

# NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

## Rafael Nadal wins fifth French Open crown

**MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:**  
[http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael\\_nadal.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael_nadal.html)

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**ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.**

**7th June, 2010**

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael\\_nadal.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael_nadal.html)

Spanish tennis superstar Rafael Nadal won his fifth French Open tennis championship on Sunday. He beat Sweden's Robin Soderling in straight sets. The score was 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. He became only the second man in history to win the French Open five times. The other player to do that was Bjorn Borg. Nadal also became world number one after his win in Paris. He said to Soderling after the match: "Sorry Robin, but today I played my best match of the tournament." Soderling replied: "If you continue to play like this, you will have the chance to win many more [titles]."

Nadal has the chance to become one of the greatest tennis players ever. He is only 24 years old and has already won seven Grand Slam tournaments. He was unlucky last year because he was injured, but he still won at Wimbledon. Nadal is a very powerful, athletic and skillful player. There are very few players who can beat him. His tennis can be breathtaking. It's funny to hear tennis commentators ask how he could reach a ball. I think the rivalry between Nadal and Roger Federer is great. They are both real gentlemen.

# PHRASE MATCH

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael\\_nadal.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael_nadal.html)

**Match the following phrases from the article.**

## Paragraph 1

- |                                    |                           |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Spanish tennis                  | a. sets                   |
| 2. straight                        | b. many more              |
| 3. He became only the second man   | c. of the tournament      |
| 4. became world                    | d. superstar Rafael Nadal |
| 5. I played my best match          | e. in history to win      |
| 6. you will have the chance to win | f. number one             |

## Paragraph 2

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. the chance to become      | a. and skillful player |
| 2. seven Grand Slam          | b. and Roger Federer   |
| 3. a very powerful, athletic | c. beat him            |
| 4. players who can           | d. one of the greatest |
| 5. the rivalry between Nadal | e. gentlemen           |
| 6. real                      | f. tournaments         |

# LISTENING GAP FILL

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael\\_nadal.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael_nadal.html)

Spanish \_\_\_\_\_ Rafael Nadal won his fifth French Open tennis championship on Sunday. He beat Sweden's Robin Soderling \_\_\_\_\_. The score was 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. He became only the second man \_\_\_\_\_ the French Open five times. The other player to do that was Bjorn Borg. Nadal also became world number \_\_\_\_\_ in Paris. He said to Soderling after the match: "Sorry Robin, but today I played my best match \_\_\_\_\_." Soderling replied: "If you continue to play like this, you will have \_\_\_\_\_ many more [titles]."

Nadal has the chance to become one \_\_\_\_\_ tennis players ever. He is only 24 years old and has already won seven Grand Slam tournaments. \_\_\_\_\_ last year because he was injured, but he still won at Wimbledon. Nadal is a very powerful, athletic \_\_\_\_\_. There are very few players who can beat him. His tennis \_\_\_\_\_. It's funny to hear tennis commentators ask how he could reach a ball. I \_\_\_\_\_ between Nadal and Roger Federer is great. They are both \_\_\_\_\_.

# MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael\\_nadal.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael_nadal.html)

Spanish tennis superstar Rafael Nadal (1) \_\_\_\_\_ his fifth French Open tennis championship on Sunday. He beat Sweden's Robin Soderling in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ sets. The score was 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. He became only the second man (3) \_\_\_\_\_ history to win the French Open five times. The other player to do that was Bjorn Borg. Nadal also became world number one after his (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in Paris. He said to Soderling after the match: "Sorry Robin, but today I played my best match of the tournament." Soderling replied: "If you continue to play like this, you will have the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to win many more [titles]."

Nadal has the chance to become one of the greatest tennis players (6) \_\_\_\_\_. He is only 24 years old and has already won seven Grand Slam tournaments. He was unlucky last year because he was (7) \_\_\_\_\_, but he still won at Wimbledon. Nadal is a very powerful, athletic and skillful player. There are very (8) \_\_\_\_\_ players who can beat him. His tennis can be breathtaking. It's funny to hear tennis commentators ask how he could reach a ball. I think the rivalry (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Nadal and Roger Federer is great. They are both (10) \_\_\_\_\_ gentlemen.

## Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |              |             |              |
|-----|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) won      | (b) beat    | (c) victory  |
| 2.  | (a) bent     | (b) line    | (c) straight |
| 3.  | (a) on       | (b) in      | (c) of       |
| 4.  | (a) beat     | (b) winner  | (c) win      |
| 5.  | (a) chance   | (b) change  | (c) charge   |
| 6.  | (a) even     | (b) never   | (c) ever     |
| 7.  | (a) injury   | (b) injured | (c) injuries |
| 8.  | (a) few      | (b) several | (c) two      |
| 9.  | (a) rivals   | (b) rivalry | (c) rivaled  |
| 10. | (a) properly | (b) human   | (c) real     |

# SPELLING

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael\\_nadal.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael_nadal.html)

**Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.**

## Paragraph 1

1. tennis ssupetrra
2. tennis ihpcpohnsma
3. the second man in hrtsiyo
4. world munreb one
5. my best amthc of the tournament
6. the chcnea to win many more

## Paragraph 2

7. the rteagets tennis players ever
8. He was culkuny
9. kllsfiul player
10. It's nyyuf
11. caerh a ball
12. the rlvyari between Nadal and Roger Federer

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael\\_nadal.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael_nadal.html)

## Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) Nadal has the chance to become one of the greatest tennis players ever. He is only 24 years old and has already
- ( ) Wimbledon. Nadal is a very powerful, athletic and skillful player. There are very few players who can beat
- ( ) tournament." Soderling replied: "If you continue to play like this, you will have the chance to win many more [titles]."
- ( **1** ) Spanish tennis superstar Rafael Nadal won his fifth French Open tennis championship on Sunday. He beat
- ( ) won seven Grand Slam tournaments. He was unlucky last year because he was injured, but he still won at
- ( ) Sweden's Robin Soderling in straight sets. The score was 6-4, 6-2, 6-4. He became only the second man in history
- ( ) one after his win in Paris. He said to Soderling after the match: "Sorry Robin, but today I played my best match of the
- ( ) him. His tennis can be breathtaking. It's funny to hear tennis commentators ask how he could reach a
- ( ) to win the French Open five times. The other player to do that was Bjorn Borg. Nadal also became world number
- ( ) ball. I think the rivalry between Nadal and Roger Federer is great. They are both real gentlemen.

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael\\_nadal.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1006/100607-rafael_nadal.html)

**With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.**

1. tennis his championship fifth French Nadal Open won.

---

2. history the to second win man in Only.

---

3. The to was player that Borg other do.

---

4. match I of played the my tournament best.

---

5. win to chance The titles more many.

---

6. ever tennis the One players greatest of.

---

7. was because He injured last was he year unlucky.

---

8. him are players beat There few can very who.

---

9. and is The Nadal Federer between Roger great rivalry.

---

10. gentlemen real both are They.

---



## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

### **STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

### **STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_



# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. TENNIS:** Search the Internet and find more information about tennis. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about tennis. Include imaginary an interview with Rafael Nadal. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to Rafael Nadal. Ask him three questions about his French Open win. Give him three of your opinions on tennis. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.