ligaments are either stretched, partially torn or completely ruptured.

Abrasions, sprains and strains are all examples of **soft-tissue** injuries. Other soft-tissue injuries include:

- **Torn cartilage** – this is the connective tissue covering the surface of the bones to prevent them rubbing. When it is torn, friction can occur between the bones that meet at a joint.
- **Tennis and golfer's elbow** – this is inflammation of the tendons that connect elbows. It occurs as a result of repetitive muscle actions when swinging the arm.



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RICE is the acronym given to the treatment method for soft-tissue injuries. It acts to reduce inflammation of the affected area, and is also effective in alleviating pain.

R _{est}	The injured body part should not be exercised, to allow it to heal.
I _{ce}	Applying ice to the injured area helps to reduce swelling.
C _{ompression}	Applying pressure on the injured area helps to further reduce swelling.
E _{levation}	This means raising the injured body part above heart level.

Activity 3 (individual)

Identify each of the injuries from the examples below, and identify whether or not RICE is a suitable method for treating that injury. Then, complete the final row to identify an injury, provide an example of how it occurs, and identify whether RICE would be used as a treatment.

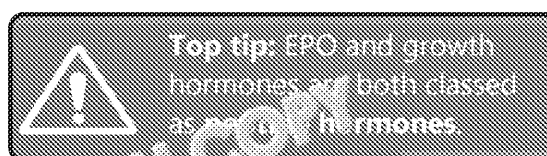
Type of injury	Example
	A rugby player attempts to wrap their arms around an opponent in a tackle, but is unable to do so, and the impact of the player knocks the bone out of place in the tackling player's shoulder joint.
	A tennis player dives for a shot and scrapes their knee on the surface of the court.
	A football player is sprinting for the ball but pulls their hamstring.
	A cricket player gets hit in the ankle with the ball and breaks the bone.
	A long-distance runner trips over a pothole on a road and goes over their ankle, damaging the ligaments.

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Many performers resort to illegal means of optimising their performance in sport. PEDs is the umbrella term for any substance or method which results in positive effects on the body that enhance performance, but which has a potential negative health and lifestyle. Below are the most common PEDs that are used in sport.

PED/Method	Positive effects for the performer	Negative
Anabolic steroids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased muscle mass Reduced fat mass Improved strength and power production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased blood pressure (risk of stroke) Mood changes
Beta blockers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved fine motor control Reduced anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low blood pressure Tiredness
Narcotic analgesics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow training to continue despite fatigue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overexertion Increased risk of injury Impaired judgement
Diuretics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help with short-term weight loss Can mask other drugs in the system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe dehydration Headaches
Erythropoietin (EPO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased red blood cell count Greater oxygen-carrying capacity Enhanced aerobic performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased blood viscosity Increased risk of stroke Increased risk of heart disease
Growth hormones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased muscle mass Increased stamina Reduced fat mass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liver damage Increased risk of diabetes Abnormal bone growth
Stimulants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased alertness Reduced fatigue Greater high-intensity exercise performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overexertion Increased risk of heart disease Impaired judgement Nausea
Blood doping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased red blood cell count Greater oxygen-carrying capacity Enhanced aerobic performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased blood viscosity Increased risk of stroke Increased risk of heart disease Increased risk of blood clots



Activity 4 (paired)

Play a game of true or false with a partner. The rules are as follows:

- Take it in turns to identify either a positive effect or a negative effect of each PED. The other person has to guess if it is true or false.
- Each person starts with three lifelines. If someone guesses incorrectly, they lose a lifeline.
- The first person to lose all three lifelines loses the game. Play to the best of three.

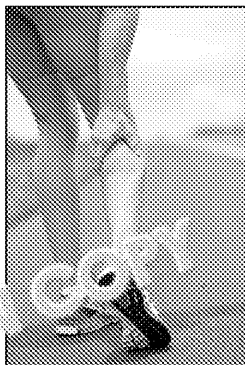
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Exam-style questions

Complete the following exam-style questions to practise what you have learnt.

1. The image below shows a runner who has suffered a calf strain during training.



State, giving an example for each, **two** methods to reduce calf strains when

i.

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ii.

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2. Describe the difference between a sprain and a strain.

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3. Explain why a boxer may use different gloves in sport.

