

# Ben Stokes

Ben Stokes is a famous English cricketer.

## Interesting Facts

Ben Stokes was born on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1991.

He was born in New Zealand.

He has been an England cricketer since 2011.

He is an all-rounder. This means he can bat and bowl really well.

He bats left-handed.

He is 6 feet (or one metre and eighty-three centimetres) tall.



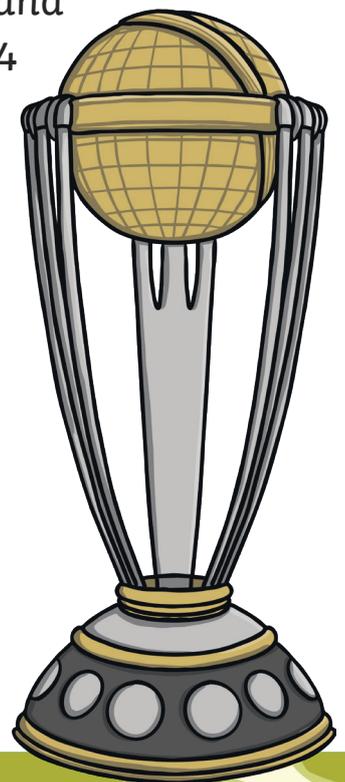
## The World Cup and Ashes 2019

In the summer of 2019, Ben Stokes helped the England cricket team to win the World Cup. They beat New Zealand on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at Lord's Cricket Ground in London. It was the first time England had ever won the World Cup.

Later that summer, Ben Stokes and the England team were playing against Australia to try to win the Ashes. England were not doing well. Luckily, Ben Stokes scored 84 runs from only 67 balls. He saved the match.

Ben Stokes was the BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2019 because of his amazing cricket playing.

Ben was awarded an OBE in the 2020 New Year's Honours.



## Did you know...?

Ben Stokes has two children.

Their names are Layton and Libby.

# Questions

1. Who is Ben Stokes? Tick **one**.

- He is a famous footballer.
- He is a famous actor.
- He is a famous cricketer.

2. Where was Ben Stokes born? Tick **one**.

- in New Zealand
- in England
- in Australia

3. Which hand does he use to bat with? Tick **one**.

- his left hand
- his right hand
- both hands

4. What happened on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019? Tick **one**.

- The England team were not doing well.
- The England team beat New Zealand and won the World Cup.
- Ben Stokes was the BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2019.

5. How many children does Ben Stokes have? Tick **one**.

- three
- 84
- two

# Answers

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# Ben Stokes

Ben Stokes is a famous English cricketer who had a successful summer in 2019.

## His Early Life

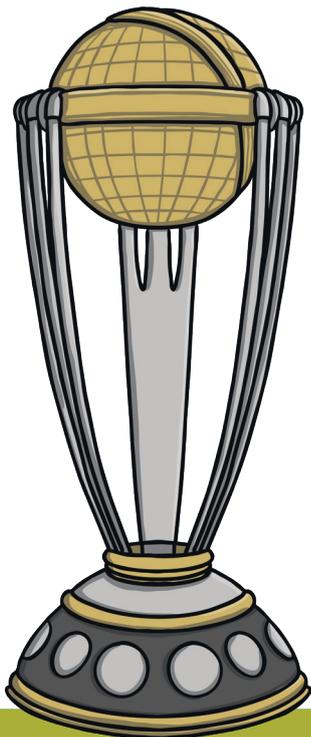
Ben Stokes was born in New Zealand on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1991. When he was 12 years old, his family moved to Cumbria, England. Soon after, he joined a local cricket team. When he was 19 years old, he played for the England team. He scored a century (one hundred runs) against India.



## Playing Cricket for England

Ben Stokes is an all-rounder which means he can bat and bowl well.

In Australia in 2013, Stokes was chosen to play because another cricketer became ill. He showed everyone his skills. He batted and scored his first ever Test century. Later, he bowled and took five wickets in one match.



## The World Cup and Ashes 2019

In 2019, the England cricket team won the World Cup at Lord's Cricket Ground in London. It was the first time they had won since the World Cup began, over forty years before. Ben Stokes scored an unbeaten 84 runs in the final.

