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Level 6 – 3rd June, 2021

Naomi Osaka withdraws from French Tennis Open

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Tennis superstar Naomi Osaka has withdrawn from the French Tennis Open citing stress from having to address the world's media. Japan's world number two Osaka, 23, announced she did not want to do interviews after her matches to "protect her mental health". The Women's Tennis Association said this was in breach of her obligations as a professional player. It initially threatened to expel her from the tournament if she did not talk to the media. It has since backtracked and said it wants to "create meaningful improvements" in supporting players with mental health problems. It added: "We commend Naomi for sharing in her own words the pressures and anxieties she is feeling."

Naomi Osaka is a four-time Grand Slam singles champion and is the reigning champion at the US Open and the Australian Open. She has had problems coping with the stress of being in the spotlight as one of tennis' biggest stars. She said: "The truth is that I have suffered long bouts of depression since the US Open in 2018." Organisers of the four Opens have faced criticism for the way they have handled Ms Osaka's mental health concerns. However, it recently stated: "We empathise with the unique pressures tennis players may face." Many top players have said they are fully behind Ms Osaka. Serena Williams offered her support, saying: "I feel for Naomi....I wish I could give her a hug."

Sources: <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20210601/p2g/00m/0sp/002000c>
<https://www.bbc.com/sport/tennis/57311128>
[https://www.espn.com/tennis/story/_/id/31543237/naomi-osaka-withdraws-french-open-one-day-fine-threat-harsher-sanctions-skipping-media-obligations.](https://www.espn.com/tennis/story/_/id/31543237/naomi-osaka-withdraws-french-open-one-day-fine-threat-harsher-sanctions-skipping-media-obligations)"

WARM-UPS

1. TENNIS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about tennis. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

superstar / stress / address / interview / mental health / obligations / pressure / words
champion / coping / spotlight / truth / depression / criticism / unique / support / hug

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. MENTAL HEALTH HELP: Students A **strongly** believe sports stars should be given more help with mental health to cope with the pressures and anxieties; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. PRESSURE: How much pressure are sports stars under? How can they deal with it? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often. Share what you wrote.

	How Great Is the Pressure?	How to Deal with It
Winning		
Training		
Expectations from coaches		
Press interviews		
Fear of performing poorly		
Finals		

5. SUPERSTAR: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "superstar". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. STRESSFUL SPORTS: Rank these with your partner. Put the most stressful jobs at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Tennis player
- Goalkeeper
- Ski jumper
- Boxer
- Archer
- Rock climber
- F1 driver
- Snooker player

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. superstar | a. Mentioning as an example. |
| 2. citing | b. Reversed one's previous action or opinion. |
| 3. breach | c. An act or course of action to which a person is morally or legally bound. |
| 4. obligation | d. An act of breaking or failing to observe a law, agreement, or code of conduct. |
| 5. backtracked | e. A high-profile and extremely successful performer or athlete. |
| 6. commend | f. A feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease, typically about an upcoming event or something with an uncertain outcome. |
| 7. anxiety | g. Praise formally or officially. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8. reigning | h. Being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else. |
| 9. coping | i. Currently holding a particular title in sports. |
| 10. bout | j. Understand and share the feelings of another person. |
| 11. criticism | k. Squeeze (someone) tightly in one's arms, typically to express affection. |
| 12. empathise | l. An attack of illness or strong emotion of a specified kind. |
| 13. unique | m. The expression of disapproval of someone or something based on perceived faults or mistakes. |
| 14. hug | n. Dealing effectively with something difficult. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. Naomi Osaka pulled out of a tennis tournament because of anxiety. **T / F**
2. Naomi Osaka is currently the world number one in the women's game. **T / F**
3. The Women's Tennis Association said it would expel Ms Osaka. **T / F**
4. The Women's Tennis Association praised Ms Osaka for speaking out. **T / F**
5. Ms Osaka is the current US Open and Australian Open champion. **T / F**
6. Ms Osaka said she has battled depression for over a decade. **T / F**
7. Very few tennis players have supported Naomi Osaka's actions. **T / F**
8. Serena Williams said she wanted to hug Ms Osaka. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. withdrawn | a. current |
| 2. address | b. changed one's mind |
| 3. breach | c. periods |
| 4. backtracked | d. dealing |
| 5. commend | e. talk to |
| 6. reigning | f. cuddle |
| 7. coping | g. pulled out |
| 8. bouts | h. specific |
| 9. unique | i. violation |
| 10. hug | j. praise |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. stress from having to address | a. her a hug |
| 2. this was in breach | b. and anxieties |
| 3. It initially threatened to expel her | c. singles champion |
| 4. It has since | d. behind Ms Osaka |
| 5. the pressures | e. of her obligations |
| 6. a four-time Grand Slam | f. bouts of depression |
| 7. the stress of being | g. the world's media |
| 8. I have suffered long | h. in the spotlight |
| 9. top players have said they are fully | i. from the tournament |
| 10. I wish I could give | j. backtracked |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Tennis superstar Naomi Osaka has withdrawn from the French Tennis Open (1) _____ stress from having to address the world's media. Japan's world number two Osaka, 23, (2) _____ she did not want to do interviews after her matches to "protect her mental health". The Women's Tennis Association said this was in (3) _____ of her obligations as a professional player. It (4) _____ threatened to expel her from the tournament if she did not talk to the media. It has since (5) _____ and said it wants to "create meaningful improvements" in (6) _____ players with mental health problems. It added: "We (7) _____ Naomi for sharing in her own words the pressures and anxieties she is (8) _____."

