

Indianapolis

Activity 1 - Are these statements True (T) or False (F)?

- 1. Indianapolis is larger than San Francisco _____
- 2. The Indianapolis Speedway is the oldest in America _____
- 3. Today the track contains no bricks _____
- 4. The track is circular in shape _____
- 5. The cars do 200 laps of the track _____
- 6. The cars use a gallon of fuel every 1.3 laps _____
- 7. The oldest winner of the race was 87 _____



Activity 2

Answer the following questions:

- 1. When was the IMS built?

- 2. How many people attend the Indy 500?

- 3. How many bricks were used in the construction of the track?

- 4. How long is the track?

- 5. How long is the Indy 500?

- 6. When did the first woman compete?

- 7. How fast can the cars accelerate?

Activity 3

Listen and complete the gaps

Indianapolis is in the state of Indiana and has a population of around 780,000, which makes it the thirteenth largest in the country, just a little smaller than Jacksonville and a little larger than San Francisco. It's an _____ city, but one also famous for its many sports teams and the world famous Indianapolis 500, _____ the greatest motor race in the world. Let's find out some more.

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway was built in 1909 which means it's the second oldest motor racing circuit in the world. The oldest is also in America, in Milwaukee. The IMS welcomes 257,000 spectators in the _____, and for the big events an additional 150,000 in the infield area. These 400,000 visitors means that the IMS holds more people than any other sports _____ in the world. So, what do all these people come to see? Why, the thrills and spills of high speed racing of course.

Firstly let me describe the track. It is called the Brickyard, referring back to the original _____ which was paved with 3.2 million bricks. Now most of the surface is asphalt, with just a small section of bricks remaining at the start line. Imagine a rectangle with rounded rather than _____ corners and that is the shape of the track. The long sides are $\frac{5}{8}$ ths of a mile and the short sides $\frac{1}{8}$ th, with the rounded corners $\frac{1}{4}$ mile each. This gives a total of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The corners are not flat like in Formula One racing, but _____. This means the cars can reach greater speeds in the turns.

So just how fast do these cars go? Well, for the Indy 500, the biggest and most famous race of the year, the cars do 200 laps of the track for a total of 500 miles, hence the name. The record for the fastest single lap belongs to a _____ called Arie Luyendyk, who on the 10th May 1996 went round the $2\frac{1}{2}$ mile track in just 37.6 seconds, at an average speed of 239 miles per hour (which is 385 in kilometres).

There are 33 cars which take part in this race. Each car uses approximately 1.3 gallons of fuel per lap, not at all _____ but if you consider that they accelerate from 0 to 100 mph in three seconds you can understand that these cars are incredibly powerful machines. They have to come into the pits to refuel every 30 laps or so. The youngest ever winner of the race was Troy Ruttman in _____ aged 22, and the oldest Al Unser in 1987 aged 47. The first woman to race was Janet Guthrie in 1978, finishing a respectable 9th.

TRANSCRIPT

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Firstly let me describe the track. It is called the Brickyard, referring back to the original surface which was paved with 3.2 million bricks. Now most of the surface is asphalt, with just a small section of bricks remaining at the start line. Imagine a rectangle with rounded rather than angled corners and that is the shape of the track. The long sides are $5\frac{1}{8}$ ths of a mile and the short sides $1\frac{1}{8}$ th, with the rounded corners $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile each. This gives a total of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The corners are not flat like in Formula One racing, but banked. This means the cars can reach greater speeds in the turns.

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