

WORDS

- **accuse** = blame, to say that someone has committed a crime
- **admit** = to say that you have done something
- **apologize** = to say you are sorry
- **appear** = come out, show himself
- **athlete** = sports person
- **charity** = an organization that gives money to people or children who are poor and sick
- **couple** = man and wife
- **crash** = to have an accident
- **dominate** = control, to be better than the rest
- **donate** = to give money to an organization in order to help someone
- **downturn** = a time when things do not go so well
- **drive** = to hit the ball long and hard
- **earning** = the money you get by when you have a job
- **found – founded** = start
- **golf club** = a wooden or metal stick that you use to hit the ball
- **in honour of** = to show that you respect and like a person
- **major** = big
- **mental** = everything that is connected to your mind or brain
- **miss** = not to play
- **mixed race** = his family has American, Asian and European roots
- **non-white** = a person who does not belong to the white race
- **overall fortune** = all the money a person has earned in their life
- **popular** = well-known, liked by many people
- **professional** = to get money for playing
- **put** = to hit the ball a short distance into the hole
- **rank** = to be in a list or position
- **suffer** = go through
- **SUV** = sport-utility vehicle = a car that with which you can travel over rough ground
- **time out** = to take a break
- **tournament** = an event in which players play against each other in a series of games
- **undergo surgery** = to be operated on
- **weak** = not strong

Tiger Woods is a professional American golfer who has **dominated** and changed the sport in the past 15 years. Up to his first **major** titles in the middle of the 1990s golf was dominated by older, white players. When Tiger Woods **appeared** on the golf scene he was 20 and of **mixed race**. He helped make golf **popular** among African Americans and other **non-whites**.



His real name was Eldrick but his father called him “Tiger” **in honour** of a friend who saved his life during the Vietnam War. He picked up his first **golf club** when he was two and started taking lessons when he was four. He won more titles and **tournaments** when he was a teenager than anyone else before him. In 1991 he became the youngest golfer to win the American Junior Title.

Tiger Woods became a **professional** golfer in 1996, at the age of 20. A year later he was the youngest player to win the Masters **tournament** in Augusta, Georgia. He also was the first African American to win a big tournament.

In 2000 Tiger Woods became the fifth golfer in history to win all four **major** tournaments in one year: the Masters, the PGA championship, the U.S. Open and the British Open.

Between 1998 and 2009 Woods **ranked** as the world’s number one golfer 11 out of 12 times. He is also the world’s highest paid **athlete**. In 2008 his **earnings** were reported to be about \$110 million, his **overall fortune** is about \$1 billion. Tiger also **donates** a lot of money. In 1996, Woods **founded** the Tiger Woods Foundation, a **charity** organization that helps children.

Tiger Woods is almost a perfect player, a professional golfer with no **weak** sides. He can hit long **drives** and is a great **putter**. He practices a lot and is known for his **mental** strength. He does not only like to win tournaments but also wants to break course records.

In 2008 Tiger Woods **missed** the last part of the season because of knee problems. He **underwent surgery** and came back to professional golf in February 2009, but was not able to win a **major** tournament in that year.

While he stayed number one on the golf course, his personal life **suffered** ups and downs. In 2004 he married a Swedish model, Elin Nordegren. The **couple** has two children.

Towards the end of 2009 Woods’ personal life took a **downturn**. First he **crashed** his **SUV** near his Florida home, and then reports came up that **accused** Woods of having a number of affairs. Shortly later he **admitted** them and **apologized** to his fans. He said he would take **time out** from golf to get his personal things in order.

1. Answer the questions

When and where did Tiger Woods win his first major professional tournament? _____

In which ways did Tiger Woods change the image of golf? _____

Why is he called "Tiger"? _____

Tiger Woods became the fifth golfer in history to win all four major titles. What are they? _____

How much money does Tiger Woods earn every year? _____

Describe the way he plays. What are his strengths? _____

What happened in 2008? _____

In 2009 Tiger experienced a bad time in his personal life. Describe what happened! _____

2. Explain in English

charity _____

dominate _____

golf club _____

mental strength _____

overall fortune _____

tournament _____

3. Rearrange the events in their correct order

	He won his first major tournament in Augusta.
	He became the youngest golfer to win a junior title.
	Knee problems made him take a short break from golf.
1	Tiger Woods took golf lessons at a very early age.
	Tiger married a Swedish model.
	Woods was accused of having love affairs with different women.
	At the age of 20 he became a professional golfer
	In 2000 he became the youngest golfer to win all 4 tournaments in one year

4. True or False

	T	F
Tiger's father called him Tiger because he wanted him to be a fighter.		
Tiger comes from a family that have their roots in different continents.		
Tiger Woods started playing golf when he was 6.		
He became a professional golfer at the age of 15.		
Tiger was the first professional golfer to win all 4 tournaments in one year.		
Between 1998 and 2009 he has always been the number one golfer in the world.		
Tiger Woods gives a lot of money to poor children.		
He married a Swedish model in 2004.		
Tiger Woods' fortune is about 100 million dollars.		
He had to be operated on because of arm problems.		
After his operation he didn't win a major tournament in 2009.		
In 2009 Tiger Woods admitted that he had several girlfriends and affairs.		

Key

Rearrange the events in their correct order

4	He won his first major tournament in Augusta.
2	He became the youngest golfer to win a junior title.
7	Knee problems made him take a short break from golf.
1	Tiger Woods took golf lessons at a very early age.
6	Tiger married a Swedish model.
8	Woods was accused of having love affairs with different women.
3	At the age of 20 he became a professional golfer
5	In 2000 he became the youngest golfer to win all 4 tournaments in one year

True or False

	T	F
Tiger's father called him Tiger because he wanted him to be a fighter.		✓
Tiger comes from a family that have their roots in different continents.	✓	
Tiger Woods started playing golf when he was 6.		✓
He became a professional golfer at the age of 15.		✓
Tiger was the first professional golfer to win all 4 tournaments in one year.		✓
Between 1998 and 2009 he has always been the number one golfer in the world.		✓
Tiger Woods gives a lot of money to poor children.	✓	
He married a Swedish model in 2004.	✓	
Tiger Woods' fortune is about 100 million dollars.		✓
He had to be operated on because of arm problems.		✓
After his operation he didn't win a major tournament in 2009.	✓	
In 2009 Tiger Woods admitted that he had several girlfriends and affairs.	✓	