breach
backtracked
citing
feeling
announced
commend
initially
supporting

Naomi Osaka is a four-time Grand Slam singles champion and is the (9) _____ champion at the US Open and the Australian Open. She has had problems (10) _____ with the stress of being in the spotlight as one of tennis' biggest stars. She said: "The truth is that I have suffered long (11) _____ of depression since the US Open in 2018." Organisers of the four Opens have (12) _____ criticism for the way they have handled Ms Osaka's mental health (13) _____. However, it recently stated: "We empathise with the (14) _____ pressures tennis players may face." Many top players have said they are (15) _____ behind Ms Osaka. Serena Williams offered her support, saying: "I feel for Naomi....I wish I could give her a (16) _____."

unique
bouts
reigning
hug
coping
concerns
fully
faced

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

- 1) Tennis superstar Naomi Osaka has withdrawn from the French Tennis _____
 - a. Open cite in stress
 - b. Open sighting stress
 - c. Open site in stress
 - d. Open citing stress
- 2) The Women's Tennis Association said this was in _____ obligations
 - a. bleach of her
 - b. breach of her
 - c. broach of her
 - d. breech of her
- 3) _____ as a professional player. It initially threatened _____
 - a. to extol her
 - b. to exhale her
 - c. to expire her
 - d. to expel her
- 4) _____ tournament if she did not talk to the media. It _____
 - a. has since backed track
 - b. has since back tract
 - c. has since backed tract
 - d. has since backtracked
- 5) We commend Naomi for sharing in her own words the _____
 - a. pleasures and enquiries
 - b. pressures and anxieties
 - c. pleasures and organisers
 - d. pressures and enquiries
- 6) Naomi Osaka is a four-time Grand Slam singles champion and is _____
 - a. the reigning champion
 - b. the raining champion
 - c. the lane in champion
 - d. the running champion
- 7) She has had problems coping with the stress of being _____
 - a. in the spots light
 - b. in the spotty light
 - c. in the spotlight
 - d. in the sport light
- 8) She said: "The truth is that I have suffered long _____"
 - a. bouts of deep ration
 - b. bouts of depression
 - c. bouts of deep recession
 - d. bouts of deep lesion
- 9) _____ health concerns. However, it recently stated: "We empathise with _____"
 - a. the uniquely pressures
 - b. the you niche pressures
 - c. the you nick pressures
 - d. the unique pressures
- 10) Williams offered her support, saying: "I feel for Naomi....I wish I could give _____."
 - a. her a shrug
 - b. her a hug
 - c. her a huge
 - d. her a hag

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Tennis superstar Naomi Osaka (1) _____ the French Tennis Open citing stress from (2) _____ the world's media. Japan's world number two Osaka, 23, announced she did not want to do interviews after her (3) _____ her mental health". The Women's Tennis Association said this was in breach of her obligations as a professional player. It initially (4) _____ her from the tournament if she did not talk to the media. It has since backtracked and said it wants to "create meaningful improvements" (5) _____ with mental health problems. It added: "We commend Naomi for sharing in her own words the (6) _____ she is feeling."

