

Name _____

Decoding Tennis: The Anatomy of a Tennis Match

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. When serving to start a crucial match, a player might experience a mix of excitement and nervousness. They may focus on their breathing and visualize their serve. The serve is critical because it sets the tone for the match, and a strong start can boost confidence.
2. Strategy and adaptability are crucial in tennis rallies. For example, a player may choose to hit a deep shot to push their opponent back and then follow it up with a drop shot to catch the opponent off guard, showing the importance of strategic choices during a rally.
3. "Breaking serve" in tennis means winning a game when the opponent is serving. It can significantly impact the outcome of a match by shifting the momentum. Players can use strategies like aggressive returns and capitalizing on the opponent's weak serves to achieve a break.
4. In a memorable tennis match, there was a thrilling rally that showcased skill and determination. The players engaged in a long back-and-forth exchange, demonstrating their agility and shot placement. Despite the intensity of the match, both players showed respect and good sportsmanship by acknowledging each other's efforts at the end.

