# Research Instruction sheet

# Techy Tennis

This research task has two parts. The first part requires you to explore tennis history and technological changes. The second part requires you to relate technological change to participation in tennis.

**Part A**. This part is to be at least 250 words and all statements need to be backed up with references.

You are required to answer the following two questions:

How has tennis, as a game, changed since its historical beginnings?

How has tennis equipment changed since its early history?

* How have racquets changed (shape, frame material, strings)?
* How have balls changed (shape, material, texture)?
* How have courts changed (shape, markings, net height, surface, electronic line callers)?

The web has a large number of resources. Wikipedia is a good place to start, as well as various Real Tennis associations. Find a good range of links, and evaluate them carefully to determine if they are good sources of information.

Your teacher also has available a range of old tennis equipment (wooden racquets).

**Part B:** This part is to be at least 300 words and all opinions must be backed up with sound reasoning.

After carrying out part A research you are to make suggestions as to the impact a) changes to tennis equipment and b) how the way it is played, has effected participation?

The following includes examples of the types of changes to consider affecting participation in tennis.

Ākonga may compare the types of surfaces commonly used now (astroturf/asphalt) with those historically used (grass/wooden)

You need to consider the costs of the surfaces.   
Are newer surfaces cheaper to build and/or maintain ie lines marking, grass cutting, wear and tear of surfaces?

You need to consider the availability of tennis courts now as opposed to historically.

Schools, tennis clubs, and local government now provide facilities. Historically facilities were provided by tennis clubs only.

You need to consider the types of people who are able to, or choose to, play tennis now. You may consider the relationships between tennis players and their wealth, class position, gender, and age.