Naomi Osaka is a four-time Grand Slam singles champion and (7) _____ champion at the US Open and the Australian Open. She has had (8) _____ the stress of being in the spotlight as one of tennis' biggest stars. She said: "The truth is that I have suffered long (9) _____ since the US Open in 2018." Organisers of the four Opens have (10) _____ the way they have handled Ms Osaka's mental health concerns. However, it recently stated: "We empathise (11) _____ pressures tennis players may face." Many top players have said they are fully behind Ms Osaka. Serena Williams (12) _____, saying: "I feel for Naomi....I wish I could give her a hug."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

1. Who did Naomi Osaka not want to address?
2. Where is Naomi Osaka on the world tennis rankings?
3. What did the Women's Tennis Association say Ms Osaka breached?
4. What did the Women's Tennis Association threaten to do to Ms Osaka?
5. What was Naomi Osaka commended for?
6. How many Grand Slams has Naomi Osaka won?
7. What has Ms Osaka suffered long bouts of?
8. What faced criticism for the way it handled Ms Osaka's concerns?
9. Who is fully behind Ms Osaka?
10. Who wants to give Naomi Osaka a hug?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

- 1) Who did Naomi Osaka not want to address?
 - a) her sponsors
 - b) the world's media
 - c) fans
 - d) the Women's Tennis Association
- 2) Where is Naomi Osaka on the world tennis rankings?
 - a) seven
 - b) one
 - c) three
 - d) two
- 3) What did the Women's Tennis Association say Ms Osaka breached?
 - a) rules
 - b) etiquette
 - c) her obligations
 - d) a contract
- 4) What did the Women's Tennis Association threaten to do to Ms Osaka?
 - a) expel her
 - b) ban her for a year
 - c) fine her \$1 million
 - d) ban her from Opens
- 5) What was Naomi Osaka commended for?
 - a) her work ethic
 - b) sharing her feelings
 - c) her shots
 - d) the example she is setting
- 6) How many Grand Slams has Naomi Osaka won?
 - a) four
 - b) three
 - c) five
 - d) two
- 7) What has Ms Osaka suffered long bouts of?
 - a) insomnia
 - b) flu
 - c) depression
 - d) dizziness
- 8) What faced criticism for the way it handled Ms Osaka's concerns?
 - a) organisers of the four Opens
 - b) the world's media
 - c) a fan club
 - d) TV companies
- 9) Who is fully behind Ms Osaka?
 - a) the Open organisers
 - b) all sports stars
 - c) doctors
 - d) many top players
- 10) Who wants to give Naomi Osaka a hug?
 - a) Roger Federer
 - b) an umpire
 - c) Serena Williams
 - d) the Women's Tennis Association

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Role A – Tennis Player

You think a tennis player has the most stressful life. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports aren't as stressful. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these (and why): ski jumper, archer or F1 driver.

Role B – Ski Jumper

You think a ski jumper has the most stressful life. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports aren't as stressful. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these (and why): tennis player, archer or F1 driver.

Role C – Archer

You think an archer has the most stressful life. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports aren't as stressful. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these (and why): ski jumper, tennis player or F1 driver.

Role D – F1 Driver

You think an F1 driver has the most stressful life. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports aren't as stressful. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these (and why): ski jumper, archer or tennis player.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'tennis' and 'player'.

tennis	player
---------------	---------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• superstar• two• breach• expel• since• sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• reigning• biggest• truth• handled• face• fully
--	---

TENNIS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Write five GOOD questions about tennis in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

TENNIS DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'tennis'?
3. What do you know about Naomi Osaka?
4. What do you think of Naomi withdrawing from the French Open?
5. Should the organisers have shown more support for Naomi?
6. What is more important, watching a tennis player play or talk?
7. How stressful do you think being in the media spotlight is?
8. Will Naomi's actions create a better understanding of mental health?
9. What should sports bodies do about the mental health of its stars?
10. What advice do you have for Naomi Osaka?

Naomi Osaka withdraws from French Tennis Open – 3rd June, 2021
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TENNIS DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'mental health'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of tennis?
15. How big a loss is Naomi Osaka's withdrawal from the tournament?
16. How can sports stars better cope with depression?
17. How easy is it for people to speak about mental health in your country?
18. What pressures do sports stars face?
19. Are the pressures for players greater today than ever before?
20. What questions would you like to ask Naomi Osaka?

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. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Tennis superstar Naomi Osaka has withdrawn from the French Tennis Open (1) _____ stress from having to address the world's media. Japan's world number two Osaka, 23, announced she did not want to (2) _____ interviews after her matches to "protect her mental health". The Women's Tennis Association said this was in (3) _____ of her obligations as a professional player. It initially threatened to (4) _____ her from the tournament if she did not talk to the media. It has (5) _____ backtracked and said it wants to "create meaningful improvements" in supporting players with mental health problems. It added: "We (6) _____ Naomi for sharing in her own words the pressures and anxieties she is feeling."