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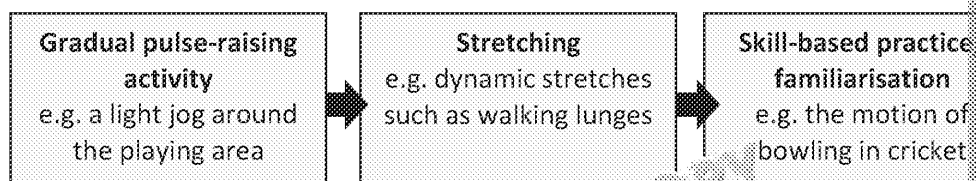
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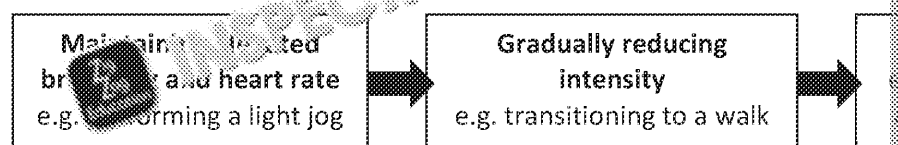
7. Warm-ups and Cool-downs

The warm-up and cool-down are essential aspects of any training session, in terms of preventing injury and enhancing recovery. Each consists of different phases.

Warming up



Cooling down



Question to think about

How might the activities for each phase of the warm-up differ for different sporting activities?

Activity 1 (group)

Work in groups to design a warm-up and a cool-down for a sporting activity of your choice. List the different phases for each.

Warm-up

Activity	Phase	Instructions

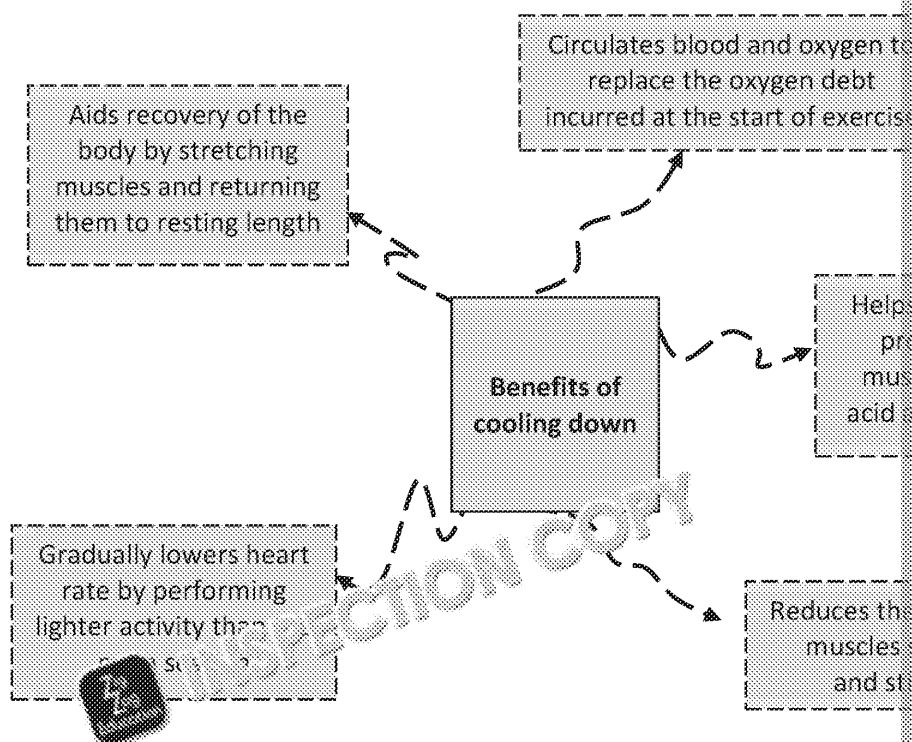
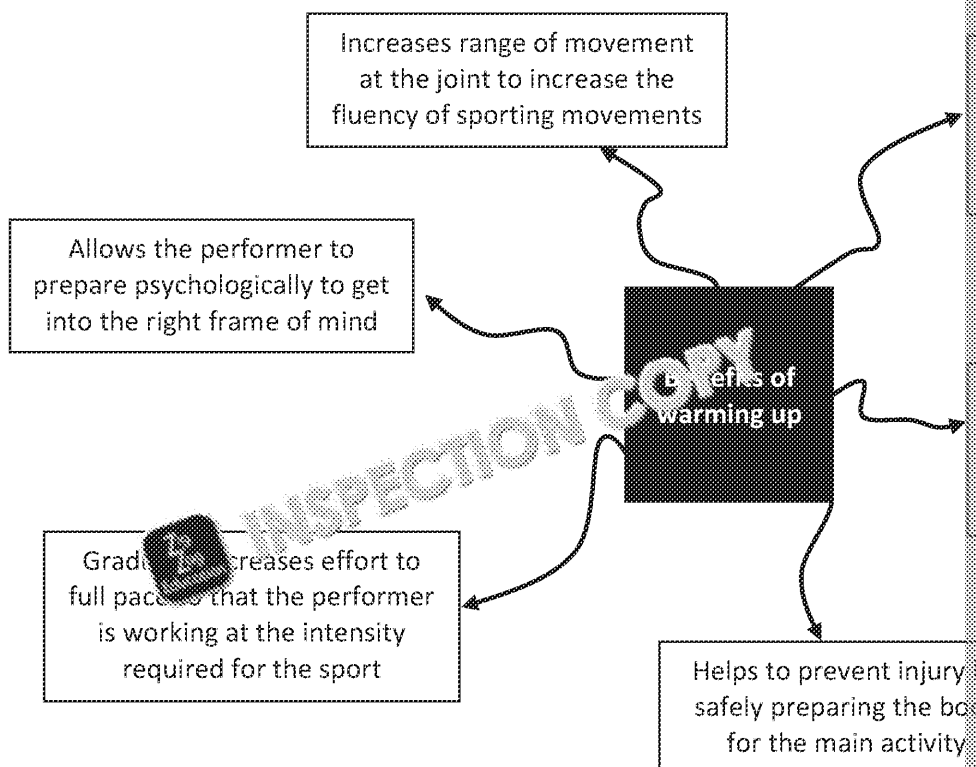
Cool-down

