Tennis Rules and History Trivia

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. In a standard tennis game that starts at love-all, what score does the server call after winning the first point?
   - A. 15–love
   - B. 10–love
   - C. One–love
   - D. 30–love

   Correct answer: A. 15–love
   The first point is recorded as 15 during a standard game. The server’s score is called first.

2. Which surface is used for the French Open courts at Roland-Garros?
   - A. Carpet
   - B. Grass
   - C. Clay
   - D. Wood

   Correct answer: C. Clay
   Roland-Garros identifies its red playing surface as clay. Court surfaces differ across the Grand Slam tournaments.

3. How many players are on the court during a standard doubles tennis point, counting both sides?
   - A. Two
   - B. Four
   - C. Three
   - D. Six

   Correct answer: B. Four
   Doubles consists of two players on each side of the net, so four players take part.

4. What is the name of the line across the back of each half of a tennis court?
   - A. Net line
   - B. Service center line
   - C. Sideline
   - D. Baseline

   Correct answer: D. Baseline
   A baseline marks each end of the court. The sidelines mark its long edges.

5. In singles, a rally ball lands in the narrow strip between the singles and doubles sidelines. It touches neither line. Is the ball in?

A. Yes. The outer doubles sideline is used in singles.
B. No. The strip is outside the singles court.
C. Yes, whenever the ball lands behind the service line.
D. No decision is possible until the next hit.

Correct answer: B. No. The strip is outside the singles court.
The singles sideline is the outside boundary for singles play. The strip beside it counts only in doubles.

6. Which of these scores could end a standard seven-point tie-break?

A. 7–3
B. 7–6
C. 6–4
D. 9–8

Correct answer: A. 7–3
A standard tie-break requires seven or more points and a lead of at least two. A score of 7–3 meets both conditions.

7. Under the standard ITF service-let rule, a first serve touches the net and lands in the correct service box. What happens?

A. The point continues without a call.
B. The player must use a second serve.
C. The receiver immediately wins the point.
D. The player repeats the first serve.

Correct answer: D. The player repeats the first serve.
That serve is a let and is replayed. A service let does not use up the first serve.

8. Under what name was the event now called the Australian Open first played in Melbourne in 1905?

A. The Melbourne Masters
B. The Australian Open
C. The Australasian Championships
D. The Pacific Lawn Tennis Cup

Correct answer: C. The Australasian Championships
The tournament’s official history dates its first event to 1905 under the name The Australasian Championships.

9. Which Grand Slam became the first to pay equal prize money to men and women in 1973?

A. The US Open
B. The Australian Open
C. Wimbledon
D. Roland-Garros

Correct answer: A. The US Open
The US Open introduced equal prize money in 1973, following work by Billie Jean King and others.

10. In which city did players meet at the Gloucester Hotel in 1973 to form the Women’s Tennis Association?

A. Paris
B. New York
C. Sydney
D. London

Correct answer: D. London
The WTA records that its founding meeting took place in London ahead of Wimbledon in 1973.

11. A set ends 6–4. Applying the standard ITF change-of-ends rule, when should the players next change ends?

A. After the second game of the next set
B. Immediately after the completed set
C. After the first game of the next set
D. Only if the next set reaches six games all

Correct answer: C. After the first game of the next set
The completed set had ten games. When a set ends after an even number of games, players switch ends after the first game of the next set.

12. Who won the first Wimbledon women’s singles championship in 1884?

A. Lilian Watson
B. Maud Watson
C. Blanche Bingley
D. Charlotte Cooper

Correct answer: B. Maud Watson
Wimbledon’s archived draw shows Maud Watson defeating her sister Lilian in the first women’s singles final.

13. Which two teams met in the first competition that became the Davis Cup, held in 1900?

A. The British Isles and Canada
B. France and Spain
C. Australia and the United States
D. The United States and the British Isles

Correct answer: D. The United States and the British Isles
The first contest brought the United States and the British Isles together at the Longwood Cricket Club in Boston.

14. In a standard singles tie-break, Player A serves the first point. Who serves points two, three, and four?

A. B, B, A
B. A, B, B
C. B, A, B
D. A, A, B

Correct answer: A. B, B, A
After the first point, the other player serves two points. The players then alternate two-point turns, so A returns to serve point four.

15. After a point, the umpire discovers that the server used the wrong half of the court. Under the standard ITF correction rule, what happens?

A. Keep the point, then serve the rest of the game from the same half.
B. Cancel the point and repeat it from the correct side.
C. Keep the completed point and serve next from the side the score requires.
D. Restart the game at love-all from the correct side.

Correct answer: C. Keep the completed point and serve next from the side the score requires.
Completed points stand after the error is found. The server corrects the side for the next point according to the current score.