Only six weeks later, Ben Stokes and the England team were playing against Australia for the Ashes. Everyone thought England would lose. They only had one wicket left, but they needed another 73 runs.



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Amazingly, Ben Stokes scored 84 runs from just 67 balls. He saved the match (but sadly for England, he did not save the Ashes).

In December 2019, Ben Stokes was voted the BBC Sports Personality of the Year because of his cricket playing that year. Ben was awarded an OBE in the 2020 New Year's Honours.

### Did you know...?

His parents moved back to New Zealand when he was 22 years old.

# Questions

1. When is Ben Stokes' birthday? Tick **one**.

- 4<sup>th</sup> June  
 4<sup>th</sup> January  
 4<sup>th</sup> July

2. Look at the **His Early Life** section. Draw lines to match these sentences:

At twelve years old...

he joined a local cricket team.

At nineteen years old...

his family moved to Cumbria, England.

Soon after moving to England,

he played for the England team.

3. What happened to Ben Stokes in 2013? Tick **one**.

- He scored a century against India.  
 He won the World Cup.  
 He played cricket in Australia because another cricketer couldn't play.

4. **Find** and **copy** a word with the prefix 'un-'.

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5. How many runs did Ben Stokes score from 67 balls against Australia?

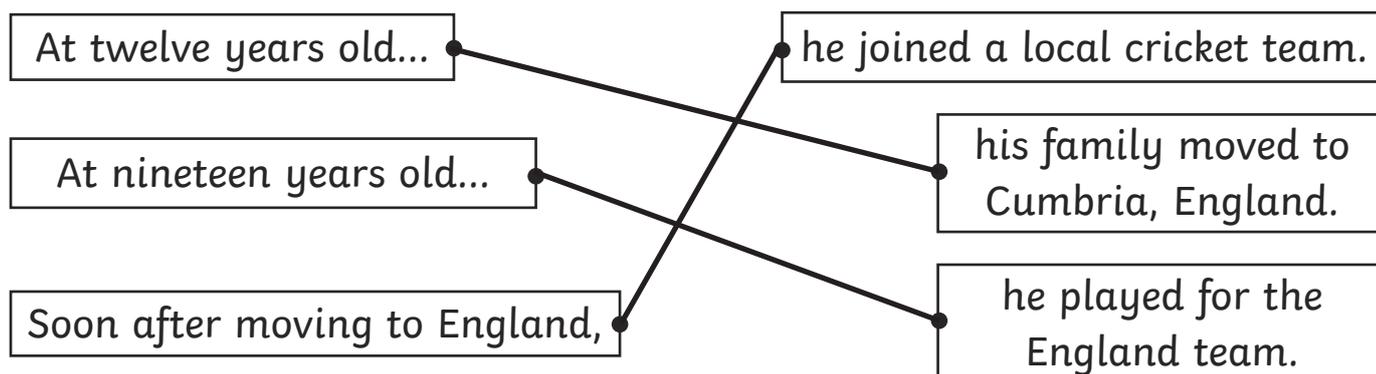
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# Answers

1. When is Ben Stokes' birthday? Tick **one**.

- 4<sup>th</sup> June**  
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2. Look at the **His Early Life** section. Draw lines to match these sentences:



3. What happened to Ben Stokes in 2013? Tick **one**.

- He scored a century against India.  
 He won the World Cup.  
 **He played cricket in Australia because another cricketer couldn't play.**

4. **Find** and **copy** a word with the prefix 'un-'.

**unbeaten**

5. How many runs did Ben Stokes score from 67 balls against Australia?

**He scored 84 runs from 67 balls.**

# Ben Stokes

Ben Stokes is a talented international cricketer who had a very successful 2019.