Activity	Role	Instructions

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As mentioned previously, performing a warm-up and a cool-down is important a



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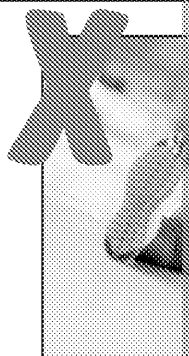
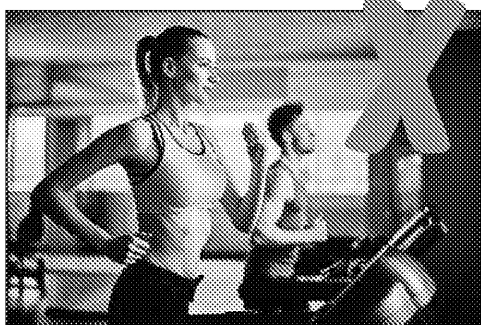
Top tip: Each benefit of the warm-up and cool-down is achieved by specific phases, so if you are struggling to think of benefits, think about the purpose of the different parts of the warm-up and cool-down.

Question
Can you think of any more benefits of warming up and cooling down?

Activity 2 (paired)

Now that you are familiar with the benefits of warming up and cooling down, you can consider the potential impact on a performer if they fail to warm up or cool down. You may wish to discuss the following:

Potential impacts of failing to warm up	Potential impacts of failing to cool down
	



(Optional) Extension

In your own time, you may wish to perform or lead a warm-up and a cool-down routine designed in Activity 1.



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Exam-style questions

Complete the following exam-style questions to practise what you have learnt.

1. Which **one** of the following is a benefit of cooling down? Tick the box to indicate.
- a) Psychological preparation ☐
 - b) Prevents delayed-onset muscle soreness (DOMS) ☐
 - c) Prevents risk of injuries occurring ☐
 - d) Increased range of movement at a joint ☐

2. a. All exercise/training programmes should start with a warm-up.
Explain why it is important for a pulse raiser to be included as part of the warm-up.

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- b. State **two** examples of activities other than the pulse raiser which should be included in the warm-up.

i.

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ii.

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Answer Section

1. Health and Fitness and the Role of Exercise

Activity 1

Students should attempt to define the terms 'health', 'exercise', 'performance' and 'fitness' using the notes to check their answers.

Activity 2

Examples for **increased fitness despite ill health** may include:

- Someone with low self-confidence may wish to improve their fitness through exercise activities that boost their confidence levels
- Someone who has poor cardiovascular functioning may wish to improve their health by increasing their fitness levels at the same time
- Someone with few friends may wish to make more friends by joining a sports club or to improve their fitness as well
- Someone who does not consider themselves valued within society may look for opportunities (e.g. joining a local exercise class) in which they can also improve their fitness levels

Examples for **decreased fitness due to ill health** may include:

- Someone who has an illness and may not be able to access public facilities to exercise due to illness to others, or due to the illness affecting their health
- Someone with a disease such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) may experience breathing difficulties
- Someone who isn't good at mixing with others may refrain from exercising with groups, missing out on potential opportunities to improve their fitness
- Someone with a negative outlook on life may not see the value of exercising, impacting their fitness

Exam-style questions

- a. 1 mark for correct identification of missing word in each definition (AO1):
 - Health – well-being
 - Fitness – demands
- b. Award 1 mark for the correct answer (AO1)
 - The only correct answer is **A** – How well an activity is completed
 - **B** is incorrect as it is linked to behaviour
 - **C** is incorrect as it is not in the context of sport
 - **D** is incorrect as it is an example of gamesmanship/deviance
- c. Award 1 mark for an appropriate example (AO1), e.g.:
 - Exercise can improve the functioning of the body's systems
 - Exercise can reverse conditions such as high blood pressure
 - Exercise can improve mental well-being, by making someone feel good

Accept other suitable examples

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2. Components of Fitness

Activity 1 and Activity 2

Students to take part in charades (Activity 1) and define each component of fitness (Activity 2) and check answers.