Naomi Osaka is a four-time Grand Slam singles champion and is the (7) _____ champion at the US Open and the Australian Open. She has had problems coping (8) _____ the stress of being in the spotlight as one of tennis' biggest stars. She said: "The truth is that I have suffered long (9) _____ of depression since the US Open in 2018." Organisers of the four Opens have faced criticism (10) _____ the way they have handled Ms Osaka's mental health concerns. However, it recently stated: "We (11) _____ with the unique pressures tennis players may face." Many top players have said they are (12) _____ behind Ms Osaka. Serena Williams offered her support, saying: "I feel for Naomi....I wish I could give her a hug."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) slighting | (b) citing | (c) sighting | (d) sating |
| 2. | (a) talk | (b) do | (c) speak | (d) be |
| 3. | (a) batch | (b) broche | (c) broach | (d) breach |
| 4. | (a) extol | (b) expel | (c) exhale | (d) exile |
| 5. | (a) thus | (b) about | (c) far | (d) since |
| 6. | (a) command | (b) commence | (c) commend | (d) commerce |
| 7. | (a) reigning | (b) sovereign | (c) regal | (d) imperial |
| 8. | (a) of | (b) at | (c) with | (d) to |
| 9. | (a) fights | (b) scraps | (c) episode | (d) bouts |
| 10. | (a) for | (b) as | (c) on | (d) in |
| 11. | (a) empathise | (b) empathy | (c) empathetic | (d) empathies |
| 12. | (a) fully | (b) full | (c) fuller | (d) filling |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Paragraph 1

1. withdrawn from the French Tennis Open igncti stress
2. this was in breach of her songilboita
3. It laylnitij threatened to expel her
4. It has since akktrebcadc
5. We cendmmo Naomi for sharing
6. the pressures and atniexesi

Paragraph 2

7. the nnierrggi champion
8. She has had problems ogcnpi
9. I have suffered long otubs of depression
10. faced rciicimst
11. We eisphemta
12. ungeui pressures tennis players may face

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () address the world's media. Japan's world number two Osaka, 23, announced she did not want to do
- () tournament if she did not talk to the media. It has since backtracked and said it wants
- () champion at the US Open and the Australian Open. She has had problems coping with the stress of being in the
- () criticism for the way they have handled Ms Osaka's mental health concerns. However, it recently
- () to "create meaningful improvements" in supporting players with mental health problems. It added:
- () breach of her obligations as a professional player. It initially threatened to expel her from the
- () spotlight as one of tennis' biggest stars. She said: "The truth is that I have suffered long bouts
- () interviews after her matches to "protect her mental health". The Women's Tennis Association said this was in
- () of depression since the US Open in 2018." Organisers of the four Opens have faced
- () "We commend Naomi for sharing in her own words the pressures and anxieties she is feeling."
- () behind Ms Osaka. Serena Williams offered her support, saying: "I feel for Naomi....I wish I could give her a hug."
- () stated: "We empathise with the unique pressures tennis players may face." Many top players have said they are fully
- (**1**) Tennis superstar Naomi Osaka has withdrawn from the French Tennis Open citing stress from having to
- () Naomi Osaka is a four-time Grand Slam singles champion and is the reigning

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

1. address from having Stress to world's media . the
2. do interviews to want She after didn't matches .
3. In of player . obligations professional breach as a
4. the expel tournament . her It threatened to from
5. health problems . supporting with players mental in Improvements
6. the had stress . problems has She coping with
7. depression . I suffered of long have bouts
8. the with pressures Empathise players unique tennis face .
9. Ms Osaka . said have Players they behind fully are
10. wish her give could I I a hug .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Tennis superstar Naomi Osaka has *withdrew* / *withdrawn* from the French Tennis Open citing *stress* / *stressed* from having to *address* / *mail* the world's media. Japan's world number two Osaka, 23, announced she did not want to do *interview* / *interviews* after her matches to "protect her mental health". The Women's Tennis Association said this was in *broach* / *breach* of her obligations as a professional player. It *initially* / *initial* threatened to expel her from the tournament if she did not talk to the media. It has *stance* / *since* backtracked and said it wants to "create meaningful improvements" *on* / *in* supporting players with mental health problems. It added: "We *commend* / *command* Naomi for sharing in her own words the *pressures* / *pressurise* and anxieties she is feeling."