## His Early Life

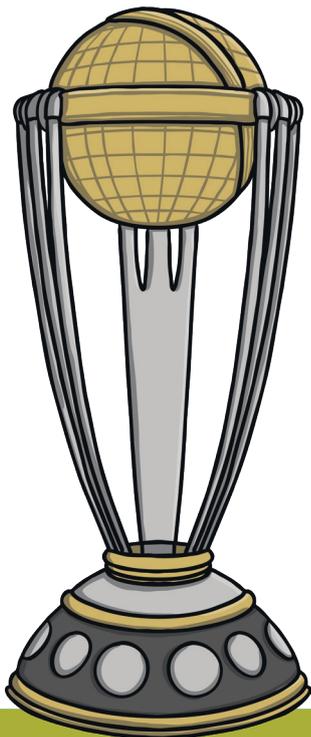
Ben Stokes was born in Christ Church, New Zealand on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1991. When he was 12 years old, his family moved to Cumbria, England. He joined a local cricket team. When he was 18 years old, he was chosen to play at the Oval cricket ground in London. A year later, he scored a century (one hundred runs) against India in the Under-19 World Cup.



## Playing Cricket for England

Ben Stokes has been playing cricket for England since 2011. Some people say he is the best all-rounder in the world today.

In Australia, for the Ashes series in 2013, Stokes got a lucky break because another player became ill. He was selected to play instead and showed everyone his skills. When he was batting, he scored his first ever England Test century. Later, when he was bowling, he took an impressive five wickets in one match.



## The World Cup and Ashes 2019

The next few years were difficult for Ben Stokes. However, in 2019, the England cricket team won the World Cup for the first time ever. In the final against New Zealand, Ben Stokes scored an unbeaten 84 runs.

Only six weeks later, England were playing against Australia to try and win the Ashes series. It seemed England would lose.

They only had one wicket left and needed another 73 runs. However, Stokes kept his cool. Under huge pressure, he scored 84 runs from just 67 balls and ended up saving the match (but sadly for England, not the Ashes).



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In December 2019, he was voted the BBC Sports Personality of the Year because of his incredible cricket playing that year. Ben was awarded an OBE in the 2020 New Year's Honours.

### Did you know...?

Ben Stokes is an excellent all-rounder cricketer. This means he can bat and bowl very well.

# Questions

1. Who is Ben Stokes? Tick **two**.

- He is an international cricketer.
- He is an international footballer.
- He is the BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2019.

2. What happened to Ben Stokes when he was 12 years old?

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3. Look at the **His Early Life** and **Playing Cricket for England** sections. Write numbers from 1 to 5 to put the statements in the correct order.

Statement	Number
He scored a century in the Under-19 World Cup.	
He joined a local cricket team.	
He started playing for England in 2011.	
He was born in New Zealand.	
He took five wickets against Australia.	

4. Look at the **Did You Know...?** section. **Find** and **copy** a word which means 'someone who is good at batting and bowling'.

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5. Fill in the missing words.

Only \_\_\_\_\_ weeks later, \_\_\_\_\_ were playing against Australia to try and win the \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Do you think Ben Stokes is good at staying calm under pressure? Explain how you know.

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# Answers

1. Who is Ben Stokes? Tick **two**.

- He is an international cricketer.**
- He is an international footballer.
- He is the BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2019.**

2. What happened to Ben Stokes when he was 12 years old?

**His family moved to Cumbria, England.**

3. Look at the **His Early Life** and **Playing Cricket for England** sections.

Write numbers from 1 to 5 to put the statements in the correct order.

Statement	Number
He scored a century in the Under-19 World Cup.	<b>3</b>
He joined a local cricket team.	<b>2</b>
He started playing for England in 2011.	<b>4</b>
He was born in New Zealand.	<b>1</b>
He took five wickets against Australia.	<b>5</b>

4. Look at the **Did You Know...?** section. **Find** and **copy** a word which means 'someone who is good at batting and bowling'.

**all-rounder**

5. Fill in the missing words.

Only **six** weeks later, **England** were playing against Australia to try and win the **Ashes**.

6. Do you think Ben Stokes is good at staying calm under pressure? Explain how you know.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think he is good at staying calm under pressure because when he was playing against Australia it says he 'kept his cool'. This means keeping calm. He scored 84 runs from 67 balls and saved the match even though he was under lots of pressure.**