Activity 3

Students to give two components of fitness that are needed for skills in each sporting example and provide a justification for each. Examples are shown below:

Serving in wheelchair tennis

Important:

1. Coordination – required for using the eyes to track the ball and using the racquet to hit the ball
2. Power – required to combine strength and speed when hitting the ball so that it gives a return

Other components could be included (with justifications): *balance, flexibility, muscular endurance*

Less important:

1. Reaction time – the serve is performed in the performer's own time; therefore, the reaction time is not needed
2. Cardiovascular fitness (aerobic endurance) – the serve is an anaerobic action; therefore, oxygen delivery to the working muscle to supply energy

Cycling stage of a triathlon

Important:

1. Cardiovascular fitness (aerobic endurance) – the triathlon is a long duration sport involving cycling before the cycle stage, so requires sustained oxygen delivery to the working muscles
2. Muscular endurance – cycling requires repeated contraction of the quadriceps muscles

Other components could be included (with justifications): *balance, power, speed*

Less important:

1. Strength – the performer is not required to apply a maximal force, but instead should be able to sustain force production for the duration of the stage
2. Flexibility – cycling involves a limited range of motion at the hip and knee due to being seated; therefore, flexibility is not needed for successful performance

Slam dunk in basketball

Important:

1. Flexibility – basketball requires the performer to be flexible to reach over opponents
2. Speed – performers are required to run with the ball with speed in order to generate momentum

Other components could be included (with justifications): *power, coordination, agility*

Less important:

1. Muscular endurance – the slam dunk is one movement, and, therefore, the muscle is not required to sustain force production
2. Strength – basketball players need to be explosive with the slam dunk, so require power

Sprint start of the 100 m sprint

Important:

1. Reaction time – performers need to explode out of the blocks as soon as they hear the starting gun
2. Speed – the performer must pump their arms and legs quickly to cover the early distance of the race

Other components could be included (with justifications): *power, coordination*

Less important:

1. Agility – the sprint start occurs in a straight line and does not require changes of direction
2. Cardiovascular fitness (aerobic endurance) – the sprint start is an anaerobic action and, therefore, the muscles will not be relying on oxygen delivery to fuel muscle contraction

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Exam-style questions

1. a. Award **1** mark for the definition of speed (AO1)
 - The time taken to respond to a stimulus
 - Accept any other suitable definition.*
- b. Award **1** mark for correct answer (AO2):
 - The only correct answer is **A** – Football
 - **B** is incorrect as balance, strength and flexibility are most important
 - **C** is incorrect as it is performed while standing still
 - **D** is incorrect as it is played on a small court that requires agility more than speed

2. Award **1** mark for each of the following points, up to a maximum of **2** marks (AO3):
 - A rugby player needs to be powerful as the sport involves actions such as tackling the ball, which require explosive movements
 - Darts players do not need to be as powerful as rugby players because throwing a dart is a fine motor movement than it is an explosive movement*Accept any other suitable comparison for each sport.*

3. **Weightlifter**
 Component – Strength/Power (1)
 Advantage – The performer is able to lift heavier weights (1)

Gymnast

Component – Flexibility/Balance/Power (1)
 Advantage – One from:
 Flexibility – The performer is able to perform movements such as the split jump (1)
 Balance – To stop the performer from stepping out of position when landing (1)
 Power – To generate height when tumbling (1)

Accept other suitable advantages of named components.

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3. How Fitness is Measured and Improved

Activity 1

Students should cover the values of fitness testing included in the notes, as well as any other

Activity 2A

Information
Participant steps to the sound of a beat for 5 minutes
Test score is calculated from jump height – standing reach height
Participant runs as fast as they can in a straight line
Participant squeezes a handheld device as hard as possible
Participant must complete a 10 m x 5 m course as quickly as possible
Participant performs as many reps as they can in 10 seconds
Participant must flex at the hips to stretch the hamstrings
Participant must run as fast as possible in 12 minutes

Activity 2B

Students only need to complete one suitable or unsuitable box for each sport or fitness test

Sport:	Keirin
Fitness test:	Vertical jump
Fitness component:	
Suitable? (✓)	Not suitable? (✓)
The keirin is a sprint event where cyclists must complete ~3 laps as quickly as possible. This requires a high power output from the leg muscles. The vertical jump test measures the power of the legs; therefore, it is a suitable test to assess performance potential for the keirin.	The vertical jump test involves explosive power across the whole body, whereas the keirin involves explosive power across the legs.