Naomi Osaka is a four-time Grand Slam *single* / *singles* champion and is the reigning champion *at* / *to* the US Open and the Australian Open. She has had problems *coping* / *cooping* with the stress of being in the *lamp* / *spotlight* as one of tennis' biggest stars. She said: "The *true* / *truth* is that I have suffered long *bots* / *bouts* of depression since the US Open in 2018." Organisers of the four Opens have faced *criticism* / *critical* for the way they have handled Ms Osaka's mental health concerns. However, it *recent* / *recently* stated: "We empathise with the unique pressures tennis players may face." Many top players have said they are *fully* / *full* behind Ms Osaka. Serena Williams offered her support, saying: "I feel for Naomi....I wish I could give her a *huge* / *hug*."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Tenn's sporter Naomi Osaka has withdrawn from the French Tennis Open citing stress from having to defend the world's number two ranking, 23, announced she did not want to defend her matches to "protect her mental health". The Wimbledon Tennis Association said this was a branch of her obligations as a professional player. It notably threatened to expel her from the tournament if she did not talk to the media. It has since backed and said it wants to "create meaningful improvements" in supporting players with mental health problems. It added: "We commend Naomi for sharing her own words through pressers and next steps she is taking."

Naomi Osaka is a former Wimbledon Singles champion and is the reigning champion at the US Open and the Australian Open. She has had problems coping with the stress of being in the spotlight since the tennis' biggest stars. She said: "The truth is that I have suffered long bouts of depression since the US Open in 2018." Organisers of the four Opens have faced criticism for the way they have handled Ms Osaka's mental health concerns. However, it recently stated: "We empathise with the ongoing pressures tennis players may face." Many top players have said they're fully behind Ms Osaka. Serena Williams offered her support, saying: "I'll for Naomi..... wish we could give her a hug."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

tennis superstar naomi osaka has withdrawn from the french tennis open citing stress from having to address the worlds media japans world number two osaka 23 announced she did not want to do interviews after her matches to protect her mental health the womens tennis association said this was in breach of her obligations as a professional player it initially threatened to expel her from the tournament if she did not talk to the media it has since backtracked and said it wants to create meaningful improvements in supporting players with mental health problems it added we commend naomi for sharing in her own words the pressures and anxieties she is feeling

naomi osaka is a fourtime grand slam singles champion and is the reigning champion at the us open and the australian open she has had problems coping with the stress of being in the spotlight as one of tennis biggest stars she said the truth is that i have suffered long bouts of depression since the us open in 2018 organisers of the four opens have faced criticism for the way they have handled ms osakas mental health concerns however it recently stated we empathise with the unique pressures tennis players may face many top players have said they are fully behind ms osaka serena williams offered her support saying i feel for naomii wish i could give her a hug

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210603-naomi-osaka.html>

Tennis superstar Naomi Osaka has withdrawn from the French Tennis Open citing stress from having to address the world's media. Japan's world number two Osaka, 23, announced she did not want to do interviews after her match to "protect her mental health". The Women's Tennis Association said this was in breach of her obligations as a professional player. It initially threatened to expel her from the tournament if she did not talk to the media. It has since backtracked and said it wants to "create meaningful improvements" in supporting players with mental health problems. It added: "We commend Naomi for sharing in her own words the pressures and anxieties she is feeling." Naomi Osaka is a four-time Grand Slam singles champion and is the reigning champion at the US Open and the Australian Open. She has had problems coping with the stress of being in the spotlight as one of tennis' biggest stars. She said: "The truth is that I have suffered a long bout of depression since the US Open in 2018." Organisers of the four Opens have faced criticism for the way they have handled Ms Osaka's mental health concerns. However, it recently stated: "We empathise with the unique pressures tennis players may face." Many top players have said they are fully behind Ms Osaka. Serena Williams offered her support, saying: "I feel for Naomi.... I wish I could give her a hug."

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. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. TENNIS: Make a poster about tennis. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. MEDIA INTERVIEWS: Write a magazine article about giving sports stars the choice of whether or not to talk to the media. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. 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.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on mental health in sport. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to help sports stars cope with the stresses of their sport. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 T 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 T 6 F 7 F 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. e	3. i	4. b	5. j
6. a	7. d	8. c	9. h	10. f

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- The world's media
- Two
- Her obligations
- Expel her
- Sharing her feelings
- Four
- Depression
- Organisers of the four Opens
- Many top players
- Serena Williams

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Stress from having to address the world's media.
- She didn't want to do interviews after matches.
- In breach of obligations as a professional player.
- It threatened to expel her from the tournament.
- Improvements in supporting players with mental health problems.
- She has had problems coping with the stress.
- I have suffered long bouts of depression.
- Empathise with the unique pressures tennis players face.
- Players have said they are fully behind Ms Osaka.
- I wish I could give her a hug.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. d 10. c

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)