Your notes

GCSE PE: revision notes

Sportsmanship, gamesmanship and deviance

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Sportsmanship

- **Sportsmanship** is behaving with **fair play** and respect for opponents, officials and the rules.
- Examples: kicking the ball out when an opponent is injured, shaking hands, applauding opponents.

Gamesmanship

- **Gamesmanship** is bending the rules, or doing things that are within the rules but against their spirit, to gain an advantage.
- Examples: time-wasting when winning, **sledging** (verbally distracting an opponent in cricket), or taking a long break to break an opponent's rhythm.

Deviance

- **Deviance** is behaviour that goes against the moral values and laws of the sport or society.
- Examples: taking performance-enhancing drugs, violence, **match fixing**, bribery and cheating.
- Reasons include the pressure to win, money, fame and the fear of losing a place or a contract.
- Consequences include fines, bans, loss of sponsorship and damage to the performer's and the sport's reputation.

Key terms

Sportsmanship	Behaving with fair play and respect.
Gamesmanship	Bending the rules to gain an advantage.

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Deviance	Behaviour that goes against the moral values or laws of sport and society.
Fair play	Playing within the rules and spirit of the game.
Match fixing	Illegally deciding the result of a game in advance.
Sledging	Verbally distracting an opponent.

Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. What is sportsmanship?
2. Which is an example of gamesmanship?
3. Which is an example of deviance?
4. Which is an example of sportsmanship?
5. Why might a performer be deviant?
6. What is a consequence of deviance for a performer?
7. What is sledging?
8. What is the difference between gamesmanship and deviance?

Answers

1. Behaving with fair play and respect
2. Time-wasting when winning
3. Match fixing
4. Kicking the ball out so an injured opponent can be treated
5. Pressure to win or earn money
6. Bans and loss of sponsorship
7. Verbally distracting an opponent
8. Gamesmanship bends the rules; deviance goes against moral values or breaks laws

What to do next

Practise 10 questions on this topic

Try 4 exam questions, with mark schemes

Read the lesson, one step at a time

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