Sport:	Long distance rowing
Fitness test:	Grip strength
Fitness component:	
Suitable? (✓)	Not suitable? (✓)
Rowers are required to grip the oars and pull them through the resistance of the water. This requires strength of the forearm muscles to overcome the resistance of the water. This test provides a measure of forearm strength.	This test measures force of contraction, so might not be the most suitable for the more prolonged grip required in rowing. Other factors come into play such as endurance of the forearm muscles.

Sport:	Weightlifting
Fitness test:	Sit and reach
Fitness component:	
Suitable? (✓)	Not suitable? (✓)
Certain movements in weightlifting require a large range of movement at the joint in order for a lift to be eligible or performed with the correct technique, e.g. flexing at the hips during a deadlift. Therefore, the sit and reach test can provide a suitable measure of the ability of the performer to adopt such positions.	Upper body weightlifting requires a high degree of flexibility of the hamstrings and reach test. Therefore, the sit and reach test is unsuitable for assessing performance potential for weightlifting.

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Activity 3

Football players

Interpretations, e.g.:

- Eric has a greater agility than Rafael
- Eric's agility would be rated as above average, whereas Rafael's would be rated as below average

Relevance of tests, e.g.:

- Agility is important to Eric in football, such as closing down opposition players, dribbling past a defender or being a goalkeeper
- The Illinois agility test is not wholly specific to football as it is performed without a ball

Long-distance runners

Interpretations, e.g.:

- Aleesha has a superior cardiovascular endurance to Kate
- Aleesha's cardiovascular endurance is rated excellent, whereas Kate's is rated average

Relevance of tests, e.g.:

- Cardiovascular endurance is important for long-distance runners as they rely on the aerobic system to supply the muscles with oxygen for sustained periods
- The multi-stage fitness test involves turns, which are irrelevant for long-distance runners
- The latter stages of the multistage fitness test may involve anaerobic activity, which is not relevant for long-distance runners

Exam-style questions

1. Award 1 mark for the correct answer (AO1)
The only correct answer is **D – Power**
A is incorrect as it is assessed using the 30 m sprint test
B is incorrect as it is assessed using the one-minute sit-up test
C is incorrect as it is assessed using the Illinois agility run test
2. Award 1 mark for correct definition (AO1)
 - The relative proportion of fat and fat-free mass
3. Award 1 mark for any of the following, up to a maximum of 2 marks (AO1)
 - Allows comparison against norms/others
 - Provides an indication of baseline fitness
 - Informs training requirements
 - Allows the performer to set goals
 - Helps motivate the performer
 - Allows improvements in fitness to be monitored
 - Determines the success of a training programme
4. a. Award 1 mark for each of the following (AO1)
 - The participant must run or swim (depending on the test) as far as possible
 - For 12 minutes
 - The distance they have covered is recorded in metres
 b. Award 1 mark for each of the following (AO3)
 - Cooper run distance is increasing, which means the hockey player is able to sustain a higher level of cardiovascular fitness
 - Illinois agility run time is taking longer, which means the player is taking longer to recover from a decrease in agility
 - 30 m sprint time is decreasing, which means the player is covering the same distance at a superior speed

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4. Principles of Training and Their Application to Personal Training

Activity 1

Students should identify the principle of training each participant needs to address, and provide advice to the participant.

'When training for the 5k I always run at the same pace for the same distance. Why isn't it improving?'

Principle: Progressive overload

Advice: The distance or pace should be gradually increased so that you are adding extra distance or a faster pace to increase.

'I play basketball but most of my training is performed without a ball and I feel like I'm losing touch with the game.'

Principle: Specificity

Advice: Try to incorporate the ball into running drills so that you are practising basketball skills.

'I took a month off football training and playing during the season and now it is so hard to get back into it.'

Principle: Reversibility

Advice: Try not to take long breaks from training during the season, or try to perform some light training during the break.

'I take part in training for heptathlon with the rest of the athletics club, but most of the time I focus on my strengths and ignore my weaknesses.'

Principle: Individual differences

Advice: It is important to tailor the training programme to the requirements of an individual athlete, i.e. focusing more on the athlete's weaknesses.

'This is my fifth consecutive day training in the gym and now I'm struggling to motivate myself to go.'

Principle: Overtraining

Advice: It is important to schedule rest days in training to allow the body to recover both physically and mentally.

Activity 2

Students should accurately apply each principle of training to the goal they identify.

Activity 3

Students to use their knowledge of FITT principles to provide relevant advice to the performer.

Advice to Louise:

- e.g. start off by training once a week and steadily build it up fortnightly by one session.

Advice to Anushka:

- e.g. steadily increase the % of HR max you are working at in the anaerobic training zone.

Advice to Timothy:

- e.g. extend the duration of running sessions by 5 minutes each time, but remain at the same pace, increasing the distance run with each training session in a progressive manner.

Advice to Benjamin:

- e.g. perform different exercises that target a variety of muscles used in gymnastics routines, and incorporate stretching techniques (e.g. yoga).

Activity 4

Students to use the calculations of relevant training intensity in their advice to the performer.

Advice to Sally:

- Train within a heart rate range that corresponds to the aerobic training zone (60–80% of maximum heart rate).
- Maximum heart rate = $220 - 27 = 193$ bpm
- Aerobic training zone = 193×0.6 to $193 \times 0.8 = 116$ to 154 bpm

Advice to Jess:

- Train within a heart rate range that corresponds to the anaerobic training zone (80–90% of maximum heart rate).
- Maximum heart rate = $220 - 44 = 176$ bpm
- Anaerobic training zone = 176×0.8 to $176 \times 0.9 = 141$ to 158 bpm

Advice to Yulia:

- Aerobic fitness is important for the marathon.
- Train within a heart rate range that corresponds to the aerobic training zone (60–80% of maximum heart rate).
- Maximum heart rate = $220 - 18 = 202$ bpm
- Aerobic training zone = 202×0.6 to $202 \times 0.8 = 121$ to 162 bpm

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Advice to Ahmed:

- Anaerobic fitness is important for sprint cycling
- Train within a heart rate range that corresponds to the anaerobic training zone (80–90% HR max)
- Maximum heart rate = $220 - 33 = 187$ bpm
- Aerobic training zone = 187×0.8 to $187 \times 0.9 = 150$ to 168 bpm

Exam-style questions

- Award 1 mark for the correct answer (AO1)
 - The only correct answer is **D** – 60–80% HR max
 - **A** is incorrect as it is too low to improve aerobic endurance
 - **B** is incorrect as it targets anaerobic endurance
 - **C** is incorrect as the intensity is near maximal exercise
- Award 1 mark for the correct definition (AO1)
 - **Reversibility** – The loss of fitness as a result of detraining
- Award 1 mark for each appropriate example, up to a maximum of 2 marks (AO2)
 - Increasing the number of training sessions per week from 3 to 4 (frequency)
 - Performing runs at a greater pace to improve anaerobic fitness (intensity)
 - Extending the duration of work intervals during interval training (time)
 - Adding different training methods (e.g. weight training and interval training) (type)

Accept any other explanations. Must be linked to 400 m sprinting.
 - Award 1 mark for each linked statement:
 - Calculate maximum heart rate by subtracting age from 220 ($220 - 20$) (AO1)
 - Then calculate 80% of maximum heart rate for lower threshold of anaerobic zone (AO2)
 - Then calculate 90% of maximum heart rate for upper threshold of anaerobic zone (AO2)

AO2 mark awarded if age (20) is used in the statement.

5. Training Programmes

Activity 1

Student answers will vary depending on the sporting activity and type of training chosen

e.g. Plyometrics for a long jumper

- Performing box jumps at increasing heights
- Performing single-legged hops up onto a box or for distance in front
- Performing lateral single-legged hops up onto a box or for distance
- Performing single-legged step-ups onto a box and transition to a jump

Justification of suitability:

- A long jumper requires good lower-body power to perform an explosive jump
- Good lower-body power allows the long jumper to exert more time to jump further
- The plyometric activities chosen target lower-body power

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Activity 2

Continuous training for an endurance athlete	
For	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal equipment required Can be done in simple environments Can be performed for a variety of modes (e.g. running, swimming, cycling), so can be performed by all endurance athletes Easy to gauge intensity so the performer can ensure they are working in the aerobic training zone Easy to overload so that the performer can lower the risk of injury Improves cardiovascular endurance, which is an important component of fitness for an endurance athlete Endurance events tend to last a long time (> 20 mins required for continuous training) Can be done in a group or on one's own so perform benefits both ways as they can train alongside training partners and do not have to rely on others to train 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous training is therefore, performed Continuous training with large training loads, increases risk of injuries if little rest is taken Exercising at a constant pace, there will be times when it is hard to change pace, e.g. when the performer has little room for adaptation Difficult to train at different intensities alongside aerobic training needed for last-minute fitness Other training methods are more efficient (e.g. interval training)
Circuit training for a tennis player	
For	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration of each station can be tailored to the typical time taken to contest a point Recovery period during each station can be tailored to match the typical time between play Types of exercises can be adapted for different circuit training sessions to improve multiple components of fitness required in tennis, e.g. power and muscular endurance Circuit training can improve aerobic and anaerobic fitness, which are both required in tennis Tennis uses the whole body, and exercises can be used which involve whole-body movements Exercises can be made sport-specific (e.g. repeated serves) Range of exercises avoid tedium, keeping the performer motivated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis uses the whole body, so it is difficult to isolate areas of the body Circuit training requires a lot of organisation to set up and to organise the circuit, which can be time-consuming Not wholly sport-specific, as it is difficult to link skills (e.g. serve and forehand) in a circuit training exercise Exercises performed separately An inappropriate workload can be prescribed and lead to fatigue-related injuries Circuit training cannot replicate the demands of tennis, e.g. action on the court Circuit training is typically used for general fitness, so tennis is an individual sport and it is not worth the effort setting up a circuit

Exam-style questions

- Award 1 mark for any advantage (AO1)
 - Performer can adjust intensity throughout
 - Improves aerobic and anaerobic fitness
 - Develops a range of fitness components
 - No equipment required
 - Uses many environments, so not as tedious
 - Specific to particular demands of intermittent sports such as football and tennis
 - Can be performed in a group or on one's own

Award 1 mark for any disadvantage (AO1)

- Is wholly specific to team sports as focus is solely around fitness
- Athletes may fatigue more quickly due to the sprint intervals
- Some terrains may increase risk of injury
- Changes in intensity may increase risk of injury
- Most sports are performed on a flat terrain
- Difficult to overload due to varying intensities

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2. Any **two** of the following:
- Continuous training helps build an aerobic base (1), which can be used to maintain relying on aerobic energy production for a large portion of the event (1)
 - Fartlek training helps the performer become familiar with changes in intensity / change of pace at different stages of the race (e.g. when overtaking) (1)
 - Interval training will help to improve anaerobic fitness (1), which is important in order to tolerate lactic acid build-up (1)

Reason given for choice of training method (AO2)

How the chosen training method improves fitness for the 1,500 m (AO3)

Accept other appropriate reasoning.

3. Example of content:

(AO1) Knowledge of weight training

- Use of resistance exercises that target different muscles in the body
- Can improve strength/power as well as muscular endurance
- Exercises performed for a number of repetitions for a given number of sets

(AO2) Application of knowledge:

- Weight training is appropriate for Alesha because it can help increase muscle mass
- It will improve Alesha's strength/power, which is important in rugby for tackling
- Can also be used to improve Alesha's muscular endurance, which is important when passing
- Alesha will neglect other components of fitness if she only performs weight training

(AO3) Evaluation of the suitability of weight training for Alesha and the impact on performance

- Alesha's body shape may change / Alesha may become more of a mesomorph, not an ectomorph
- Greater muscular strength / power will allow Alesha to be more successful at offloading the ball, limiting the number of metres they are able to make
- Greater power will allow Alesha to jump higher and increase the chance of winning a scrum
- Greater muscular endurance may help to increase Alesha's pass success rate
- Alesha may pick up an injury if she uses the wrong technique / does not apply appropriate knowledge, so she should have appropriate knowledge of this
- Weight training can result in muscle soreness, which prevents Alesha from competing, so she should plan appropriate recovery
- Alesha may put on too much weight as a result of increases in muscle mass, which may affect her speed
- Alesha may not have a spotter to help her lift the heavy weights needed to improve strength
- Plyometric training may be more applicable to developing power for rugby
- Alesha may experience declines in cardiovascular endurance if she is only using weight training

Credit other suitable responses.

Level 3 (7–9 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-depth knowledge throughout and very clear understanding of weight training • Precise use of relevant vocabulary throughout (AO1) • Knowledge accurately applied within the context of training for Alesha • In-depth reasoning allowing a well-balanced conclusion to be reached
Level 2 (4–6 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The answer often contains sufficient knowledge and understanding of weight training • Includes frequent use of relevant vocabulary (AO1) • Knowledge often accurately applied within the context of training for Alesha • Effort is made to provide a reasoned response, but conclusions are often limited
Level 1 (1–3 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restricted knowledge and understanding of weight training (AO1) • Restricted application of knowledge within the context of training for Alesha • Limited/no attempt to make a logical conclusion (AO3)
(0 marks)	No answer provided, or answer provided does not meet the requirements

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6. Optimising Training and Preventing Injury

Activity 1

Students to give an appropriate recommendation based on the answers given in the PAR. For example, answering 'yes' on the 'Are you diabetic?' question will elicit a recommendation of exercise or ensuring the participant has had glucose or an insulin medication prior to participation.

Activity 2

Students to give an example and appropriate explanation for how each factor helps to prevent injury.

- **Correct application of training principles** – e.g. progressively overloading each training session to avoid an abrupt spike in workload that the body is unprepared for
- **Wearing protective clothing and equipment** – e.g. cricket pads and helmet when batting to protect the legs and head if struck with the ball
- **Adherence to the rules of the activity** – e.g. following regulations on tackling in rugby to prevent coming into contact with the opponent's head and neck
- **Checking equipment and facilities for hazards** – e.g. ensuring slip and trip hazards are removed from the playing surface in order to protect the performer from tripping or slipping and injury

Activity 3

Students to identify each type of injury from the description and indicate 'yes' for RICE as a treatment method for the injuries only.

Type of injury	Example (reference)	RICE as a treatment method
Dislocation	Rugby player tackling	No
Abrasion	Tennis player diving	Yes (if there is swelling)
Strain	Football player sprinting	Yes
Fracture	Cricket player getting hit	No
Sprain	Long-distance runner stumbling	Yes
Additional injury, e.g. concussion	e.g. being on the receiving end of a high tackle in rugby	No

Activity 4

Students to use the positives and negatives in the table in the notes section for the game.

Exam-style questions

- Award **1** mark for stating method and **1** mark for an applied example to [sport], up to a maximum of **2** marks (AO1)
 - Correctly applying training principles (AO1) by steadily building up the distance (overload) (AO2)
 - Wearing appropriate footwear (AO2), e.g. running shoes with a foam midsole (AO2)
 - Using preventative equipment (AO1), e.g. kinesiology taping of muscles (AO2)
 - Warming up before the activity (AO1), e.g. by stretching muscles used in running (AO2)

Accept any other suitable answer.
- Award **1** mark for each of the following, up to a maximum of **2** marks (AO1)
 - A sprain is damage to the ligament, where it is overstretched or torn
 - A strain is damage to the muscle or tendon, where it is overstretched or torn
- Award **1** mark for the role of diuretics (AO1) and **1** mark for the importance of diuretics (AO2)
 - Diuretics reduce the water content of the body / act as a masking agent for PEDs
 - Enabling the boxer to qualify for a lower weight division / covering up the use of PEDs for performance gains

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7. Warm-ups and Cool-downs

Activity 1

Student warm-ups and cool-downs will vary for the sporting activity chosen. Examples of provided below.

Warm-up, e.g.:

Activity	Phase	Instructions
Jogging	Pulse-raising activity	Jog the width of the pitch and back as in a long line
Dynamic stretches	Stretching	In a circle, perform a range of dynamic glute bridges and lunges
Passing	Skill-based practice	Separate into three lines at either side of the pitch. Three players will perform passing movements on the side of the pitch, at the end of the line pass the ball to the next group of three players given time to prepare themselves for performance, by playing out a sequence of set-piece plays and
Mental rehearsal	Mental preparation	for performance, by playing out a sequence of set-piece plays and

Cool-down,

Activity	Role	Instructions
Light jog	Elevated breathing and heart rate	Jog gently one behind the other in two marks, then walk back and repeat
Skipping	Gradual reduction in intensity	Perform the same activity but replace skip, keeping the knees low
Static stretches	Stretching	Lie down in a supine position and perform static stretches, such as lying on the side and stretching the buttocks to stretch the quadriceps

Activity 2

Potential impacts of failing to warm up:

- No increase in body temperature, so muscle contraction during the main activity is less efficient
- Stiffness at the joint and less fluency with sporting movements
- Poor psychological preparation, meaning the performer is not focused or motivated
- Game intensity is off-pace as the performer has not been able to gradually increase intensity required for the sport
- Increased risk of injury due to lack of muscle and joint flexibility
- Poor skill execution as no opportunity to practise/familiarise

Potential impacts of failing to cool down:

- Body takes longer to recover as oxygen replenishment is delayed
- Muscles take longer to recover as waste products have not been flushed
- Muscles may feel sorer and stiffer
- Muscles may cramp as they have not been stretched
- Heart rate may remain elevated for a longer period

Exam-style questions

- Award 1 mark for correct answer (AO1)
 - B – Prevents delayed-onset muscle soreness (DOMS)
- Award 1 mark for identifying red light as a pulse raiser (AO1) and 1 mark for impact of red light on warm-up
 - Increases heart rate and breathing rate (1) so that oxygen delivery to the muscles is increased throughout the warm-up (1)
 - Increases muscle temperature (1) so that muscles are able to contract with more force during the warm-up / the muscles become more flexible, ready for the stretch (1)
 - Increases the amount of oxygen being delivered to the working muscles (1) so that they are not tired or fatigued during the remaining warm-up activities due to delayed removal of waste products from working anaerobically (1)
 - Award 1 mark for any of the following points, up to a maximum of 2 marks (AO1)
 - Stretching to increase range of movement at the joint and flexibility of the muscles with legs straight to stretch the hamstrings
 - Skill-based practice to become familiar with actions/movements involved in the sport
 - Mental preparation to improve concentration and motivation for the activity

Accept any other suitable examples.

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